

File No. 04-1000-20-2016-488

February 17, 2017

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")

I am responding to your request of December 16, 2016 for:

The contract, project plans, schedules, budgets, performance measures, terms of reference and/or mandate, key deliverables (such as reports, reviews, text, video) and invoices related to the contract for goods and services performed in 2016 with C. Chan as referenced in the Open Data Catalogue under consultants in the Mayor's Discretionary Budget and Expenses. I am seeking records for January 1, 2016 to December 16, 2016.

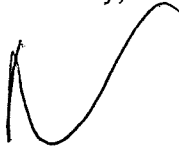
All responsive records are attached.

Under section 52 of the Act you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your request. The Act allows you 30 business days from the date you receive this notice to request a review by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, info@oipc.bc.ca or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number assigned to your request (#04-1000-20-2016-488); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request for information sent to the City of Vancouver; and 4) detailed reasons or grounds on which you are seeking the review.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Office at foi@vancouver.ca if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a vertical line followed by a large, sweeping curve that ends with a small hook.

Barbara J. Van Fraassen, BA
Director, Access to Information
City Clerk's Department, City of Vancouver

Encl.

:kt

ni? ct xatəmətəl, tə ʔnimət, tə təmæxʷ ʔi? tə kʷaʔkʷə I *

We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.

May 3, 2016

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL


Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3

Dear Catherine:

Re: Consulting Agreement with Office of the Mayor, City of Vancouver

This will confirm our agreement that you will provide the services described in the schedule to this letter (the "Services") to the City of Vancouver for the period from June 15, 2016 to December 15, 2016 (the "Term") on the following terms and conditions:

- The City will pay to you the amount of \$15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars) exclusive of taxes. This is the maximum amount that the City is obliged to pay in respect of performance of the Services unless this letter agreement is amended in writing and signed by both you and the undersigned.
- You will provide the Services as an independent contractor and not as an employee of the City. You will not be entitled to any employment benefits of any kind, and you will be solely responsible for remittance of Canada Pension premiums, Employment Insurance premiums, income tax and any other taxes, based on the total remuneration payable to you under this letter agreement.
- You will submit your invoices monthly for Services completed. You will obtain the pre-approval of the undersigned for any disbursements to be reimbursed to you and you will provide original invoices for all disbursements claimed.
- You acknowledge by signing this letter that, in performing the Services, you may acquire information about certain matters which are confidential and that such information is the exclusive property of the City and you agree not to disclose same to any third party either during or after the Term.


Catherine Chan
(Initial Page)

Page 2 of 3

- All drawings, audio-visual materials, information, plans, models, designs, specifications, reports and other documents or products produced, received or acquired by you as a result of the provision of the Services (the "Material") will be the sole property of the City and the City will have the right to use all of the Material for its benefit in any way it sees fit, subject to third party owned copyright. You will deliver the Material to the City forthwith following the expiry of the Term. Title to Material created by you is to be considered to have been transferred, and any copyright in same is to be considered to have been assigned by you to the City, on creation of such Material. You irrevocably waive, in favour of the City, your moral rights in respect of Material created by you.

To confirm your agreement to the above terms and conditions, kindly sign the duplicate copy of this letter where indicated and return same to the Mayor's Office as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Kevin Quinlan
Chief of Staff



Catherine Chan
(Initial Page)

Page 3 of 3

SERVICES REQUIRED:

Outreach Support, including:

- Assistance to the Director of Community Relations for overall Strategic Objectives of the Mayor's Office;
- Increase strategic leadership in Chinese media engagement;
- Media Monitoring;
- Translation Services;
- Digital Media Support;
- Other activities as required.

TERMS ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED TO THIS 3rd DAY OF MAY 2016.



Catherine Chan (Signature)

ni? et xa?amətəl, tə ʔnimət, tə təmənʷ ʔi? tə kʷaʔkʷə 1 *

We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.

December 15, 2015

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL


Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3

Dear Catherine:

Re: Consulting Agreement with Office of the Mayor, City of Vancouver

This will confirm our agreement that you will provide the services described in the schedule to this letter (the "Services") to the City of Vancouver for the period from December 15, 2015 to June 15, 2016 (the "Term") on the following terms and conditions:

- The City will pay to you the amount of \$15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars) exclusive of taxes. This is the maximum amount that the City is obliged to pay in respect of performance of the Services unless this letter agreement is amended in writing and signed by both you and the undersigned.
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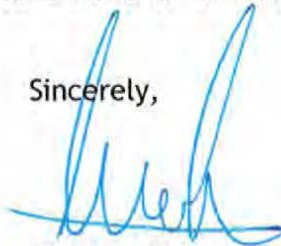


Catherine Chan
(Initial Page)

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To confirm your agreement to the above terms and conditions, kindly sign the duplicate copy of this letter where indicated and return same to the Mayor's Office as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Michael Magee
Chief of Staff



Catherine Chan
(Initial Page)

SERVICES REQUIRED:

Strategic Community Relations and Outreach Support, including:

- Community relations;
- Multicultural Outreach;
- Assistance to the Director of Community Relations for overall Strategic Objectives of the Mayor's Office;
- Increase strategic leadership in Chinese media engagement;
- Media Monitoring;
- Translation Services;
- Digital Media Support;
- Other activities as required.

TERMS ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED TO THIS 15th DAY OF December 2015.



Catherine Chan (Signature)

Invoice

Date 3/15/2016
Invoice # 032

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support Feb 16, 2016 - Mar 15, 2016 Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	\$2,500.00
Total		\$ 2,500.00

Invoice

Date 5/23/2016
Invoice # 039

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support Apr 16, 2016 - May 15, 2016 Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	\$2,500.00
Total		\$ 2,500.00

Work complete - ok
XQ

Invoice

Date 7/18/2016
Invoice # 044

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support June 16, 2016 - July 15, 2016	\$2,500.00
	Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	
Total		\$ 2,500.00

CC

Invoice

Date 4/15/2016
Invoice # 036

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support Mar 16, 2016 - Apr 15, 2016 Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	\$2,500.00
Total		\$ 2,500.00

 OK 😊

Date 2/18/2016
Invoice # 028

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	<p>Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support Jan 16, 2016 - Feb 15, 2016</p> <p>Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!</p> <p>ack'd. by E.L.</p>	\$2,500.00
Total		\$ 2,500.00

Invoice

Date 8/16/2016
Invoice # 046

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support July 16, 2016 - Aug 15, 2016	\$2,500.00
	Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	
Total		\$ 2,500.00

Invoice

Date 10/18/2016
Invoice # 050

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support Sept 16, 2016 - Oct 15, 2016 Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	\$2,500.00
Total		\$ 2,500.00

OK
KA

Invoice

Date 6/16/2016
Invoice # 041

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support May 16, 2016 - June 15, 2016 Due Upon Receipt. Thank you! 	\$2,500.00
Total		\$ 2,500.00

Vendor # 700703

Invoice

Date 11/17/2016
Invoice # 051

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support Oct 16, 2016 - Nov 15, 2016 Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	\$2,500.00
Total		\$ 2,500.00

OK'd by K.G.

Invoice

Date 9/22/2016
Invoice # 048

Catherine Chan
#19 - 4811 Blair Drive,
Richmond, BC
V6X 4E3
catherinesychan@gmail.com
604-779-7001

TO Dana Bertrand
Office Manager
Office of the Mayor
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave.,
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4

Qty	Description	Line Total
1	Strategic Community Relations & Outreach Support Aug 16, 2016 - Sept 15, 2016	\$2,500.00
	Due Upon Receipt. Thank you!	
Total		\$ 2,500.00

OK
22 Sep 22/16

1.4 (Mon)

n/a

1.5 (Tue)

(AM1470) Vancouver Fire Hall Added 25 Fire Trucks

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=56872

1.6 (Wed)

(AM1470) City Cllr: Increasing Homeowner Grant Won't Help Much

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=56900

(AM1470) Study: Current Way Dealing With DTE Criminals Not Effective

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=56908

(Ming Pao) Chinatown High Tower Besides Monument. Developer Will Submit Amended Plan

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160106/vas1h r.htm>

- #ThisisChinatown petition campaign collected 1,300 signatures. City's deadline for gathering public opinions is till Jan 4.
- City spokesperson Jag Sandhu: due to public opinions collected and evaluation made by consultation board, applicants have already notified city staff that they would amend their development plan and will re-submit their application again, although no time line is given yet.
- However, the controversy hasn't stopped yet. Opponents said the tower would override the monument, Dr. Sun Yat Sen Garden and other heritage buildings. However, some said rejecting the tower is a lose-lose situation. New senior housing units and social activity space that would be added along with the tower; holding large event such as Chinatown Night Market would be difficult without the storage space.

1.7 (Thur)

(AM1470) Luxurious Homes Sold Well In Vancouver, Toronto

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=56926#.Vo9eIVgVR5s.mailto

- Solby International: Sale for houses over \$1M increased by 46% in Vancouver, For over \$4M, up 67% in Greater Vancouver

- Low Canadian dollar stimulate demand from offshore buyers

(Sing Tao) Sale For Over Million Properties Increased 46% in Vancouver

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/388886/2016-01-08/post-溫百萬元物業-交投增46/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Province Reject Luxury Homes Speculation Tax Again. Property Assessment Value Skyrocketed. City of Vancouver Urges Legislation For Control Second Time

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160107/vap1hr.htm>

- Robertson: real estate price is way over income, “stark and alarming”, ask province to implement the taxes to cool down the market that is out-of-control.
- Cllr. Louie: disappointed with province’s rejection. City will continue to give pressure. Asked if the province has better ways to stop real estate from continuing to rise.
- Louie: Increased property value won’t bring City more income. Misunderstanding many have. Depends on the rate of increase of the property, some property tax may decrease. Overall, city’s revenue will stay the same. Also, municipalities are legislated to be revenue neutral

(Sing Tao) Rent Back Yard From Owner. Asians Build Laneway Home For Mutual Benefits

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/387560/2016-01-07/post-向溫市屋主租地-亞裔建後巷屋互利/?variant=zh-hk>

- Source: CTV: <http://www.ctvnews.ca/business/vancouver-businessman-seeks-property-owners-for-no-risk-laneway-homes-1.2725758>
- Asking to lease back yard for \$200-300 per month to build rental laneway houses. But lawyer warns to consult professionals for any risks ie. construction delay
- Over 2,000 laneway houses were built in Vancouver since 2009

1.8 (Fri)

(AM1470) Analyst: China Investor Money Rush To Canadian Real Estate and Dollar

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=56966#.VpC1bLaPQM4.mailto

- China’s stock market fall, and low Canadian dollar with currency exchange rate dropped from \$6.5 to \$4.75 CDN, a lot of money will flow into Canadian real

estate market especially Vancouver and Toronto where lots of immigrants reside.

Purchasing in Canada becomes a lot more affordable. Besides single homes, commercial properties. But concerned with the market “over heated”.

- Offshore investors would also purchase Canadian dollars directly.

