THE WEEKLY EDITION

apna news.

ISSUE 007 · NOVEMBER 11-12, 2026 SURREY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

COVER STORY

Surrey Council Adopts 16 Priorities at Its First Meeting

First council meeting, November 9, 2026

FROM THE EDITOR

Surrey's new council used its first meeting to adopt 16 priorities, from a Newton hospital fast-track to a four-year tax freeze. Also this week: RCMP helicopters begin livestreaming to front-line officers, a stolen poppy box in Nanaimo, a $400,000 night for Surrey charities, and the Santa Parade and Bright Nights dates to circle.



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Surrey City Council adopted 16 priorities at its first meeting, including a four-year tax freeze, Newton hospital land rezoning and SkyTrain to Newton. SURREY, B.C. - Surrey City Council held its first regular meeting on Monday and passed a motion establishing 16 priorities for the term, including a four-year property tax freeze, fast-tracked rezoning of City-owned land in Newton for a new hospital, and the extension of SkyTrain down King George Boulevard to Newton.

COVER

Surrey Council to Vote on $17.6 Million Centre Block Excavation Contract for SFU Stephens Family School of Medicine

Surrey council votes Monday, November 9, on a $17.56-million excavation and shoring contract for Phase One of Centre Block, the future home of SFU's medical school in City Centre.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

BC RCMP Helicopters Now Livestream Video to the Front Line: New Cameras Already Helped Stop a BMW at 160 km/h on Highway 1

BC RCMP helicopters now livestream aerial video to the Real Time Intelligence Centre BC.

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The final count for the October 24, 2026 provincial election was declared complete on November 9, 2026. Across B.C., the Conservatives won 64 of 93 ridings, the NDP 27 and the B.C. Greens 2, on 1,944,989 valid votes.

In Surrey, the closest race was Surrey City Centre, where Conservative Zeeshan Wahla finished 384 votes ahead of NDP incumbent Amna Shah, 6,396 to 6,012.

Applications for a judicial recount can be filed until November 16, 2026. Return Day is November 18, 2026, when the writs are returned and the results become official.

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COVER



Surrey City Hall in City Centre at night. File photo: Reg Natarajan, CC BY 2.0.

POLITICS

Surrey Council to Vote on $17.6 Million Centre Block Excavation Contract for SFU Stephens Family School of Medicine

By Apna News · November 9, 2026

Surrey council votes Monday, November 9, on a $17.56-million excavation and shoring contract for Phase One of Centre Block, the future home of SFU's medical school in City Centre. Update, November 11, 2026: Surrey City Council approved the Centre Block contract at its first regular meeting on Monday, November 9. According to the City's Regular Council Action Items, Council authorized the City, as joint venturer with Simon Fraser University, to enter into a contract with PCL Constructors Westcoast Inc.



Guideway construction for the Surrey Langley SkyTrain at Fleetwood station on Fraser Highway in July 2025. (Photo: Northwest, CC BY 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons).

SURREY

Fraser Highway Limited to Local Access Only Between Whalley Boulevard and 140 Street Until December 12 for SkyTrain Beam Lifts

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 12, 2026

Fraser Highway is local access only, Whalley Boulevard to 140 Street, 24/7 until December 12, 2026, for SkyTrain beam lifts. Detours and details inside. SURREY, B.C. - Fraser Highway is down to local access only between Whalley Boulevard and 140 Street, around the clock from November 12 to December 12, 2026, while Surrey Langley SkyTrain crews lift guideway beams into place overhead. The restriction is set out in a project notice posted November 9, 2026, which updates an earlier November 3 notice and adds Sunday work to the schedule.



The new livestreaming camera mounted under an RCMP helicopter in B.C. Air Services can now send live aerial video to the Real Time Intelligence Centre BC. (Photo: BC RCMP)

CRIME & SAFETY

BC RCMP Helicopters Now Livestream Video to the Front Line: New Cameras Already Helped Stop a BMW at 160 km/h on Highway 1

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 12, 2026

BC RCMP helicopters now livestream aerial video to the Real Time Intelligence Centre BC. The new cameras already helped stop a novice driver at 160 km/h on Highway 1. SURREY, B.C. - BC RCMP helicopters are now beaming live video straight to the front line. Air Services has upgraded its helicopter cameras with livestreaming, sending aerial footage in real time to the Real Time Intelligence Centre BC (RTIC-BC), where staff from multiple agencies feed intelligence to officers on the ground around the clock.

