

TAKE A GOOD LOOK

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GINGERBREAD VILLAGE 2018



This is your chance to build a small piece of Downtown Surrey. This December, the Downtown Surrey BIA is hosting the second annual Gingerbread Village Contest.

To create the Village, community members are encouraged to design and build Gingerbread creations from a traditional house to a school, to a sleek, modern building, a playground or a carousel or even a local icon like the skytrain. If there is something you'd like to see in Downtown Surrey--build it!

There will be seven categories this year, and each can be entered by individuals or teams: Elementary School, High School, Post-Secondary, Charity/Non-Profit, Business, Professional/Culinary, Community Service Group, or Open. The Open category can be entered by anyone not listed in any previous category, such as a sports team, family, or an individual who just loves to show off their skills.

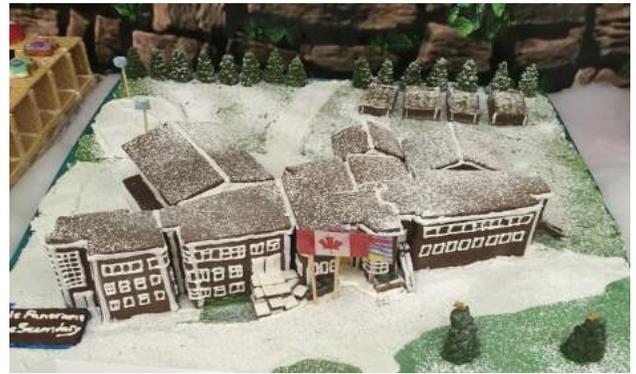
Cash prizes will be awarded to the top two entries of each category, except the High School category which will award prizes to the top four entries. Additionally, there will also be a People's Choice Award, eligible across all entries. Visitors to the Village will be able to vote via cash donation to the Surrey Christmas Bureau for their favourite gingerbread creation. The entry that raises the most donations will win the People's Choice Award which includes a cheque for \$500. The winner will be announced December 18 via social media.

Entries will be on display at Central City Shopping Centre in front of Winners from Saturday, December 8th to Sunday, December 16th during mall hours. If you don't enter the contest, make sure you come and visit Gingerbread Village and see what the local community has created.

For those people who want an extra special piece of Christmas to take home, there will be a silent auction for some of the entries. Visitors can bid on participating gingerbread creations for their chance to keep a part of the Village. All money raised from the auction will also go towards the Surrey Christmas Bureau.

This is an amazing opportunity to not only get involved, but to make a difference for families in your community this holiday season. There is no entry fee to participate, and all entry forms must be submitted by November 30. Full details and registration form can be found on the DSBI website downtownsurreybia.com/blog/2018/10/03/gingerbread-village-event/.

WRITTEN BY: **PERRI LINKLATER**



The NEW VIEW



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Explore the George Westcoast Piercing and Ink

“Celebrate the Most Precious thing you’ll ever own...YOUR BODY!” This is the slogan that has held up for nearly 20 years at Westcoast Piercing and Ink. Their current studio sits on the corner of 108th Avenue and Whalley Boulevard at 1-13672 108th Avenue. The storefront is humble and unassuming, but inside is a bright, beautiful studio with a wide selection of body modification services. They are the first Association of Professional Piercers member-run studio in the Lower Mainland, and are dedicated to helping people adorn their bodies in safe, clean ways.

Kelly Brookes, also known as The Westcoast Piercing Guy, owns and manages the studio and is joined by three other piercers, and two tattoo artists. They are all members of the Association of Professional Piercers, which is a network of professionals who adhere to a high standard of care in their practice. The organization is also a heavy supplier of health resources surrounding the practice of piercing, and engages in both education of the public and support in lobbying for updated and appropriate legislation for the industry.

Education is a big theme in the studio. One of the walls is lined with informational brochures, ranging from picking a piercer to information on the APP. The studio was created with raising higher standards in mind, and sometimes runs piercing education courses. Kelly notes that clients will often walk in expecting a grungy parlour, but are pleasantly surprised not just by the cleanliness but by the amount of information that is made available to them.

Whether you are a seasoned veteran with enough metal to set off a detector, or coming in to learn what goes into getting your ears pierced for the first time, there is something for everyone. The eye-catching implant grade jewelry and friendly, knowledgeable staff are just some of the reasons why Westcoast Piercing and Ink is a real gem in the neighbourhood.