(Sing Tao) Half of DTE Homeless People Come from Other Areas

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/388878/2016-01-08/post-溫市東端露宿者-逾半來自他區/?variant=zh-hk>

- SFU studies: among 433 homeless people in DTE, 52% wander around in the area, compared to 10 years ago, only 17%. Two times more people moved there from outside Vancouver and even outside BC
- To resolve homelessness, need three levels of governments and collaborate medical, housing and employment resources

(Sing Tao) Organizer Potential Buyers For Open House The Same Day To Create Competition For Higher Price

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/388890/2016-01-08/post-集中買家同一天睇樓-易形成搶房加價/?variant=zh-hk>

- Van East home \$2M, equivalent to \$1.4M US with the low Canadian dollar, attractive to investors. Single homes are in demand, with hardly any single homes available for sale in Van West, very normal to see house in Van East got sold 30% higher

1.9 (Sat)

(Fairchild TV) Location For A Container Converted Social Housing Project Not Appropriate

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=9ff6f7c724613d2ad754529fc4244f3e>

- 420 Hawks St.
- Streeters & Stamps Place Tenancy Council: worry about rise of prostitution, and safety concern for other women and children, not a good model
- Atira women resource society: classic NIMBY, made changes to create more retail space

1.10 (Sun)

(AM1470) PM, Premier & Vancouver Mayor Condemned Attack

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=56992

- Robertson on Twitter: despised the hatred expressed, not acceptable

(Ming Pao) 3 Levels of Governments Condemned Pepper Spray Attack. Justin Trudeau: Not Represent Canadian Attitude

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160110/vaa1hr.htm>

- Robertson: use attack to express hatred is low, Vancouver won't tolerate

(Sing Tao) Three Levels of Governments Condemn Attack Violate Canadian Values

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/391736/2016-01-10/post-違反加國價值觀-三級政要齊聲譴責/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Soaring Real Estate Highly Unaffordable. Expect Province to Solve In 3 Ways

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/391730/2016-01-10/post-房價高「上車」難-料省府3招拆解/?variant=zh-hk>

- In response to Robertson's suggestion of implementing speculation tax, analysis said, the tax doesn't help to increase housing affordability, and hard to define speculation

1.12 (Tue)

(Ming Pao) BC Notary Public: Only 5% Properties Involve Offshore Buyers

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160112/vas1hr.htm>

1.13 (Wed)

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Is speculation tax and luxury home tax City of Vancouver proposing effective?

- While City advocates to the province for introducing speculation tax and luxury home tax, City hasn't thought about that they are also part of the problem. The high development fees they charge developers and the long process time contribute to the expensive real estate.
- City of Van charges more for development permit application process, and now even thinking about whether they would hire more. City should evaluate their own way of spending.

(Ming Pao) Province's Budget Implies To Launch Policies On Real Estate

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160113/vas1hr.htm>

- In response to Mayor Robertson's requests again about implementing anti-speculation tax and luxury tax, Premier said any measures must be done in a way not hurting British Columbians' hard-earned asset values

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Park Board Launch 11 Action Plans to Reconcile With First Nations

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160113/vas5r.htm>

1.14 (Thur)

n/a

1.15 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Hundred-Year-Old Chinatown Expressed the Love For Hometown Canton

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/398704/2016-01-15/post-華埠百年老建築-體現廣東家情/?variant=zh-hk>

- A story about valuable Chinatown's heritage buildings with some over 127 years old, urgently need to be repaired in order to preserve the history, ie. Wing Sang & Co. on 51 E. Pender, Modernize Tailors.
- Even among these buildings there are different characters. Some express the fusion of Chinese and European designs, and the yearning for hometown is expressed in the design

- Take the eg. of the the Ho's building on Carrall St.- 102 years old, structural damage, and water pipes often crack. The Mah's, Chinese Benevolent Association etc. also experience that
- As Canada's National Historic Site, 24 buildings in Chinatown are listed as "Vancouver Heritage Register". 12 hundred-old Chinatown buildings are not functional anymore, according to City's recent report. Although City Council determined to subsidize \$3.6M, the entire repair cost will reach \$36M. How to raise the remaining fund is still questionable
- Facing more and more new apartments built in Chinatown, how to protect the historical buildings which are here because of the efforts made by early Chinese ancestors become more urgent; otherwise, will the next generations will lose the invaluable legacies

1.16 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Building Permit Value Increased Last Year. Vancouver Increased By 15%

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/397474/2016-01-14/post-去年建築許可總值-溫市升近一成半/?variant=zh-hk>

- Record breaking to \$3.2B
- Robertson: Vancouver's economic growth continues to lead the country, very good prospect. Residential and office building development still vibrant, also good potential with job market in the green technology sector

1.17 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Ottawa Permits Second Safe Injection Site in Vancouver

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160116/vap2 r.htm>

(Sing Tao) Taiwanese In Vancouver Stay Overnight Waiting For TW Election Result

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/401652/2016-01-17/post-溫市台僑通宵候戰果/?variant=zh-hk>

- The Guo Ming Dong's (Taiwan's National Party) Canadian Multicultural Centre: Relationship between Taiwan and Canada based on economy and politics is not involved; however, still depends on Prime Minister's attitude

1.18 (Mon)

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Mayor Eat With Three Tourists To Apologize

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160118/vap1h r.htm>

- Robertson: want to ensure three tourists feel welcome from Vancouverites as many care about their feelings. He apologized on behalf of Vancouver for their “misfortune”

(Sing Tao) Three Tourists Misinterpreted As Suspicious. Treated Breakfast And Apologized By Mayor Robertson

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/403040/2016-01-18/post-3> 遊客被誤指可疑-獲羅品信道歉請食餐/?variant=zh-hk

(AM1470 Talk Show) Mayor Robertson apologized to Three Tourists

- Critics: media not necessarily wrong as they feel that there is a need to inform the public for potential danger, not spreading prejudice against refugees as Mayor Robertson said. A terrorist attack would have detrimental effect and the public need to be extra cautious in advance. It is not sensible to sue the media, and it won't have any effective result as well.

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) The Three Tourists Mistaken As Potential Terrorists.

Critics

- VPD already very “Canadian” and extremely cautious and respectful. Not racial profiling. Would be treated the same with similar suspicious incident given the ISIS’ high profile attacks. People’s response would be different if this turns out to be a attack. The incident is unfortunate but it is not a wrongful act as public safety should be given the highest priority
- only if the source is illegal; otherwise, if media has access to the info, it should be legal for media to release. Doesn’t make sense if police said some info is suspicious but refused to release to public, because it would violate media’s right to report
- The other critic: racial profiling. Think the suspicions may not be raised if the tourists are from another ethnicity. Many terrorist are not Middle East by descent

Callers

- Most think better be wrong than sorry. Media not wrong to report a potential danger as it can be very detrimental. Not racial profiling. Terrorist attacks are originated from the Middle East, and ISIS has already waged wars against the West. We need to be extra cautious
- A smaller number of callers said this is racial profiling. Vancouver should not tolerate this as it can happen with other visible minorities

(Ming Pao) Refugee Find It Difficult To Settle With Vancouver's Expensive Rent

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160118/vas3 r.htm>

- Muslim Association of Canada: some refugees still live in hotels and can't find a home since landing for about a month. A family of four with monthly income or subsidy lower than \$1,500, can hardly afford to pay rent

(AM1470) City Cllr Motion To Name Street After "The King of Rock N' Rock"

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57189

- Melissa De Genova will motion to name a street after Dal Richards' name

(AM1470) Professor Suggests To Charge Vacant Property Owners

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57209

- UBC professor: surcharge on vacant property- for those who let properties sit empty and flip- to help subsidize qualified British Columbians for living. Can also find out the number of vacant properties, but won't affect property values
- Estimate about 7.5% are vacant properties, will bring \$90M to City of Vancouver each year

1.19 (Tue)

(AM1470) Report: VSB May Close As Many As 13 Schools

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57237

- Propose to close 12 elementary schools and 1 secondary school in next 15 years in order to meet the Province's request of 95% school admission, in exchange for seismic upgrade. Currently average admission rate is only 85%. Will have public consultation

(Sing Tao) Hope For Registration Rate Over 95%. Vancouver Suggest To Close 13 Schools

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/404589/2016-01-19/post-盼達 95 註冊率-溫市擬關 13 校/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) 10 Greater Vancouver Scholars Suggest 1.5% Property Surcharge

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/404648/2016-01-19/post-10 大溫學者倡徵 1-5 物業附加□/?variant=zh-hk>

- the surcharge can be taken when filing income tax return as a form of vacancy tax. Estimated to be around \$90M to be reallocated to tenants and landlords in

order to increase housing affordability. Only exempted if rent out the property or living in it

(Sing Tao) Premier Will Examine the Suggestions. Challenging to Implement

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/404647/2016-01-19/post-建議可參考-實施有難度/?variant=zh-hk>

- challenging to define vacancy

(Sing Tao) Anti-speculation Measure May Cost \$1B Of House Sale

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/404646/2016-01-19/post-打擊炒風-恐致房銷損失 10 億元/?variant=zh-hk>

- may also cost 4,000 jobs in construction indirectly

(AM1320/ AM1470 Phone-in Show) Is Property Surcharge Workable?

Critic:

- Hard to define what is considered as vacant
- Don't think 1.5% would be enough to deter investors. It's a number game. If profitable, speculation would still continue

Callers:

- Many support to have some kind of tax to help lower real estate price, but questions how well it would work.
- A few callers: may negatively impact local economy as foreign investment also bring positive impact to us. What should government react if real estate value drop? Many "astronaut families" travel back and forth to their home country and Canada frequently.
- Robertson have tried very hard to build affordable housing, but Province is not stepping in enough to help

1.20 (Wed)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Will Discuss Having A Neighbourhood Contact Person

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=56fe38b77cb4f52e8f2770e874f57875>

- Neighbourhood Coalition: each neighbourhood has a city planner, very effective
- Cllr. Affleck: create own biased ward system to prepare them for next election, and controlled
- Andrea Reimer: passed in 2013. Some make it sound political. It's more convenient for citizen to contact a city cllr. Already so in School Board and Park Board

1.21 (Thur)

(Omni news) Kimberly In BC Interior Is the First City in Canada That Gives Out License To Pot Dispensary

<http://www.omnitv.ca/bc/yue-can/videos/4715669545001/>

- Kimberly– license was given out last year. Only one applied in the town of 7,000 people. License is \$100; whereas Vancouver is a lot more expensive. So Vancouver isn't the first one, but the City with most pot dispensaries.