(Source: BC RCMP, November 12, 2026)



Illustration: Apna News.

CRIME & SAFETY

Three Arrested After Shots Fired in Surrey Central High-Rise Condo Early Monday; Shotgun Seized and No Injuries Reported, SPS Says

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 9, 2026

Surrey Police arrested two men and a woman after shots were fired inside a high-rise condo suite in the 9600 block of 136A Street early Monday. A shotgun was seized and no injuries were reported. SURREY, B.C. - Surrey Police Service (SPS) officers arrested two men and one woman early Monday after multiple gunshots were reported from an upper floor of a high-rise condominium in Surrey Central, police say.



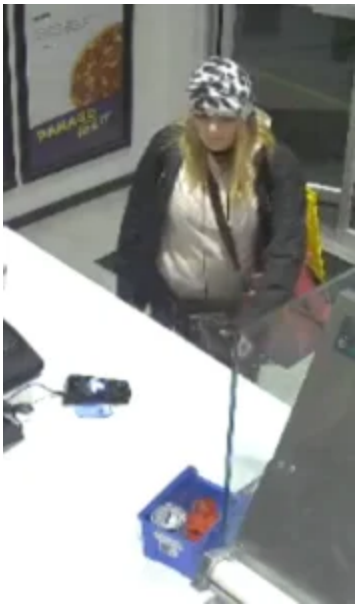
Illustration: Apna News.

CRIME & SAFETY

Surrey Police Traffic Stop Ends With Loaded Handgun Seized and Eight Charges Against Paramveer Singh Deol, 18, SPS Says

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 9, 2026

Surrey Police seized a loaded 9mm handgun after stopping a white Porsche that ran a red light and evaded officers on November 8. Paramveer Singh Deol, 18, faces eight charges and is in custody. SURREY, B.C. - Surrey Police Service (SPS) officers arrested a



The woman Nanaimo RCMP are asking the public to help identify in the theft of a Legion poppy donation box. (Photo: Nanaimo RCMP)

CRIME & SAFETY

Poppy Donation Box Stolen From Nanaimo Pizza Restaurant Days Before Remembrance Day,

man and seized a loaded handgun after a traffic stop in central Surrey early Sunday, police say. On November 8, 2026, at approximately 1:37 a.m., an SPS Frontline officer observed a white Porsche in the area accelerating, driving through a red light and evading police.

RCMP Release Photo and Ask Public to Identify Woman

By Apna News · **NANAIMO, B.C.** · November 12, 2026

Nanaimo RCMP are asking the public to identify a woman caught on camera taking a Legion poppy donation box from a Panago Pizza on November 8, 2026. NANAIMO, B.C. - Nanaimo RCMP are asking the public to help identify a woman caught on security camera taking a Royal Canadian Legion poppy donation box from a Panago Pizza restaurant on the Sunday before Remembrance Day.

(Source: Nanaimo RCMP, November 12, 2026)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- NOV 14 — Sufi Qawali Night with BM Khan: 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. at Taj Park Convention Centre, 8580 132 St, Surrey, with a Sufi DJ opening set by Avie Singh
- NOV 16 — Surrey Schools Grade 9-12 Concert Band Revue: 9:30 a.m. at Bell Performing Arts Centre, running to Wed Nov 19
- NOV 20 — Bhajan Clubbing 2.0: 7:00 p.m. at Bell Performing Arts Centre
- NOV 21 — CEFA Christmas musicals at Bell Performing Arts Centre: four shows from 9:00 a.m., including Elf, Buddy's Christmas Musical
- NOV 22 — A Celtic Family Christmas with Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy: 7:30 p.m. at Bell Performing Arts Centre
- NOV 25 — Baby SPARK: Little Fox: 10:30 a.m. at the Studio Theatre, Surrey Arts Centre
- NOV 27 — Walk Like a Man, a tribute to Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons: 7:00 p.m. at Bell Performing Arts Centre
- DEC 6 — Kalaam-E-Ishq: Ghazal, Qawwali and Bollywood: 7:00 p.m. at Bell Performing Arts Centre

COMMUNITY



Community members gather around the bronze mailbox artwork Konjou at its unveiling in Inouye Park on Saturday, November 7, 2026. Photo: City of Surrey.