WRITTEN BY: PERRI LINKLATER



New to the Neighbourhood

Bliss Oral Wellness

A new specialty clinic has opened just across the street from Surrey Memorial Hospital. Bliss Oral Wellness specializes in diagnosis and management of oral lesions and orofacial disorders. The clinic is located in Surrey's Health and Technology district, in suite #107 9655 King George Blvd.

Bliss Oral Wellness treats a wide range of non-dental oral issues, including dry mouth, oral ulcers, and taste changes.

Dr. Rajan Saini is the doctor on site, and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada and a Diplomate of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology. He has previously worked in India and Malaysia, where he practiced and taught oral medicine and oral pathology for eight years in university settings. Dr. Saini is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Dentistry at UBC, on top of his work at his private practice.

Bliss joins a neighbourhood that boasts a corridor of entrepreneurs, academics, state of the art facilities, and large companies who are all transforming health technology

WRITTEN BY: PERRI LINKLATER

Explore the George

Prado Cafe

This past Summer, Prado Café has opened it's fifth location to bring a warm, atmospheric experience to 3 Civic Plaza, located at 13495 Central Avenue. Founded in 2004, Prado is known for their perfectly crafted brews and organic homemade goodies, and has made a beautiful addition to the Civic Hotel Grand Lobby.

Visitors, locals, and residents can be treated to homestyle baking, brunch, and Prado's renowned coffee from 49th Parallel Coffee Roasters. The Surrey location is set to be a place to connect with people, and be a social staple for the heart of Downtown Surrey.

Sammy Piccolo, the founder of Prado, says that the 3 Civic Plaza location in Surrey will be a "great café...a meeting place for people". Sammy boasts an extensive and impressive background in coffee, as he is a four-time Canadian Barista Champion, the first ever winner of the World Latte Art Championships, winner at the Coffee Fest Latte Art Championship, and four-time top three placement for Canada at the World Barista Championships.

Nearly everything will be made in-house, using local and organic ingredients.

SFU students also get 10% off beverages at the Surrey location, with the deal soon being extended to KPU students when the new campus at 3 Civic Plaza opens in January 2019. Whether you are a regular, or passing through the area, Prado Café's beautiful new home offers an amazing coffee house experience with quality food that will warm hearts and stomachs.

WRITTEN BY: PERRI LINKLATER



| Light Festival at Bear Creek Park

More Lights & More Nights! This is the promise that the City of Surrey and Telus have made good on for the Surrey Light Festival in 2018. From November 4th until the 10th, Bear Creek Park transforms into a brilliant display of colour every night from 6 until 9 PM. Sunday November 4th saw the kickoff of the event with a night filled with family-friendly activities, food trucks and performers.

The Surrey Light Festival began as a single night event in 2016, expanded to 2 nights in 2017, and further grew to encompass 7 nights this year.

This year features more than 50 000 lights and multiple displays all over Bear Creek Park (13750 88 Ave). Paths, trees, and park structures will be sparkling with light, just as daylight savings ends and the dreary nights begin. Some of the amazing spectacles include pagoda lanterns, tree swirls, and a lit-up frame for visitors to take photos in.

Most weeknights are a beautiful but quiet light show, but there are still some upcoming theme nights. A Diwali-inspired night is planned for November 6th, and will feature an entertainment stage and some added attractions. There is a special participation opportunity this night, as there will be an art collaboration project with mentoring artists Roxanne Charles and Debbie Westergaard Tuepah at the nearby Surrey Art Gallery from 4 to 5pm. Guests are invited to construct collaborative lanterns with the artists, and then take them to the park to walk with them afterward.

Saturday November 10th will close out the event with more family fun festivities, an Activity Zone, food trucks, and performers. Families are encouraged to come out on the theme nights, but all ages will have fun getting to explore the park no matter what night it is. Just remember to come dressed for the weather.

The Light Festival is striving for zero waste this year. Green Chair Recycling is helping out, and is providing clearly labelled recycling stations located throughout the event as well as volunteer supervisors for the themed nights.