(Omni News) Relocating St. Paul Hospital May Displace More Onto the Street

- Redevelopment may cause relocation
- Mayor: encourage province and community partners to ensure more robust in new site, and ongoing care is available in West End and DT
- Analyst: land got more expensive. Whenever there is redevelopment often lead to tearing down of SROs and old buildings, people with low income and homeless, as well as drug addiction problems will be displaced. Need to review current policies ie. require developers to provide a certain no. of units to be low-income housing units

(AM1470) Vancouver Building New Hospital Will Cause Homeless To Increase

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57277

- Carnegie Centre Action Plan: Redevelopment will make the area more “middle class” and that would displace the low income, 500 homeless people may result
- Irresponsible for City council for not preserving current low income housing stock, yet claim to protect the homeless and increase affordable housing stock
- Urges City to purchase or rent units to house people who are displaced by the St. Paul Hospital allocation

1.22 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) China \$24.7M Capital Flow To Canadian Housing Market. 7.5% No. 3, US the First, Reaching \$109B

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160122/vaa1h_r.htm

- US population is 10 times of Canada's, but Canada has ¼ of US's "shares" from China, shows China's particular preference for Canada. Also Greater Vancouver is the No. 1 choice for Chinese investors. Ie. speedily recovered from financial crisis in 2008, and the price got pushed up by investors from China
- City should review building density restrictions ie. accept smaller apartments

1.23 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Rental Housing Increased By 47% Since Last Year

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/409047/2016-01-22/post-溫出租樓交投旺-去年成交升47/?variant=zh-hk>

- 80% local buyers, 20% offshore buyers including China

(Sing Tao) Realtors Said Surcharge Not Effective. Only Benefit Government Finance

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/409045/2016-01-22/post-地口界指附加口成效微-唯獨庫房漲/?variant=zh-hk>

- Realtors: best way is to increase housing stock ie. allow to building over 1,000 feet high skyscrapers to increase housing, and increase density along main transportation lines

(Ming Pao) Chinatown Plans To Build New Tower Result In Stores Moving. Concerned Group Urges To Address Seniors' Needs. Attend Meeting Next Monday

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160123/vas2_r.htm

- Protest in front of City Council at 2pm on Monday, before the development permit committee meeting starts at 3pm
- Proposed 12-level-high tower at East Hastings 288, result in the move of the stores. Carnegie Community Action Project: many elderly rely on those stores for their services, also the new tower will only has 34 units with \$375 rent, not meeting Chinatown's needs. This project is only a tip of the iceberg

(AM1470 Phone-in Show) Interview with the Mayor

First half (11am-12pm)

Shooting tragedy– how to prevent and minimize the casualties?

- VPD– well prepared and good track record for emergencies as Vancouver has its own police fleet, has squad targets gun crime

Property tax 2.3%– how would City council use the new revenue?

- policing, affordable housing, staff wages, road repairs. Will get good value for taxpayers' dollars

Biking safety– many cyclists don't wear helmets and don't abide the traffic rules, which cause safety hazard?

- police enforce bikers bike on pedestrians, focus
- permit is Province. ICBC not interested. Very expensive to City to do that. Registration for bikes is hard as it's closer to walking

Adding 10 more bike lanes?

- Not, it's expansion
- Average out to 100,000 times of bikes

Do Police give out tickets to bikers?

- Some, focus is on reckless bikers that ride on sidewalk or against the traffic

Development fees too high, ie. about \$60,000

- Housing price set and driven by market. City's portion not affecting the market price. The development fees is to be re-invested into city services. But need policies to protect the market
- Should pay a business fee for that investment if someone purchase a property, sitting vacant and then to be resold– need province to cooperate

Vacancy tax– feasible?

- Challenging because don't want to punish people who are away from home, keep multiple homes or vacation homes

Why necessary for the Mayor to apologize for the mistaken terrorist incident at Pacific Centre?

- Mayor is the chair of the Police board

Callers:

City Council often shift the responsibility to other levels of governments or not able to resolve problems. Ie. school safety against gun shot, vacant properties, parking for laneway housing

- City is part of the city government and funds the police board

Why not put in place an immediate response “button” or surveillance camera that connects to police?

- Already systems in place. Vancouver has small geography, can respond quickly

Why more bike lanes, for instance, the one at Point Grey road already? Waste of money when city already made up their mind before consultation and often lean towards developers and benefit the rich.

- Gap between seawall and UBC. Need to balance with good positive development with a growing population

Second half (12-1pm)

Critic/ Co-host, Syrus:

- While the previous caller think City is not doing enough, he thinks City does too much when certain issues should be under jurisdiction of province or federal
- Shouldn't have too many bike lanes to downtown.
- Keeping a dog or cat requires a license. Why so challenging to license a bike? For instance, all bikes need to be registered and carry the bike plate. Just like the anti-theft system
- How to deal with leisure bikers who only bike once in a while during weekend? About \$25 a year is acceptable
- Why not a flexible lane that can be converted to bike lane during the summer, and remain car lanes in winter when bike traffic is low?

Callers:

- About 7 callers complained about bike lanes/ bike safety. Not fair and unreasonable for vehicle drivers to pay for the higher insurance premium result from collision caused by the few hundred of bikers. Some irresponsible bikers run away at accidents and they don't have to be responsible for their wrongdoing. The Mayor only reward those bikers who support him in elections. Bike lane expansion is only a political move.
- Should have a petition against it
- More worried about hit by a bike as they are not liable for accidents they cause. Should have some kind of written exam for bikers just like motor vehicles.
- Not necessary to expand bike lanes and waste of money. Bike separation blocks are expensive too. Most of the time the bike lanes are empty. One less driving lane and causes congestion for 10-15 minutes around Venable St. Very angry every time when passing that area
- A caller whose car got scratched severely by a bike needs to pay insurance premium, but the biker ran away.
- City Council often spends taxpayers money recklessly ie. sudden dismissal of city manager with huge compensation and has filed numerous lawsuits

1.24 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Difficult To Own A Home Under Soaring Real Estate Price. Gregor Robertson Provides 3 Relief Strategies

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/411589/2016-01-24/post-屋價升市民置業難-羅品信用3招紓困/?variant=zh-hk>

- 3 strategies: expand housing stock, charge speculation/ luxury home tax, increase density in certain downtown areas such as relaxing building height
- City Council diversify housing styles ie. rental housing, laneway housing, high density residential buildings along Canada Line
- Think 1.5% property surcharge is a good idea, but need to make sure it is a fair system
- Reserved with the concept of “pre-zoning” as suggested by developers as that may be leaning towards developers, and City needs to put taxpayer’s benefits in first priority. City can receive 85% of the revenue from regular land re-zoning, but a lot less in pre-zoning. As City needs money to develop communities, need to be very cautious when doing re-zoning.
- Don’t think economy would affect the Fed to fund as Broadway Subway, building social housing and repairing Chinatown heritage buildings also helps Canada’s economy

(Sing Tao) About 50% Support 1.5% Property Surcharge

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/411586/2016-01-24/post-逾5成半贊成-徵業主1-5附加□/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Robertson Urges Chinese Community To Take Advantage of Funding. Visited Editorial. Promised To Preserve Chinatown Heritage Buildings

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160124/vab1hr.htm>

- Robertson: City needs to make a balance between development and preserving cultural heritage. Dire need to preserve heritage buildings but must have the funding support of federal and provincial, and City would advocate that with Chinese community. Chinese community should have a loud and clear voice on that
- City Council passed the \$36M Chinese Society Legacy Program last year, confident the Trudeau government would be willing to fund, although not as optimistic with the Province
- SRA Bylaw amendment that increased the rental-after-renovation fees by 8 folds to \$125,000 per unit in order to protect the loss of SRO stock; however, some Chinatown Society said the high fees make it difficult for them to renovate their SROs and rent them out in market price. Robertson: the amendment is important as many Chinese elderly live in SROs, and Province should raise welfare since 2007
- Keefer 105 – difficult dilemma

(AM1470) VSB Intends To Amend Current Bylaw: Pot Dispensaries Must Be 500 Metres Away From Schools Instead of 300 Metres

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57352

1.25 (Mon)

(Fairchild TV) Interview With The Mayor: Mayor Robertson Will Continue To Vancouver's Economic Growth And Urges Province To Implement Measures To Suppress Real Estate Price

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=bd41a065d4640c9dd3c1e06ce9c820dc>

- Through trade missions to expand economic growth
- Expensive development and rezoning costs contributed partly to soaring housing price? Set by market, not affected by City

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Dropped From 2nd to 3rd Most Unaffordable City Worldwide

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=6107f0a7614917c3c78a74ebe45f00ca>

(AM1470) School Trustee Requests To Increase Distance Between Pot Dispensaries And Schools

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57369

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57375

- Cllr. Jang: City Council won't make any changes when the Fed. hasn't put in place any policies yet

(AM1470 Phone-in Show) Should Distance Between Pot Dispensaries And Schools Be Enlarged From 300meters to 500 meters?

- Critics and most callers: not effective. The 200 meters increase doesn't make much difference. Students still have lots of available means to access to pot, ie. bike or skateboard to the dispensaries, or, purchase through an adult any time
- Many callers are upset with pot dispensaries being allowed to be open in Vancouver. But the critic said: not a time to discuss whether there should be pot dispensaries as federal government has already promised to give green light; the question should rather be enough public consultation
- How young people can be protected in terms of education, and how policies can be put in place to prevent youth accessing to pot. But it will be challenging and ambiguous as the definition of pot has switched from "medical use" to "leisure use" now

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Passed Chinatown Commercial-Residential Development Project

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13463%3A2016-01-26-23-21-58&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- “Although there are concerned groups expressing their objection, the development plan was still passed”
- criticizes low income housing in Chinatown and surrounding neighborhoods are disappear gradually, making it hardly affordable for seniors. Only 34 units in the project is affordable by single seniors. Also, doesn’t preserve the characteristics of Chinatown

1.26 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver School Trustee Suggests To Increase Distance Between Schools And Pot Dispensaries To 500Metres

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/414390/2016-01-26/post-溫學委倡議-大麻店距學校增至 500 米/?variant=zh-hk>

- Fraser Ballantyne: urged VSB Chair Mike Lombardi to write a letter to the Mayor, to increase that distance to at least 500 meters in order to reduce the negative impact pot dispensaries have on youth

(Fairchild TV) Residents Opposed to Building 12-Level- High Apartment In Chinatown

- Chinatown Concern Group: losing affordable housing and retail space, will push seniors out of Chinatown, and make Chinatown lose its characteristics. 7 retailers already moved out of Chinatown
- Cllr. Louie: misunderstanding. 1st plan in DTE that requires a higher level of social housing. A big improvement.

(Sing Tao) Vancouver City Council Passed 12-Storey-High Chinatown Project Under “Voice of Protest”

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/414312/2016-01-26/post-溫市議會抗議聲中-通過華埠建 12 層柏文/?variant=zh-hk>

- Carnegie Community Action Project’s Chinatown Concern Group: About 10 Chinese seniors protested outside City Council on the 3rd floor, then spoke in turn in the council
- This project has 60% social housing but some said the rent is still too high and not affordable by low income Chinese seniors. Building height also exceeds the maximum 98 feet and go up to 120feet for 12 floors, which affects Chinatown’s unique characteristics
- One Chinese senior lady Ms. Lam, 6th generation Chinese in Canada whose great grandfather has helped build Chinatown: high towers leads to gentrification of Chinatown, requests committee to reject the plan and “give living space for low income Chinese seniors”

(AM1470) VSB Passed “Killing Schools” In Exchange Of Funding

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57394

- Close 14 elementary schools in next 14 years in exchange for Province's seismic upgrade funding, but plans will be re-adjusted if there are demographic changes in those neighbourhoods

(AM1470) Vancouver's Housing The 3rd Less Unaffordable In the World

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57383

- US consultant company's report, based on median house price and median family income. Vancouver is the 3rd less unaffordable, HK 1st, Sydney 2nd.

