



Community News

Adrian Dix, MLA Working For You

May 2006

Dear Neighbours:

Vaisakhi Celebrations 2006

April has been a busy month of celebrations for our rich diverse community. On April 15, 2006, the Indo-Canadian community celebrated Vaisakhi, a major holiday to India's Muslims, Hindus, and Sikhs and has cultural, historical and religious significance. Vaisakhi is celebrated on the first day of the month of Baisakh in the Indian lunar-based Bikrami Calendar. Although the 1st of Baisakh does not usually fall on the same day, it is celebrated world-wide, including Canada by Indians on the 13th of April. Vaisakhi is culturally significant because it is the end of the winter harvest in North Indian and signals prosperity. Song, good food, wine and dance are the order of the day, and everyone gets together in their communities to celebrate the fruits of their labour over the past year. We celebrated Vaisakhi in Vancouver this April long weekend with festivities from the Ross Street Temple to Main and 49th.

Launch of the Friendly Phone Call Program

I congratulate the staff and Senior volunteers of Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House and Evergreen Community Health Centre on the Launch of the Friendly Phone Call Program. The program matches seniors with a volunteer senior telephone friend who will share friendly conversations once a week at a convenient time. The phone calls are roughly 15-20 minutes a week and provide seniors an opportunity to socialize and be involved with the community. For more information contact Elizabeth, Seniors Worker at 604.874.4231. Registration forms are available at my Community Office, Evergreen Community Health Centre, Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House or at various community organizations in the neighbourhood.

2006 CUFA BC Distinguished Academic of the Year: Dr. Kerry Jang

Congratulations to my good friend and recipient of the "2006 CUFA BC Distinguished Academic of the Year" award, Dr. Kerry Jang. Kerry is a Collingwood resident and former President and Board Member of the Collingwood Neighbourhood House. As a researcher on genetics and environmental factors underlying mental illness, Kerry applied his research to the creation of the Neighbourhood House's "Breakfast and Shower" for the homeless. His effective approach to creating dialogue and understanding within his community has assisted many homeless individuals get connected to income assistance, housing and addiction services. Congratulations Kerry on this honour from your peers!

Grand Re-Opening Celebration of the Italian Cultural Centre Society

Congratulations to the Italian Cultural Centre Society on the completion of the renovations to the Main Hall. I will be attending the grand opening of the Hall on May 6, 2006. If you wish to become a community or corporate donor, please contact the Italian Cultural Centre Society at 604.430.3337 or email: info@italianculturalcentre.ca.

Stop by my Community Office:

Address:

5022 Joyce Street
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Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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