A free Park & Ride shuttle service will be also be available on November 4, 6 and 10 from 14033 92 Avenue (Surrey School District Education Centre) and will drop riders at the Bear Creek parking lot off 140 Street and 86A Avenue. The first shuttle of the night leaves the Surrey School District Education Centre at 5:45 PM, and the last leaves Bear Creek Park at 9:30 PM.

If you need a pick-me-up after the clocks turn back, or want to experience a bit of magic that Surrey has to offer, the Light Festival is definitely not something you want to miss.

WRITTEN BY: PERRI LINKLATER



What's Happening in the Community

November 2018

ALL MONTH LONG

Whalley Legion Meat Draw Saturdays and Sundays at Whalley Legion, 13525 106 Avenue from 3:30-6PM

PJ Storytime Tuesdays at City Centre Library, 10350 University Drive, 7:00-7:30PM Families/all ages. Drop-in, free! 604-598-7427 or surreylibraries.ca

Toddler Storytime Wednesdays at City Centre Library, 10350 University Drive, 11:30am-12:00PM Children ages 1-3 with caregiver. Drop-in, free! 604-598-7427 or surreylibraries.ca

Baby Storytime Thursdays at City Centre Library, 10350 University Drive, 10:30-11:00am Children ages 0-1 with caregiver Drop-in, free! 604-598-7427 or surreylibraries.ca

If You Give a Kid a Muffin Storytime Fridays at City Centre Library, 10350 University Drive, 10:00-10:30 AM Children ages 0-5 with caregiver Drop-in, free! Snack included 604-598-7427 or surreylibraries.ca

Family Storytime Saturdays at City Centre Library, 10350 University Drive, 11:00-11:30 AM Families/all ages Drop-in, free! 604-598-7427 or surreylibraries.ca

Light Festival presented by Telus Bear Creek Park 13750 88 Avenue from November 4, 2018 - November 10, 2018, 6-9pm. All ages. Further information 604.501.5050

Kids Conference November 16 /17 Have your child be a part of the 12th Annual Surrey Kids Conference! This exciting, free, workshop is for children ages six to 12. Workshops will include physical, educational, creative and inspirational components. Register In person at any recreation facility or by phone at 604-501-5100

Photos With Santa at Central City Shopping Centre from November 15, 2018 - December 24, 2018

sun
NOV 4

North Surrey Lions Club Meat Draw at Donegal's Pub 12054 96th Ave from 1-4pm

fri
NOV 9

Battle of the Bands Corporat 7pm Blackbird Hall, 10768 King George Blvd, Surrey

sun
NOV 11

Remembrance Day Service at Whalley Legion starts at 10:30am (arrive early).

tues
NOV 13

How to Ace your College Admission Essay at City Centre Library from 4-5pm. Teens age 15-18 years. Call 604.598.7418 to register

sat
NOV 17

Holiday Family-Fun-Fest Free holiday fun for your family at Central City's Holiday Family-Fun-Fest, taking place from 10am to 2pm. Event highlights include: Crafts, Games, Story-Time, Face-Painting, Balloon Artists, Music, Prizes and more.

sun
NOV 18

Gingerbread Workshop at Chuck Bailey Rec Centre. From 1-3pm. Learn how to make Gingerbread Houses. All ages welcome. Families encouraged! Free but pre-registration is required. Call Rachel at 604.580.2321 or Rachel@downtownsurreybia.com to book your space.

sun
NOV 18

North Surrey Lions Club Meat Draw at Donegal's Pub 12054 96th Ave from 1-4pm

sun
NOV 18

Ryley, Chloe & Aubrey's Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Surrey Christmas Bureau. Knight & Day Restaurant from 5-7pm \$12 plus a toy. Tickets available at the door.

thur
NOV 22

Tree Lighting Festival Kick-off at City Centre Library from 4-6pm. Performances by Langley Ukelele Ensemble and Holy Cross Regional High School Choir

sat
NOV 24

Surrey Food Bank Holiday Open House from 11am-1pm. All ages welcome. For further information: www.urrey-foodbank.org

sat
NOV 24

Tree Lighting Festival at Civic Plaza from noon-7pm. Fun and entertainment for all ages. For detail www.surrey.ca/treelighting

sun
NOV 25

North Surrey Lions Club Meat Draw at Donegal's Pub 12054 96th Ave from 1-4pm

fri
NOV 30

Perogy Supper St. Mary's Hall 13512-108 Ave. 4:30-7:30 pm. Info: 604.531.1923. Eat-in or Take-out.