(Westca.ca) Gregor Robertson: Economic Downturn? What does Vancouver Mayor say?

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=466656/lang=schinese.html>

original source: a Chinese website specialized in real estate info and related news

<http://www.vanfun.net>

- They got a picture of the Mayor chewing a carrot with caption: “Why everyone is so anxious? Build houses for me! Build subway!”
- Basically an article summarizes different issues from other reports
- Housing not affordable? Anti-speculation tax and luxury home tax
- Economy not good? Build infrastructures ie. Broadway Subway
- Will also improve social housing, repair Chinatown heritage buildings, which will create more job opportunities and benefits economic growth

1.27 (Wed)

n/a

1.28 (Thur)

(AM1470) Industrial Areas In Vancouver East Converted To Residential Area

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57438

- Along East Hastings between Heatley and Clark almost no commercial buildings in the past few decades. City amends land use and rezoning bylaw to allow 15-storey-tall buildings. Developers “fight” to purchase properties

(Ming Pao) City Cllr. Motion To Close All Pot Dispensaries Until Federal Finish
Legalization

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160128/vas4 r.htm>

- Melissa De Genova: should close down all pot dispensaries by April this year according to Federal law, including the 12 dispensaries that were given permit until Fed gives out a clearer guide line

1.29 (Fri)

(AM1320) City Considers Giving Out Grant to" DTE Street Market Society"

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13526%3A2016-01-30-00-07-44&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- The grant would be changed from temporary projects to long-term operation of the society, but Chinatown Merchants Association said, the sources of lots of the items sold at the market is problematic, City already provided \$400,000 funding to them over the last 5 years. City should spend taxpayers money wisely
- City said in a letter, that they would try to ensure the market operates legally and safely
- AM1320 called City's relevant department, but no reply was received yet.

(AM1470) "Beautiful Monkey Kings" Show Up At Vancouver's LNY Lantern Festival

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160129/vas1h_r.htm

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Housing Expected To Increase by 8.6% While Number of Sales Down 8.2%

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/418903/2016-01-29/post-溫今年屋價料漲8-6-同時銷量下降8-2/?variant=zh-hk>

- According to BC Real Estate Association's report: drop in number of sales hasn't nothing to do with less demand. Demand is expected to stay strong and keep overall price up

(AM1470) Vancouver Riding By-Election. 3 Party Candidates Talk About Chinatown Development

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57474

1.30 (Sat)

(AM1470 Phone-in Show) How To Balance Development And Heritage Preservation In Chinatown

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57467

a short recorded phone interview with Helen Ma, City of Vancouver's DTE City Planner

華埠商會主席陳耀輝 Mr. Chan, Chinatown Merchants Association:

- Chinatown has been spiraling down especially grocery, next Chinese barbeque shops because traditional Chinese groceries can be bought throughout Vancouver. Not oppose to development but need to preserve heritage. 12 levels is ok as it brings more customers to Chinatown if more move in
- Not too many tourists, mostly locals
- Hope panels for new developments consider adding more Chinese cultural characteristics, and adding one more gate like the Millennium Gate
- For crime issues, VPD already patrol more frequently. Already improved recently. For parking, as less come to Chinatown, looking for a parking spot isn't as hard. But if more free street parking and people don't have to walk to the City parkade with heavy groceries, it would be helpful
- Discussing if City can open Keefer and Pender for free on street parking during LNY
- Customers more usually more mature, for groceries. Many professionals moved out. Try to attract young people to volunteer and come through the annual Chinatown Festival. But a long way to go.
- Concern of not having people shopping, need "new blood"

中華會館理事長 朱展倫 Mr. Chu, Chinese Benevolent Association:

- Chinatown groups not oppose to high towers in Chinatown, but voted unanimously to oppose developments over 90 feet in the National Heritage Site area – especially Keefer 105 - damage Chinatown's characteristics, especially for the historical "heart" of Chinatown
- Pender St. as National Heritage Site requires extensive repair inside out, from seismic approx. \$15M
- if Chinatown's characteristics remain, many would still come with a yearning for the past. However, the crime rate (namely, pick pocketing), and lack of parking spots, deter many from visiting. Free parking would help

Callers:

- Should learn from San Francisco- new buildings are only permitted if Chinese cultural characteristics are included, only preserve façade to cut costs. Should not be higher than 9 levels as it would be different from the rest of heritage buildings.
- Identified as Fok (recognized he is the Chinatown BIA Chair, Albert Fok): convert a piece of land that was abandoned for over 30 years to a development that provides storage space. Don't understand why people. There are battles between developers.
- Fok: Nobody has heard about the group of young people. I.e. Mah Jong in front of the Monument is indeed disrespectful. Chinatown groups need to

reflect whether they have trained up young people. As population increases in an area, there would be enough votes that draws attention to politicians. Don't be one-sided and be against developer.

- Fok: cost for 9 and 12 levels is more or less the same. The word "damage" is not accurate. 超倫公所 Over 12 levels. Chinatown is formed by a group of Chinese veterans and workers who lived together, but their descendants move out to different areas. So a need to attract people to move in to become self-sufficient.
- Don't have to consider City and developers; they won't do it if without benefits.
- Developers of course would welcome the 3 level bonus. Chinese won't like to live in Chinatown anymore as they have to choose a good school district. It would be mostly Caucasians that move in. Demand for specialty stores would be lost and end up westernized supermarkets opening there.

1.31 (Sun)

(AM1470) Public Concern About City of Vancouver's New Bike Lane Suggestion

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/sugar-mobile-wireless-1.3423513>

- Commercial Dr. Business Association: many businesses are concerned the new bike lane will become a "bike highway" that may cause accidents easily. Decrease of parking spots would affect businesses.
- A bike store: more business will result for people who ride bikes there
- City's transit document is vague about the exact location of the bike lane

2.1 (Mon)

(AM1470) Vancouver's First Co-housing Project

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57504

(AM1470 Phone-in Show)

- focus too much on how much the single homes rise. But the increase in apartment is only a few %. Young people can first consider starting with apartment
- Many callers said they would like to see the province to provide some assistance to first-time home buyers, and some measures to target speculations
- Besides overseas buyers from China, with low Canadian dollar, many from the States also come to Vancouver to invest too.

(AM1470) The Pot Dispensary That First Received City's Permit Will Start Operation Earliest This Month

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57537

- Only 14 applications out of the 100 dispensaries passed the criteria, need inspection and consultation.
- City can have as many as 90 dispensaries in terms of the distance requirement, but some locations are not appropriate. The remaining need to cease operation by April

2.2 (Tue)

(Ming Pao) Business License For Vancouver's First Pot Dispensary May Be Released This Month

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160202/vasb r.htm>

(AM1470) Rejected Pot Dispensary Owner Said City Bylaw Too Strict

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57558

- 62 applications go to appeal. Larson: Besides liquor store, no other stores require the 300meters. Rules are too strict given pot is safer than alcohol

(Sing Tao) Vancouver West Landlord Tear Down and Rebuild 20-year-old House. Green City Cllr. Criticized Not Good To the Environment

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/424475/2016-02-02/post-溫西業主拆 20 年屋重建-綠黨市議員轟不環保/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Gregor Robertson Hope Fed Would Give \$500M Funding For New Social Housing

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57555

source: Globe & Mail <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/vancouver-offers-city-land-in-bid-for-social-housing-cash-from-ottawa/article28503349/>

2.3 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) Pot Dispensary Owners Complain About City Bylaws Too Tight

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/425778/2016-02-03/post-沒發牌店東抱怨-溫大麻附例過嚴/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Urges Ottawa To Give Out \$500M To Help Building Affordable Housing

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/425774/2016-02-03/post-溫市擬促渥京-撥 5 億元建廉屋/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Park Board New Initiatives To Protect Wildlife

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/425775/2016-02-03/post-溫公園局推新策略-保護珍貴野生動物/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1320) 248 Less Students Next Year, According To VSB Forecast

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13560%3A248&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1320) City Willing To Give Out Land For Social Housing

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13554%3A2016-02-03-00-11-23&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- City-owned land \$250M land for 20 locations. Hope to build 35,000 new affordable housing units in next 5 years with the help of fed.

(AM1320) Over half oppose to tax increase to support TransLink, According To Survey

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13555%3A2016-02-03-00-12-04&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- 2/3 opposed to tax increase in any ways. Scholars not surprised as Plebiscite was voted down

2.4 (Thur)

(AM1470) Vancouver East Residents Oppose To Tall Apartment Towers

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57598

- Joyce-Collingwood skytrain station apartment- worried people are displaced by the overly rapid development and the new tower doesn't provide affordable housing
- City Planner: the plan doesn't require affordable housing

(AM1470) Vancouver Changes Bylaw To Resolve The Garbage Dumping Problem

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57595

(Sing Tao) Chines Landlord Suspicious Of Abandoning Two Houses OF Over \$10M in Vancouver West

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/427091/2016-02-04/post-溫西兩總口千萬房屋-華裔業主疑任由荒廢/?variant=zh-hk>

original source:

<http://www.theprovince.com/news/abandoned+west+side+homes+worth+combined+million+share+same+owner/11695936/story.html>

2.5 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Drainage Blocked By Plastic Bags And Coffee Cups. City of Vancouver Looks Into Ways To Reduce Use

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/428541/2016-02-05/post-膠袋咖啡杯塞渠-溫市府研究減少用/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Studies Ways To Reduce Coffee Cups And Plastic Bags

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57643

(AM1470) Trudeau: Promises To Increase Infrastructure Funding

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57643

- Robertson: municipalities face many challenges from homelessness, transit gridlock to affordable housing all affect economy. Glad to work with a Prime Minister that understands municipalities

2.6 (Sat)

(Ming Pao) Clark and Robertson Asks Trudeau For More Funding

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160206/vac1h_r.htm

- Robertson: expect Fed. would understand that they take 50% of taxpayers' money, and should have relative contributions. Glad to work with a Prime Minister that understands municipalities

(Sing Tao) Robertson Urges Fed. To Increase Funding For More Affordable Housing
<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/429805/2016-02-06/post-羅品信促渥京撥款-增建可負擔房屋/?variant=zh-hk>

- As above. Re: marijuana legalization, as the Feds. Is looking into it, police should put enforcement on hold. At the same time, municipality would regulate to control the sale and taxation of pot

2.7 (Sun)

n/x

2.8 (Mon)

n/x

2.9 (Tue)

n/x

2.10 (Wed)

n/a

2.11 (Thur)

2.12 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Developer Seizes Good Prospect In Downtown Vancouver To Build Apartment Of International Class
<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/436249/2016-02-12/post-發展商看好溫市中心-建國際級柏文/?variant=zh-hk>