COMMUNITY

Surrey Unveils Bronze Mailbox Tribute to Japanese Canadian Pioneer Zennosuke Inouye in Strawberry Hill's Inouye Park

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 11, 2026

Surrey unveiled a bronze mailbox artwork honouring Japanese Canadian pioneer Zennosuke Inouye in Inouye Park, Strawberry Hill. SURREY, B.C. - A new heritage feature was unveiled in Inouye Park on Saturday, recognizing the contributions of early Japanese Canadians in Surrey and sharing the story of Zennosuke Inouye, after whom the park is named. Inouye owned a successful farm in Strawberry Hill until, in 1942, the Canadian government



Sources event staff and volunteers at the Denim Soiree gala in Surrey. (Photo: Sources Community Resource Centres)

COMMUNITY

Surrey Sources Foundation Denim Soiree Tops $400,000, With a Quarter Going to the New Foundry Youth Centre in White Rock

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 12, 2026

Sources Foundation raised more than $400,000 at its 30th annual Denim Soiree gala in Surrey, with at least 25 percent going to the new Foundry South Surrey-White Rock youth centre. SURREY, B.C. - A powerful storm may have knocked out the lights, but it could not dampen the community spirit at Sources Foundation's 30th annual Denim Soiree, which raised more than $400,000 at its western-themed charity gala in Surrey on November 7.

uprooted and exiled all people of Japanese ancestry, selling their possessions without consent.



Central City in Surrey City Centre. File photo: Leoboudv, CC BY-SA 3.0.

BUSINESS

Nine Surrey and White Rock Businesses Honoured at 2026 Business Excellence Awards, Including ZIKR Indian Restaurant and the Centre for Child Development

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 9, 2026

The Surrey and White Rock Board of Trade named nine winners at its 28th annual Business Excellence Awards, including ZIKR Indian restaurant and the Centre for Child Development. SURREY, B.C. - Nine Surrey and White Rock businesses and business leaders were honoured at the 28th annual Surrey and White Rock Business Excellence Awards, the Surrey and White Rock Board of Trade announced November 6. The winners were named at a gala on Thursday, November 5, where more than 400 people gathered with CBC host Baneet Braich as master of ceremonies.

EVENTS



A float covered in Christmas lights at a holiday parade. Cloverdale's own parade of lights rolls on November 29. (Photo: Bim24, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons).

COMMUNITY

Surrey Santa Parade of Lights 2026: Route, Start Time and Where to Watch in Cloverdale on November 29

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 12, 2026



Bright Nights characters in Stanley Park, where the firefighter-built display ran from 1997 to 2024. It is now in Surrey, at the Cloverdale Fairgrounds. (Photo: Ruth Hartnup, CC BY 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons).

COMMUNITY

Noel Surrey 2026: Bright Nights Returns to Cloverdale With Nearly 3 Million Lights, Dates, Tickets and What's Included

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 12, 2026

The 20th Surrey Santa Parade of Lights rolls through Cloverdale on Sunday, November 29, 2026 at 6 p.m. Full route, parking, donation drop-off and tips. SURREY, B.C. - The Surrey Santa Parade of Lights is back for its 20th year on Sunday, November 29, 2026, and downtown Cloverdale will glow for it. The parade steps off at 6 p.m., with illuminated floats, community groups and Santa Claus himself rolling through Cloverdale Town Centre.

(Source: Cloverdale Business Improvement Association, November 2026)

Noel Surrey brings Bright Nights to the Cloverdale Fairgrounds, November 27 to December 29, 2026. Dates, tickets, closed days and what's included. SURREY, B.C. - Bright Nights is home. The firefighter-built light display that began as a Surrey home fundraiser in the mid-1980s, then spent more than 25 years in Stanley Park, is back at the Cloverdale Fairgrounds for a second Surrey season as the centrepiece of Noel Surrey, running November 27 to December 29, 2026.

(Source: Noel Holiday Light Festival, November 2026)

MONEY



Small businesses line 152 Street in South Surrey, where the $18.25 minimum wage sets the pay floor for shop and restaurant staff. (Photo: Leoboudv, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons).

SMART LIVING

BC Minimum Wage Is $18.25 an Hour in 2026: Every Rate, Who Gets What, and When It Rises Again

By Apna News · **SURREY, B.C.** · November 12, 2026

BC's minimum wage is $18.25 an hour since June 1, 2026, the highest provincial rate in Canada. Every special rate, the top-up rule, and the next increase. SURREY, B.C. - If you work for minimum wage in British Columbia, your floor is $18.25 an hour. The rate took effect on June 1, 2026, up from $17.85, and it is the highest general minimum wage of any province in Canada.

(Source: Government of British Columbia, Employment Standards, June 1, 2026)



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