



# Community News

Adrian Dix, MLA Working For You

April 2007

Dear Neighbours:

## Vietnamese Language Forum

The Vietnamese community in BC is a growing and established community, and has contributed into its multicultural make up for more than two decades. Thus, I have begun a proposal to the Ministry of Education to recognize the Vietnamese language as part of the BC language curriculum. The significance of this project will ensure your children can obtain the knowledge of the Vietnamese culture and language.

There will be presentation on this exciting initiative that will focus on the development process of recognizing Vietnamese Language as approved BC curriculum. The Community forum will take place on Thursday, April 5, 2007 at Gladstone Highschool Cafeteria: 4105 Gladstone Street, Vancouver from 6:30pm – 8:30pm.

Your presence and support will help make this initiative a success.

## Happy Vaisakhi!!

On this very special occasion of Vaisakhi, I would like to extend my personal best wishes to the members of the Indo Canadian community as well as the Sangat of your Gurudwara.

The festival of Vaisakhi holds cultural as well as religious significance for Indo Canadians. As a cultural celebration, it ushers in a season of prosperity and thanksgiving as the farmers in northern India begin harvesting their crops, the precious reward of months of hard labour. Also, on this day in 1699, Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru of the Sikhs, founded the Khalsa Panth, a unique religious order that embodies the principles of universal brotherhood, tolerance and moral living.

For years now, the festival of Vaisakhi has been celebrated in many parts of British Columbia with great enthusiasm both by Indo Canadians as well as the community at large. Its dynamic festivities provide an opportunity for people with diverse backgrounds to come together and celebrate the occasion in each other's company.

On the morning of Monday, March 20th, 2006, the NDP caucus was proud to participate in the unanimous carrying of a motion that called for the formal recognition of BC Sikhs' contributions and honoured the elements of Sikh faith (Punj Kakaar) and culture, including the festival of Vaisakhi. An NDP initiative, this motion was reflective of our appreciation and tremendous pride in the Sikh community.

Your contributions have helped build a strong and dynamic British Columbia where the values of tolerance and multiculturalism are not only respected but also enjoyed and held dear.

Let us together celebrate this wonderful festival again this year. Please join myself and Carole James at the Vancouver Vaisakhi Parade: Saturday, April 14, 2007 on Main Street and 49<sup>th</sup> Ave. The Vaisakhi parades feature multicultural food, music, goodies and the opportunity to celebrate the day with thousands of enthusiastic participants.

Stop by my Community Office:

**Address:**

5022 Joyce Street  
Vancouver, BC V5R 4G6

**Hours:** Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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