- With the low vacancy rate especially in downtown Vancouver for apartments, still room for more apartment

2.11 (Thur)

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver Hosted Feast To "Visit" (People) During LNY

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/Van/htm/News/20160211/vas1h.htm?m=0>

- Robertson made LNY greetings in 4 languages: Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Vietnamese. Joked that Vancouver would need to increase more school and daycare space if Vancouver is like China with more babies are born during the year of Monkey

2.13 (Sat)

(AM1470) Vancouver Park Board: Not Allow 420 Marijuana Day On Beach

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57792

- Park Board Chair: smoking is banned on beach

2.14 (Sun)

(Fairchild TV) Over 4,000 People Participated In Chinatown's LNY Parade

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=bd91a434de99fb29e2a74a181f06560f>

- End with the Mayor's greeting in Mandarin

(AM1470) The 43rd Spring Festival Parade Was Launched Today

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57827

- Robertson: glad that Chinese cultural traditions have already become a part of the Vancouver's culture. Worthwhile to celebrate LNY

2.15 (Mon)

(Sing Tao) Multicultural Parade Cheered By Hundred Thousand Spectators

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/439768/2016-02-15/post-遊行展現多元文化-10 萬人來道喝采/?variant=zh-hk>

- Politicians greeted spectators in Cantonese and Mandarin with "Happy New Year" or "Kung Hey Fat Choi" while they gave out red pockets, bringing smile to the face of people along the way

(Sing Tao) Matching Art To Wear Chinese Tang Dynasty Clothing. Critique For Each Politician

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/439771/2016-02-15/post-唐裝配搭考心思-賀口政要逐個評/?variant=zh-hk>

(it's interesting to see the photos in the report ☺)

- Mayor: “Best Match Award”– overall matching not bad. His body build is very suitable for Tang Dynasty clothing. Although the light gold color is similar to his complexion, his smile made it up.
- Kerry: “Most Unforgettable Award– cross match with Western and Chinese style, with his contagious smile, it’s unforgettable.
- Fashion designers: first chose the color, avoid color that is close to the complexion, chose bright color with strong contrast. Shouldn’t ignore the small details. Hats, scarfs and accessories can accentuate the outfit

(Ming Pao) Chinatown LNY Parade

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160215/vas1h_r.htm

(AM1320) City Manager Claimed Did Not Suggest Sunset Beach As Venue To 420 Organizer

(Dawa News) 6th Vancouver Spring Temple Festival Launched

<http://dawanews.com/article/uncategorized/第六届温哥华春会隆重行>

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) 420 Event At Sunset Beach

- penalty \$250 each person if enforcement is made on an event deemed illegal
- City spokesperson claims not allow to host the event at Sunset
- 420 events started since 1995 at Victory Square, but expanding since moved to Art Gallery, reached over 50,000 last year as the organizer claimed (or, 25,000 according to VPD). City already has a bad track record of allowing illegal activity to grow. Time to rebuild a positive image
- City should show its dedication in targeting illegal activities from happening in the City
- Some callers said disappointed with City, not give out license but no plan to enforce and hint for choices for location. Question whether citizen’s public safety and public space are protected by law. City should consult VPD immediately about creating a contingency plan for enforcement, and barricade that area simply because the event is illegal, and it invades public space.
- City’s statement said not suggesting about the location, but strange to look for an alternative location
- City own citizens an explanation why would hold a meeting with an illegal organization and help coordinate as a middle person
- Don’t let the group grow till it is out-of-control, then said losing the ability to prevent it from happening.
- No matter how much the group is willing to pay for policing costs and insurance, it is an illegal activity in all aspects ie. amount of pot possessed, involvement of youth. That sends a message that City allows illegal activity to explode

- VPD should declare enforcement and barricade the area. Everyone's eyes is on City whether they will uphold laws in the City
- Bowing down to illegal activity. Citizens pay for policing costs yet they selectively enforce
- Mayor ignores important issues in the City like enforcing the 420 illegal activity
- Lots of kids and youth around whether it's Sunset beach or Robson Square. Smoking is not allowed, why pot
- Shows cowardice of Chief VPD

2.16 (Tue)

(AM1470) Vancouver Park Board 's Open Letter To Gregor Robertson

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57850

- Hope the Mayor would use his authority to ban 420 from taking place at Sunset beach, and relocate the event to elsewhere. Concerned that 63 people were sent to hospital last year, illegal and involve public safety issues. City must dispatch enough police and pay for the costs if it's at Sunset Beach
- Jodie Emery: don't believe City would reject their application. Every year there were events that violate the bylaw could still take place

2.17 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Park Board Opposes To 420 At Sunset Beach

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/442370/2016-02-17/post-溫市公園局反對-日落海灘辦大麻日/?variant=zh-hk>

- NPA led Park Board's political game and misled the public. City never agreed to have the event on Sunset Beach. City only agrees to legal assembly and would dispatch police officers at such events to ensure peace and safety.

(Ming Pao) City and Park Board Fight Over For Words At 420's Change of Location

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160217/vas4_r.htm

- Cllr. Jang: 420 is a protest for legalization of pot, not a fun fair, and people have the right to protest, but City never suggested the location. Any costs incurred, it's Park Board's responsibility. However, City would provide assistance if needed.

(Fairchild TV) Park Board: City Should Assume Responsibility And Costs For 420 At Sunset Beach

- Sarah Kirby-Yung- not enough dialogue between Park Board and City. City neglected neighbourhood. Not qualified for permit right off the back as smoking is not allowed
- Jang: dialogues have been lasted for past few months. Right to assembly. Told protesters scale back but they decided to go

- elsewhere. Park Board's responsibility as that is under their jurisdiction
- Taxpayers paid for \$56,000 incurred from the 420 event

(AM1470) Park Board And City Disagree On 420 Location

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57895

(AM1320) Pot Dispensary License Procedure Continues

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13713%3A2016-02-18-00The-32-21&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Cllr. Jang expected that only less than 20 pot dispensaries will qualify to operate. Those that were turned down in the first round of evaluation must close their store by the end of Apr

(AM1320) Canadian Police Chief Association Discuss Marijuana Issue

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13704%3A2016-02-18-00-12-42&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Police Chief Association: marijuana still illegal until federal change the law. Police need to decide when to enforce based on a no. of factors like public safety, whether it involve selling it to non-medical uses, minors or organized crime

2.18 (Thur)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver's Appeal Board Rejected 4 Appeals

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57923

- Rejected all 4 -Less than 300 meters
- Cllr. Jang- must close by Apr, otherwise VPD will enforce or injunction for extreme cases

(AM1470) Vancouver Park Board Comissioner Suggest Building More Ice-skating Rink

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=57906

- Erin Shum– Only 3/8 skating rinks are open year-round

(AM1320) Petition Campaign Opposes To Tall Tower in Vancouver East

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13740%3A2016-02-19-21-53-16&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- No Tower Coalition: 3,500 signatures collected so far: not oppose to mental health facility but oppose to 12-level tower as it would affect the outlook of the community

2.19 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) Ms. Poon Of SUCCESS Chosen As BC's 35 Most Influential Women

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160219/vasa_r.htm

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2.18 (Thur)

(Fairchild) About 2/3 Shares Of Vancouver Bentall Centre acquired By An Insurance Company from China

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=def32002582287e0636afa7edb65a192>

- Shows China investors' interest in Vancouver's real estate market and switch to commercial properties, also especially due to the low currency and stability, historical high for foreign investors. May be the largest transaction by amount in Vancouver's history that involves foreign investment in commercial properties

2.19 (Fri)

(AM1320) VPD Supports Monitored Injection (Of Fentanyl)

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13752%3A2016-02-19-22-17-15&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

2.20 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Filming In Vancouver Experienced Vigorous Growth By 40% Last Year

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/446513/2016-02-20/post-借溫市取景拍戲-去年勁升逾4成/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver City Councilor Will Motion To Set Property Appraisal

Guidelines

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/446530/2016-02-20/post-公布物業估價準則-溫市議員將提動議/?variant=zh-hk>

- Cllr. Meggs: requests BC Assessment to reveal details of their assessment standard

(Sing Tao) Medical Enterprise "i Kang Healthcare Group" Launch Their North American Headquarter In Vancouver

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/446570/2016-02-20/post-中國醫企愛康集團-溫市設北美總部/?variant=zh-hk>

- Renowned medical enterprise that they will form a North America headquarter in Vancouver, and set up a "Win-Wing With Vancouver Fund". They will invest \$100M in the coming year, then increase to \$300-500M in the next 3-5 years. Main purpose is to invest in Canada's biotechnology and medical projects. Hope to bring the skills back to China.

- Ai Kang Group– formed in 1993, have developed into a huge enterprise consisting a no. of companies and foundations including real estate, infrastructure, medical services & hospitals, equity fund and hotels.

(Ming Pao) Beijing's iKang Group Will Launch North America Headquarter In Vancouver. \$500M Investment In 5 Years Will Create A Hundred Positions.

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160220/vas1h_r.htm

- IKang: Capital close to \$600M RMB and 2,000 employees

(Ming Pao) Critic: iKang's Investment in Vancouver Shows Still Room For Development In Bio Medical Science

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160220/vas2_r.htm

- Many investment from US and India too, but investment from China draws more attention because they usually involve a large sum

(Sing Tao) VSB Expected Budget Shortfall of \$24.4M

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/446557/2016-02-20/post-溫教局料短缺2440萬/?variant=zh-hk>

- Due to lower than expected admission, increasing operating cost, and the province anticipate higher admission in other school district, Ministry of Education is unlikely to increase funding for VSB

2.21(Sun)

n/a

2. 22(Mon)

(AM1470) Vancouver Is Studying The Effect of the New Housing Measure

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58012

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Plans to Build “Container Homes”

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58016

2.23 (Tue)

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Plans To Build “Container Homes” For Homeless’
Temporary Needs. Asking Developers For RFP

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160223/vap2_r.htm

(Ming Pao) VSB Budget Shortfall Expected To Increase to \$2.43M. Less
Students But Higher Cost This Year

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160223/vap3_r.htm

(AM1320) Vancouver launches New Bike Sharing Program

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13789%3A2016-02-24-00-14-59&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

2.25 (Th)

(AM1470) Pharmacists Disagree With Selling Pot At Drug Store

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58082

(AM1470) Mayor Robertson’s Spend Over \$20,000 On Travel &
Delegation Last Year

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58075

3.4 (Fri)

(Fairchild TV) Robertson Asked Federal To Fund Infrastructure

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=33a900397522c1d3f78ba2f8744a653b>

(AM1470) Robertson Hopes Feds. Would Keep Their Infrastructure Funding Promise

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58316

(AM1470) An 88-years-old House in Vancouver Sold At \$9M

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58308

- The 4,060 sq. feet house/ 7,150 sq. ft lot is sold \$1M higher than the asking price.
- Buyer paid full price. Realtor said never saw this before.
- 11 people put an offer, 10 Chinese and 1 Caucasian. A Chinese couple over 30-years-old bought it

3.5 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) 3 Environmental City Mayors Exchange Ideas In Vancouver

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/467690/2016-03-05/post-3 最環保城市首長溫哥華交流經驗/?variant=zh-hk>

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/468633/2016-03-05/post-政府將在新市鎮開闢單車徑/?variant=zh-hk>

3. 6 (Mon)

(Sing Tao) Gregor Robertson Support Motion For Women's Rights

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/470488/2016-03-07/post-羅品信撐增女權動議/?variant=zh-hk>

3.7 (Tue)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Bought Arbutus Corridor With \$55M

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13908%3A5500arbutus&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Robertson: milestone for Van.