What's Happening in the Community

December 2018

ALL MONTH LONG

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Ellie King's Hansel, Gretel & The Strolling Players Main Stage at Surrey Arts Centre, 13750 88 Avenue December 21-22, 26, 28-30, 2018. Tickets - Box Office 604-501-5566

Photos With Santa at Central City Shopping Centre from November 15, 2018 - December 24, 2018

sun
DEC 2

North Surrey Lions Club Meat Draw at Donegal's Pub 12054 96th Ave from 1-4pm

sun
DEC 2

Big Rigs for Kids/Christmas Carol Singalong with award winning children's entertainer, Chris Hamilton from 3:30-7:45pm at Civic Plaza.

sat
DEC 8

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation.

sun
DEC 9

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours.. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

sun
DEC 9

North Surrey Lions Club Meat Draw at Donegal's Pub 12054 96th Ave from 1-4pm

mon
DEC 10

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

tues
DEC 11

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

wed
DEC 12

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

wed
DEC 12

Santa visits the Preschool Program at City Centre Library from 11-11:45am For children 0-5years with caregiver.

thur
DEC 13

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

fri
DEC 14

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

sat
DEC 15

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

sun
DEC 16

Gingerbread Village at Central City Shopping Centre near Winners. During mall hours. Vote for your favourite Gingerbread Creation

sun
DEC 16

North Surrey Lions Club Meat Draw at Donegal's Pub 12054 96th Ave from 1-4pm

fri
DEC 21

Phoenix Annual Christmas Open House from 6-9pm. Further information www.phoenixsociety.com or 604.583.7166.

sun
DEC 23

North Surrey Lions Club Meat Draw at Donegal's Pub 12054 96th Ave from 1-4pm

thur
DEC 27

Perogy Supper St. Mary's Hall 13512-108 Ave. 4:30-7:30 pm. Info: 604.531.1923. Eat-in or Take-out.

| Special Report: The Value of Co-op

Typically, work and school are thought of as separate concepts. However, Co-op has since changed that notion, and has had an incredible impact on alumni from the program at Simon Fraser University. Cooperative Education, better known as Co-op, is a type of educational model that integrates academia and relevant paid work experience. The program includes much more than just the job itself, such as resumé workshops and advising. Benefits to the program also go both ways. Students gain new skillsets and get to polish their existing ones while getting hands-on experience, and workplaces can gain diverse talent with new energy.

SFU students are required to complete a minimum of three Co-op terms, or one year of work experience. The reason for this is the more work terms a student completes, the better "edge" they will have on the job market. According to an alumni survey, 94% of SFU Co-op students felt they had a greater advantage in the job market post-graduation than their non Co-op peers. Co-op students get to apply what they've learned in class, which means that learning goes beyond just research or observation. Jobs aren't limited by faculty either. Students are encouraged to apply for any jobs they are qualified for, even ones out of their declared major. This allows for more career exploration, and access to new knowledge that might not be available inside a classroom.

The Downtown Surrey BIA has a long and successful history of hiring Co-op students. Bonnie Burnside, Manager of the Downtown Surrey BIA is a big supporter of Co-op both for students and employers.

"Hiring a student for four or eight months provides us with great flexibility," says Burnside. "If we need someone with communication and graphic design skills, we can hire someone with those skills. If we need someone with research skills, that's who we will hire. When we interview students, special skills a student might have will influence other projects we might undertake. That is how we initially got involved in filming as part of our marketing and social media campaigns."

The Downtown Surrey BIA has been hiring students since 2005 for a variety of positions.

"Generally, we will hire one student in January and one in September unless we have special projects planned. In the summer, we apply for funding through Canada Summer Jobs to fund positions. We have been fortunate to have as many as nine students at one time working on a variety of projects from safety to sustainability to area enhancement to marketing to special events. The students bring skills in areas such as graphic design, social media, filming, research and marketing that they have learned in school and get to apply those skills in a workplace setting," Burnside states. "They are young and enthusiastic and filled with ideas."

While the positions may change each semester, the drive and dedication from the students has not.