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Arbutus Greenway

- Most callers said it's too expensive. The news came too sudden without any public consultation. Politicians always defend their decision and money is always and only abundant when they want to push for their own projects
- Don't think the Arbutus Greenway is that urgent. That amount of money would be better off to spend on building more social housing.
- Will be issues if light rail is built as it will go right through many residents' backyard
- City must prove it to taxpayers that this amount is well spent by using the new land effectively.
- Hope the Mayor doesn't get too subjective and too idealistic. Need to consult the public for what they want, but what he himself wants
- Problematic that the Mayor called it a good deal without explaining clearly where the \$55M comes from all of a sudden.

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Purchased \$55M For Arbutus Corridor

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=960a11a4601a7c97b0c171654688d787>

3.8 (Tue)

(Ming Pao) Arbutus Greenway Light Rail Would Bound To Drag Up Real Estate Price. City Creates Vancouver Version Of High Line Park

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160308/vaa1h_r.htm

- The “corridor controversy” was resolved. City doesn’t rule out the possibility of a light rail
- Realtor: the green park and land resulted will inevitably increase the real estate price along it.
- Some residents along Arbutus said, they would keep their home until developers ask to purchase their property for a high price

(AM1470 Talk Show) Re: feedback is generally positive. Good news to City as the lawsuit between City and CP ended, and now residents would have to remove the gardens as it is now City property. People seem to care more about the real estate more than the corridor itself. Interesting that many issues go back to real estate as that’s what many are concerned.

(AM1470) Report Said Most Vacant Homes in Vancouver Are Apartments

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58394

Robertson: City will consult public for workable solutions to the supply deficiency

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Purchased Arbutus Corridor And “Greenified”

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/472040/2016-03-08/post-阿布特斯走廊-溫市府購入綠化/?variant=zh-hk>

- Robertson: milestone agreement that successfully “greenify” land and connect to False Creek. Looking forward to working with different stakeholders and develop the Greenway. Can also raise Vancouver’s international

(Sing Tao) Vacant Home Report Presented To Vancouver City Council Today

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/472083/2016-03-08/post-空置房屋報告-今呈交溫市議會/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Vancouver' Vacant Home Ratio Didn't Change With High Price

- Some mainstream media still attempt to get some examples of homeowners, and if the last names of that sample are from a certain ethnic group, they can make this the headline
- Applaud City's report, not to point fingers at certain ethnic groups for vacant homes. No matter how high real estate price go, it has nothing to do with vacant homes.
- City has the authority to enforce and charge a penalty if a vacant property isn't managed properly and affected their neighbour
- Using BC Hydro as a measurement isn't accurate, and the methodology is questionable. Many ask their friends to switch on the heater of their properties when they are away. Some go away for half a year. The report has no value as three levels of governments have no intention to deal with the vacancy issue
- Apartment only reflect certain part of the demographics like students and seniors, others still live in houses
- Critic: City may want to find out whether there is a correlation between real estate price and vacancy, and whether city can "force" vacant homeowners to rent out their property
- Not necessary to do the report every two years because the vacancy rate isn't higher than other major city. This report has already shown what has happened in the past 14 years

3.9 (Wed)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Will Host A Number of Events Next Year To Celebrate Canada's 150th Birthday

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58402

- City Manager Assistant Wendy Au: in order to recognize First Nations' long history in Canada, the celebration will role out City of Reconciliation plan to rebuild our relationship with the First Nations and recognize their contributions

(AM1320) City Council Honoured the Late SUCCESS CEO Lillian To

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13938%3A2016-03-09-22-09-18&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- City Council passed to set up a memorial plaque at Shainghai Alley to commemorate To

3.10 (Thur)

(AM1320) City Did Homeless Count

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13943%3A2016-03-10-23-44-46&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Robertson: The homeless person from Saskatchewan is included in the count
- VPD: isn't aware that there are a lot of homeless people moving to BC

3.11 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Youngest Homeless Person Only 13- Years-Old

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/476723/2016-03-11/post-溫露宿者趨年輕化-最小僅13 □/?variant=zh-hk>

- No. of homeless age 13- 25 has been on the rise. Estimated 750 homeless are under 25. Family Services Greater Vancouver: lack of safe shelters for youth, they rather live on streets
- Robertson: hope the no. of homeless less than last year. Re: two homeless people bused from Saskatchewan: despicable to send someone here who are not related to Canada West
- Robertson doesn't agree with Premier's view on BC is able to assist homeless with our financial strength: if BC and Vancouver's economy is really strong, should invest enough money on housing, Province should work with Vancouver on building affordable housing

(Sing Tao) Hong Kong Government Will Expand Bike Lanes In Newly Developed Areas

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/468633/2016-03-05/post-政府將在新市鎮開闢單車徑/?variant=zh-hk>

- HK is quit behind in bike lane infrastructure, will expand bike lanes in the rural areas in different phases, and put in “connectors”, bike parking stalls and other safety measures
- Over 2,000 accidents involve bikes, 2- 2.5% are serious accidents. Transportation Dept. will work with each dept.to promote biking

(AM1470 Phone-in Show) 420 At Sunset Beach?

Kirby-Yung

- City is aware that Art Gallery will have construction and won't be available for 420. City is not working together with Park Board. Want to meet with Mayor to discuss but he declined.
- Don't think the event is a protest as City Council claimed
- Park Board never support nor approve 420 at Sunset Beach. Can't do anything without City's cooperation

Critic/Callers:

- Don't think so many people are all relying pot for medical use. Not reasonable that the organizer can even negotiate with City Council about where to hold the event.
- Disagree with City Council that it is a protest as it involves sales of pot which generates revenue.
- Think police force is the main problem. VPD's boss is City Council. Of course, they will have to follow what their boss say. Different story if it's at a location governed by the Feds.
- Lawlessness
- Question if certain cllrs want to get votes from certain population

3.12 (Sat)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Gather Public Opinions On Arbutus Corridor

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58516

(Fairchild TV) Pop-Up City Hall To Gather Public Opinions on Arbutus Green Corridor

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=007cab554f24f1d6f1decc14e1ccb05e>

- Engineer Services Manager Jerry Dobrovolny: City will design walking paths and bike lanes in the coming year. Will take one year to build. Re: Green

Corridor plan, it will coincide with City's 2040 long term transportation plan to develop a light rail system

- Some citizens welcome new plans along the corridor, and said it's a visionary transaction. But some don't want to see it becoming a transportation corridor

3.13 (Sun)

n/a

3.14 (Mon)

(Ming Pao) Property Ownership Of Chinese Immigrants Ranks The Top In Greater Vancouver Among Other Ethnic Groups. Another UBC Professor Show Evidence That Real Estate Market Supported By Immigrants

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160314/vaa3 r.htm>

(Sing Tao) New Immigrants' Rate Of Home Ownership. Chinese 73% Highest

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/480895/2016-03-14/post-大溫置業新移民-華裔佔 73 居首/?variant=zh-hk>

- South Asian 2nd, 52%
- Between 2006– 2011, 53% new immigrants purchased a home, which equals to 100,000 homes, ranging from apartments to luxury homes
- Professor: immigrants have huge impact on real estate market including high end properties priced over \$4M, and they usually bought a large sum of money to Canada

(Westca.com) Arbutus Light Rail Plan Released. Properties Along the Line Would Rise Definitely

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=477150/Arbutus □□□划曝 沿□物□必□/lang=schinese.html>

- “The most wise decision on long term transportation plans City has made in the past decade”
- As Canada Line is expected to reach its capacity in 7 years, Arbutus Light Rail will be important

(AM1320) Burrard Bridge Upgrade Starts Today

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13976%3Aburrard&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- 18-month-long upgrade. Two way traffic will be converted to one way temporarily. (informative article, nothing critical)

3.15 (Tue)

(Fairchild TV) False Creek Affordable Housing Projects Start

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=31bd2c1425f9766a5081c75eff468bd>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver & Stakeholders Report Back On Results Made At Paris Summit

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=24d63544208d2439d5e51ea1901657bb>

(AM1470 City Announced New Housing Project At False Creek

- Robertson: hope more young people can stay in Vancouver. Will increase day care space by 2,000?

(AM1470) Gregor Robertson: Vancouver Will Become A Tolerant & Welcoming City

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58572

- Robertson: City Council will reopen family land use policies to build homes of more varieties, and hope more youth will stay in Van.

(AM1470) Gregor Robertson: Vancouver Continues to Go Towards Greenest City Goal

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58579

- In Vancouver's Renewable Energy Talk Series, Mayor Robertson shared about the success made at the Paris Summit, which is enabling municipalities to exchange experiences in "greenify" their cities.
- To reach the emission reduction goal, must rely on businesses and municipalities to lay foundation work, and encourage public to switch to renewable energy.

3.16 (Wed)

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Van City Council Passed Salary Increase

- Hardly compare the 12.6% “apple to apple”: eg. Calgary & Edmonton need to take care of its electricity, family & children’s welfare and transportation, but Vancouver City Council doesn’t have to take care of parks as there is Park Board. Toronto has larger population.
- More fair if salary increase is an election issue. They already know the salary package before they run for election. Already annual adjustment
- Those who voted for the motion shows their intention. Still bonus salary and extra transit subsidy at TransLink and Federation of Municipalities
- Van City Council put their nose onto too many things that are out of their jurisdiction. It should be their part-time job.
- Not justifiable for the 12.6% increase as job nature and work load remains the same. Way over inflation under the dimming economic situation.
- Since Philip Owen’s time, when salary is increase on a regular basis according to growth of economy is fairer and more accountable. Public demand an explanation from City Council– a better way to remedy
- All unions use the same reasons to raise salary– other cities/groups
- City’s high development fees, property tax increase from large influx of people to Vancouver mean a lot more revenue to City. While City has been saying no money all long for more funding from feds. Contradicting to the huge rate of salary increase. Also makes City council’s words not trustworthy
-

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Passed Salary Increase Of 12.6%In A “Low Profile” Meeting

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14005%3A2016-03-16-19-46-38&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Cllr. Louie: the motion was put on website, not all items are put on press release
- Taxpayers' Association: no public input, black box operation

(AM1470) Vancouver City Cllrs Passed Salary Increase Motion 3 Weeks Ago

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58587

(Sing Tao) Quietly Increase Salary By 8.5%. Vancouver City Cllrs Called It

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/483910/2016-03-16/post-自行悄悄加薪 8-5-溫市議員被指黑箱作業/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver City Cllrs. “quietly passed the salary increase motion in a late night meeting 3 weeks ago. City Cllrs, Park Board Commissioners and Chairs will have a raise.”
- Cllr. Carr: no press release on the passed motion
- City Cllrs. will have a raise of 8.5% to annual salary of \$80,000.
Carr: the rate is reasonable, and median compared to other cities in the world.
- Park Board salary doubled to commissioner \$16,000 and \$20,000
- Motion doesn't include Mayor, but already increased to \$161,000 this year
- Cllr. Affleck voted against the motion, questioned the transparency

(AM1470) Mayor Concerned With Homeless Youth

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58592

3.17 (Thur)

(Fairchild TV) Criticism Against Vancouver City Council For Hiding Salary And Benefits Increase

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=0a38436397f65f4dba1b4393d81e9159>

- Cllr. Louie: not all items are put on press release.
- Cllr. Affleck: tax already too high in Vancouver. Hypocritical to increase salary while everyone else needs to “tighten their belts”

3.18 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver City Cllr. Put The Blame Of Homeless Increase On Insufficient Provincial Funding

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/487021/2016-03-18/post-遊民人口增-溫市議員歸咎省撥款不足/?variant=zh-hk>

- Critic Ding Guo criticized City of Vancouver for not trying hard to reduce homelessness, as figures shows the number has increased by 382 compared to 2015, and questioned that City is lacking sufficient research and strategies especially on those with mental illness. “(Vision) has been talking about homelessness since election but still hasn’t fulfilled their promise just like a political show, indeed they don’t think highly of homeless people.”
- Cllr Jang: not just City’s effort but also provincial funding. City has contacted province for discussion but overall funding hasn’t increase
- Ding: very common for homeless moving to other provinces, just like some would go to other provinces as well. But homelessness still increase in Vancouver, not an excuse
- Ding questioned City using double standards when treating the marginalized communities, and Jang afterwards said Ding has completely misunderstood the issue.

(AM1470) Realtors Welcome New Measure That Target Shadow Flipping

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58663

(AM1320) Party In Opposition And Mayor of Vancouver Show Support For Premier’s Announcement

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14032%3A2016-03-18-23-24-21&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Mayor: right direction, but only increasing housing supply can make housing more affordable
- Also through twitter, Mayor Roberson said premier's promise to reduce speculation is a good step forward, but province also needs need tools to prove housing affordability
- Carolyn Rogers who Supervises over BC Real Estate: will evaluate the measures and report their recommendations to strengthen protection for consumers

(AM1470) Dr. Norman Bethune Memorial Movie on April 2

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58656

- to commemorate Dr. Bethune's 126th birthday
- First time joining local South Asian community to commemorate Dr. Bethune and another Dr. who have contributed to China during Second World War

3.19 (Sat)

(Fairchild TV) BC Govt Launch Measures Target Shadow Flipping

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=b5bde7db296c1837f75b77a2e4e6013b>

(Ming Pao) BC New Strong Policies Shadow Flipping. Require Reporting Nationality When Purchase Homes This Summer

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160319/vaalhr.htm>

(Sing Tao) Province Financial Launch New Policies To Target Shadow Flipping. Rouge Realtors May Have License Revoked

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/488449/2016-03-19/post-省府終出手打擊摩貨-違規經紀或吊銷執照/?variant=zh-hk>

- BC Natural Gas Development Minister & Housing Minister Rich Coleman, Finance Minister Mike de Jong and Mayor Gregor Robertson meet and discuss plans to provide more affordable housing, including increasing more rental home supplies, reduce cost and red tape for real estate markets.

(Sing Tao) Scholar: Premier's Measure To Relieve Voters' Stress

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/488447/2016-03-19/post-本報記者朱冠華報道/?variant=zh-hk>

- UBC Professor: shadow flipping shows some use real estate for speculation, but money laundering through real estate is a more serious problem
- BC Chinese Professional Realtor Association Chair Cyrus Lee: shadow flipping only involves a small no. of realtors, most in the industry welcome the new measure

3. 20 (Sun)

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver Spend Over Millions Dealing With Illegal Garbage Disposal Including Almost 10,000 Pieces of Furniture And 6,000 Mattresses

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160320/vas2 r.htm>

- Although the penalty for illegal disposal has increased from \$2,000 to \$10,000, it doesn't deter people from doing so. One of the explanation may be, as more people live in apartments, they think disposing mattresses besides garbage container is not illegal. For those without a car, it's not easy to take huge garbage to disposal centre

3.22 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) UBC Study Blamed Politicians For Soaring House Price

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/491250/2016-03-21/post-大溫樓價猛漲-ubc研究歸咎政客/?variant=zh-hk>

source:<http://www.vancouversun.com/business/blame+politicians+metro+vancouver+housing+price+crisis/11797902/story.html?lsa=9227-4b32>

(AM1470) Low Income Earners Can't Afford DTE Rent Increase

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58712

- Carnegie Community Centre: huge increase in rent for DTE SROs and hotel. If three levels of gov't don't take action, no. of homeless people will continue to increase

(AM1470) Report: Vancouver Traffic Condition Needs Improvement

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58734

- Vancouver continues to be one of the cities in Canada with worse traffic congestion but have improved from last year

(Sing Tao) Fed Budget Announced on Tue. Greater Vancouver Expected To Receive Hundreds of Millions

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/492701/2016-03-22/post-聯邦財案周二公布-大溫基建盼撥款億計/?variant=zh-hk>

- Cllr. Meggs: transit plebiscite should not affect Fed funding to Greater Van

3.23 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) Greater Vancouver's Mayors Council Encouraged By Feds Paying Half Of Infrastructure Cost

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160323/vaa4.htm?m=0>

- Mayors Council Chair Robertson: fed's funding will help support Greater Vancouver's transportation system

(Sing Tao) Taxpayers Coalition Slammed Feds Not Keeping Promise. Need to Wait For 4 More Years For Infrastructure

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/494246/2016-03-23/post-納□人聯盟轟違承諾-基建工程再等4年/?variant=zh-hk>

- Robertson: good news as Greater Van received at least \$370M, will help improve bus services in the first stage; shows that Feds is willing to work with municipalities and invest in transit. Welcome the new funding formula changing from 1/3 of share to 1/5. Also allows Broadway Subway to start quickly

(Fairchild TV) Mayor's Council Welcomes Federal Budget On Transit

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=e9fd517b70fc6eb73427f2a01e672d22>

- Mayor Robertson: hope feds will fulfill their promise and provide at least twice of the amount of funding that allows building of Broadway Subway

3.24 (Thur)

(AM1470) Loophole In Vancouver's SRO Bylaw

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58781

- A community organization said City ignores loopholes in SRO bylaws. Landlord who renovate SROs don't have to pay the \$125,000 apartment-conversion fees and double the rent, some have increased rent to \$1,500. More will become homeless if City doesn't take action

(Ming Pao) Chinese Buyers Total Spent \$13.6B On Vancouver And Toronto Housing Last Year. National Bank Estimates 1/3 From Vancouver

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160324/vaa1h_r.htm

- Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-03-23/chinese-buy-one-third-of-vancouver-homes-national-bank-estimate>
- Chinese investors spent about \$12.7B on real estate in western Canadian city in 2015, or 33% of its \$38.5B in total sales– based on a survey of 77 high-end buyers and data

3.25 (Fri)

n/a

3.26 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Mayor's Op-ed: City of Vancouver Glad To Hear About Fed's \$370M Infrastructure Funding

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/498448/2016-03-26/post-溫市府喜聞聯邦3-7 億基建撥款/?variant=zh-hk>

3.27 (Sun)

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Housing Demand Over Supply Accelerated Price Increase. Scholars Advocate For Rezoning To Build More Multi-Level Units

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160327/vap1h_r.htm

(Sing Tao) Shortage of Land Over Demand Is Main Reason For High Property Values

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/499620/2016-03-27/post-溫土地供不應求-才是樓價貴主因/?variant=zh-hk>

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/vancouver-real-estate-prices-1.3498070>

(AM1470) Vancouver Businesses Said New Bike Lanes Affect Their Businesses

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58845

- Commercial Dr. Business Association: reduction of on street parking caused by news bike lanes will make it difficult to run business, then lead to loss of jobs. Support City's current bike lanes but not opening new ones

(Sing Tao) Realtor: Chinese Immigrants' Descendants Believe That Real Properties Have Preservation of Values

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/498431/2016-03-26/post-經紀:華人移民子弟信「磚頭」保□/?variant=zh-hk>

- Many Y-generation especially of Chinese immigrants see owning a property as their first “mission”; believe that real properties is a reliable investment with good rate of return, even good preservation of values for saving and retirement purposes

3.28 (Mon)

(Sing Tao) Non-Chinese Stores Opening In Chinatown Bringing in Multiculturalism

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/500836/2016-03-28/post-非華人商鋪進駐-帶旺華埠多元化/?variant=zh-hk>

- A number of non-Chinese businesses opened along 200 block of E. Georgia in recent years, such as contemporary style café and restaurants, changing the traditionally Chinese business community to a multicultural one and more hipster style, attracting more young people at night, mainly Caucasian professionals during the day
- Non-Chinese business owners: businesses are getting better and would also better the other Chinese businesses, but preserving the Chinese heritage there is important
- Centre A: welcome the hipster culture, but worried whether the “multicultural businesses” would help sustain Chinatown. As more “wealthier people” move in, and more Chinatown stores move out or close down, Chinatown would lose its uniqueness. E. Georgia may have the same fate.

Scholars Worried That Chinese Stores Will Disappear Within 5 Years

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/500827/2016-03-28/post-學者憂華人店鋪5年消失/?variant=zh-hk>

- UBC History Professor Henry Yu: Chinese stores along 200 block of E. Georgia will disappear within 5 years. Those are distribution places for Chinese farmers back then. They would move out as high-end apartments causing rent increase. Urge City to help the fragile businesses through Chinatown BIA. Needs management strategy for shopping malls, can't just let the businesses survive themselves. New residents to Chinatown may not buy things from the traditional Chinese stores
- Cllr. Jang: City already done a lot for the Chinese stores ie. lower parking fees, but operation has costs. One reason is, businesses don't want to adjust to the change of economy as the city is changing. Chinese specialty stores already spread throughout Greater Vancouver.