Co-op at the Downtown Surrey BIA has had significant effect on many of its interns. The diverse responsibilities let students take initiative on projects and cultivate their skills while doing so, and helped give students the experience they need to further their careers.



While some students may have had a clear career path, others often find where their true passions lie while working. Past BIA intern Bhav Bansil "came in here wanting to be a lawyer" but ended up eventually coming back to work at the Downtown Surrey BIA as the Safety Research Intern after two semesters as the special events intern. She credits Bonnie with helping her find what she's passionate about. Bhav also notes that the work interns do make an impact on the community, and are not just for a grade in an isolated classroom.

Graduate student Maureen Solmundson can also agree with Bhav, as she says her experience as the Sustainability Intern was invaluable because not only was it personally rewarding, but it opened up opportunities that may not have otherwise been available to her. She is currently at UBC obtaining her Masters of Planning and hopes to find a full time position in urban planning.

Summer 2018 marketing intern Joshua Penner agreed that his Co-op position helped him discover both his talents and passions. "When I was exposed to opportunity, I enjoyed strategic marketing...and coming up with creative ideas." He is particularly proud of the Explore the George Lunch Tour, and helped organize and promote the campaign that showcased local restaurants. He also says that his position with the BIA helped him get his current job as a marketing coordinator.

Skills gained through Co-op, no matter how specific, can often come in handy even in different positions. Kyla Fraser, a marketing turned special events intern, says that event planning taught her to be prepared and to problem solve on the fly. Communication is also very key, as well as working in a team. "You're the planner but you can't do everything on your own." Like Joshua, she also attributes her time in Co-op for helping her get to where she is in her career.

"I love watching our student's progress in their careers," says Burnside. "One went on to be a Rhodes Scholar, one is currently working on a PhD and several are working on their MA. One is working at BC Housing and another with Ridge Meadows RCMP. And Marie is travelling all over Europe working as a Service & User Experience Designer."

If you or your organization are interested in learning more about hiring a Co-op student, contact Simon Fraser University's central Co-op office by phone at 778.782.2667 or by email at icooppa@sfu.ca. Details and information can also be found on their website sfu.ca/hire/coop.

WRITTEN BY: PERRI LINKLATER



| Big Rigs For Kids

Big Rigs for Kids is back to brighten up the winter. Sunday, December 2nd will be a night of beautiful lights and fun festivities at Surrey's Civic Plaza.

The parade of lighted trucks starts in Cloverdale with the Surrey Santa Parade of Lights. The parade will hit the road at 5:30pm and travel through Fleetwood to Downtown Surrey. The lighted trucks will park along University Drive around 6:30pm, giving everyone an opportunity to admire the lights and decorations and take photos.

There are fun activities planned before the parade arrives. Three local choirs and award-winning children's entertainer, Chris Hamilton, will perform in Civic Plaza from 3:45pm-6pm. They will also lead the Christmas Carol Sing-a-long, where you can join in on your favourite holiday tunes.

The Surrey Christmas Bureau and the Surrey Food Bank will host booths and collect donations at the event. Last year, these local non-profits helped 20,000 people and over 4,000 children respectively during the holidays. Attendees are encouraged to give cash, toys, or food so that every family can celebrate the holidays.

This is the 8th year Big Rigs for Kids will be visiting Downtown Surrey.

WRITTEN BY: RACHEL TONG



| The Big Love Ball

As the holidays approach, we want to spread positivity in the community. That's why the Big Love Ball is coming back to Downtown Surrey.

The Big Love Ball is a large inflatable white ball with "LOVE" on the front. It was first introduced used for the Love Surrey project during the Summer of 2016. As part of the campaign, the DSBIA interns encouraged passersby to sign the ball and write what they love about Downtown Surrey.

The campaign was such a hit that it was continued in summer 2017 and 2018. It has previously appeared at Holland Park, City Centre Library, SFU Surrey and Surrey Urban Farmers Market.

This fall, come on out and sign the Big Love Ball with some holiday spirit or your favourite memory from 2018. You can even hug the ball or take a photo for social media with #LoveSurrey. Check out our Facebook (@Downtown Surrey BIA) and Twitter (@dtsurreybia) pages for the updates on where to find the Big Love Ball.

WRITTEN BY: RACHEL TONG