(Sing Tao) Vancouver East Commercial Dr. Businesses Worry About New Bike Lanes Hurting Business

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/500802/2016-03-28/post-溫東金馬素街商舖-憂新單車徑損生意/?variant=zh-hk>

- Same as above. Additional points: City Traffic Director Lon LaClaire: City understands that not everyone supports bike lanes, but it is safer for all cyclists. Before the Province confirm with the location, would consult businesses and cyclists

(Ming Pao) City Awarding Ideas To Beautify Utility Boxes

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160328/vasb_r.htm

(AM1470) City Hopes Artists Would Help reduce Graffiti

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58855

3.29 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Traffic Congestion The Worst Two Years In A Row

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/502188/2016-03-29/post-溫哥華蟬聯全國最塞車城市/?variant=zh-hk>

- According to TomTom's GPS data: Vancouver commuters spend 34% more time. Highest among 12 major Canadian cities, 36th among 174 cities in the world
- Worst time: Tue & Thur 1-8am, Thur 5-6pm

3.30(Wed)

(Sing Tao) 42% Commercial Property Buyers Are Chinese Investors, 2nd Largest

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/503724/2016-03-30/post-收購加商業地產-華資佔 42 居次/?variant=zh-hk>

- According to Colliers International's report, second half of 2015, 42% of commercial property investment are from China, increased by 5%. But US is still the biggest foreign investor, 48% more compared to 1st half of 2015
- In 2nd half of 2015, Vancouver's commercial property attracted \$588M investment from foreign investors, 42% of total foreign investment

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Company Partner With Two China Companies. Entered Wireless Market

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/503655/2016-03-30/post-溫公司伙 2 華企-進軍無線網絡市場/?variant=zh-hk>

- Incognito Software Systems that has headquarter in Van signed agreement with two wireless companies in China, will provide wireless support network for 21M customers

- Huge potential in China. Incognito's revenue doubled from the year before

(Sing Tao) Hong Kong "Returnese" Back To Canada Like The 1997 Flow

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/503697/2016-03-30/post-大班:港人重演97「再回流」加國/?variant=zh-hk>

- About 20 years ago many in Hong Kong immigrated to Canada, US and Australia for their children's education, now many immigrants who have returned Hong Kong re-immigrate to those countries again
- Critic Mr. Cheng, who has lived in Greater Vancouver: expect about 50,000 families with Canadian citizenship go back and settle in Canada again. Besides education reasons, also political reasons and stress of life.
- A HK agency conducted a survey recently, some of the 60,000 HK people who owned over tenth of millions of HK dollars may have just sold their property and return to the overseas city
- Property in Van less expensive than HK, this attracted earlier Canadian immigrants from HK go back again, to purchase property in Canada again, or go back for retirement

(Sing Tao) Record Breaking Number For US Visa Application of Hong Kong People Last Year

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/503698/2016-03-30/post-港人去年申美簽證10萬份創紀錄-激增2成/?variant=zh-hk>

- Even harder for young people to own a home in HK. IN 2014, over 8,000 HK students went to US to study. Canada is also a popular destination

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Park Board Sell Young Trees For \$10 Each

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160330/vasa_r.htm

(Ming Pao) \$900M Flow Out Of China Last Year. US First Choice, Second, Toronto & Vancouver

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160330/vab3_r.htm

- Vancouver and Toronto are the top second choices for Chinese overseas investors.
- Compared to Hong Kong's luxury apartment that is sold at \$4,100 to 5,000 per sq. feet, Vancouver's housing is a lot more affordable

(Ming Pao) Canada High On World Economic Forum's Ranking For Government Integrity

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160330/vab1h_r.htm

- Colliers report analyzed why Canada attracts interests from foreign investors, mainly because often ranks high on World Economic Forum's ranking.
- In terms of livability, "The Eco"Vancouver ranks the 3rd, Toronto 4th, Calgary 5th.
- In terms of government's integrity, 1st Norway, Singapore 8th, Canada 17th, compared to US 16th, China 83rd

(AM1470/ AM1320) Developer May Build A New Canada Line Station At Cambie & 57th

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58931

- Cllr. Meggs: new Canada Line station at Cambie & 57th Ave. First station built with contribution from developer. May consider this model in the future to open new stations. Cambie & 37th can be another potential station.
- Cllr. Louie: cost is still unknown. No time line yet.

3.31 (Thur)

(AM1470) Vancouver Chosen One of The Cities To Do Business

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58924

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Within Top 5 On Business Competitiveness Globally

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/505244/2016-03-31/post-最具營商競爭力-溫哥華列全球5強/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Global Competitiveness. Vancouver the 5th When Comparing 29 Metro Cities' Business Operation Cost

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160331/var1hr.htm>

- Vancouver's Business Operation Cost Index: 86.2, the 17th lowest in 111 cities. But the most significant reason that Vancouver has higher cost than Toronto and Montreal is property cost

(Fairchild) VSB Will Experience \$27M Budget Shortfall In the 2nd term, Biggest in 14 Years

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=32931aa4a3c83357456f32cd508a115b>

- May cut 160 full time positions

4.1 (Fri)

(AM470) Greater Vancouver Mayors Request Province To Increase Infrastructure Funding

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=58997

- A number of mayors disapproved of province's unwillingness to fund massive transit infrastructure in the region while funding the Massey bridge with over \$1B

Cllr Louie: infrastructure is severely backward, Province shouldn't insist on the 1/3 funding formula to ensure all projects have sufficient funding

- Fassbender: new funding formula should be decided by a plebiscite

(Sing Tao) 200 May Be Laid Off Due To VSB Budget Shortfall

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/506720/2016-04-01/post-溫市教局財政短缺-料來年須裁200人/?variant=zh-hk>

4.2 (Sat)

(AM1470) Vancouver Park Board Sells Young Trees Today

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59013

(Ming Pao) Metro Vancouver Suggested Putting Massey Tunnel Replacement Project On Hold. Urged Feds For Environmental Assessment

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160402/vas3 r.htm>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Mansion Sold At \$31.1M. Almost \$10M Higher than Assessment

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/508055/2016-04-02/post-較估價貴近千萬元-溫豪宅 3110 萬成交/?variant=zh-hk>

- According to MLS, the property is located at Belmont Ave. 5 out of 10 luxury mansions in Greater Vancouver are located there
- Buyer's identity unknown

4.9 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Gregor Robertson's Office Expense Increase Causes Criticism

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/517708/2016-04-09/post-羅品信辦公室開支-按年增逾倍遭非議/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) VSB Received Extra Funding But Still Short of \$24M

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/517671/2016-04-09/post-溫教局獲額外撥款-經費現仍短缺 2400 萬/?variant=zh-hk>

4.10 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Real Estate Council of BC Requests New Coast Realty To Abide 7 License Rules

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/518990/2016-04-10/post-地口議會要新海岸-遵守 7 項牌照條件/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) BC Real Estate Council Requested New Coast To Abide Rules

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59220

4.11 (Mon)

n/a

4.12 (Tue)

n/a

4.13 (Wed)

(AM1470) David Eby Already Requested Police To Have A Criminal Investigation Against New Coast Realty

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59293

- Eby requested VPD and Richmond RCMP to investigate that for New Coast's clients

(AM1320) VSB Public Consultation On Budget Cut

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14193%3A2016-04-13-16-37-22&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- A couple hundred people attended last night. 30 spoke and asked not to cut library hours, music and other school activities
- A gr.12 student: music group in school changes her life, would change school if it's removed. A parent opposed to cancellation of a study at home program as it's very important to her children who have serious separation anxiety

(AM1470) Shanghai Website Posted Vancouver Real Estate Info

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59271

original source: <http://vancouver.sun.com/business/real-estate/website-run-by-shanghai-based-company-lists-vancouver-properties>

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Plans to Turn 90% of Collected Rain Water Into Usable Resources

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59300

- Plans spend \$1.5M to build a green team to promote rain water collection in parks, sidewalks and green roof before it's polluted as it will bring metal and other pollutants into rivers and oceans

4.14 (Thur)

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver Studies Hong Kong Style "Home Ownership Scheme " 20% Lower Than Market Price To Help Property Ownership

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160414/vaa1hr.htm>

- The Affordable Home Ownership Pilot Program is to assist middle-income earners, similar to Hong Kong's "Home Ownership Scheme" (居者有其屋). City will build 300 units within 3 years.
- Buyers must meet certain criteria such as work in Van, have been living in Van for at least 5 years, with income no more than \$96,170 for 2 bedrooms, make have 5% down payment, restrictions on re-sell applied to prevent abuse, must finished a home buyer education course

- Cllr. Jang: the concept existed for a couple years
- Cllr. Louie: the plan will make owning a home more affordable, encourages people settle in Vancouver which benefits community development
- Even if City council passed the plan next Wed, still requires Province's amendment of the Vancouver Charter, which would take at least 8 months.

(Ming Pao) About 30,000 People Would Benefit From The "Middle-Income Helper" Program

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160414/vaa2 r.htm>

- According to Statistics Canada, about 30,000 residents in Vancouver would meet the income requirements, but 6,300 families live in over crowded homes
- From past city survey, 61% families want to have their own properties, which shows the importance of home ownership

(Sing Tao) Two GreateVancouver Chinese Merchants Involved In Yunnan China's Coal Mine Bribery Sentenced For 17 Years

source:

<http://www.theprovince.com/business/tycoon+slain+west+vancouver+linked+china+bribery+scandal/11850144/story.html>

- The two Vancouver Chinese Merchants Huaican Ren, and mining millionaire Gang Yuan who were butchered last year in his West Vancouver home in 2015

(Sing Tao) About 40 People Received Appreciation Award from City of Vancouver For Their Senior Performance

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/525039/2016-04-14/post-逾40人為長者表演-獲溫市頒感謝狀/?variant=zh-hk>

4.15 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Mayor's Chief of Staff Switched to Special Adviser To Help Vancouver Pursue Funding For Large Infrastructure Projects

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160415/vas3 r.htm>

- Robertson: half of Vancouver taxpayers' taxes go to Ottawa, hope residents' "investment" would have a good return
- Kevin Quinlan will be promoted to Mike Magee's position as chief of staff, while no one will replace the deputy chief of staff position

4.16 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) A Shanghai Website's Search For Canada Properties In First Quarter This Year Increased By 134%

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/526728/2016-04-15/post-滬網站搜尋加地-點擊率首季翻倍/?variant=zh-hk>

source: Bloomberg News:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-04-13/chinese-buyers-hungry-for-canadian-homes-with-inquiries-up-134>

- The website is juwai.com

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Molson Property Will Be Converted To High Tech Site Like Hong Kong's "Digital City" Project

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/528094/2016-04-16/post-溫市 molson 酒廠物業-擬採數碼港模式變身/?variant=zh-hk>

<http://www.lahoo.ca/article-85161-1.html>

- Cllr. Louie: job creation is important for a city's development, and the high tech and green energy development there may be more appropriate for the heavy industrial development in the past
- Cllr. Jang: City doesn't intend to exclude its industrial use. The developer plans to work with three levels of governments to attract high tech companies which are in line with local employment goals. Confident that they would get the rezoning permit. But adding

residential is not acceptable, dormitory for company workers can be located in surrounding areas

(Sing Tao) Green High Tech Industry More Effective

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/528070/2016-04-16/post-高科技綠色工業更具效益/?variant=zh-hk>

- False Creek not suitable for industrial anymore. City should work with Metro Van to move the industrial use to other areas, and refine the concept of “industrial”. City should also consider whether certain areas are better for high tech development

(Sing Tao) Expo 86 Instrumental For Vancouver's Growth

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/528071/2016-04-16/post-86 世博成溫市起飛盛事/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Molson Beer Standing Tall in Vancouver For Close to 60 Years

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/528067/2016-04-16/post-啤酒廠屹立溫市近 60 年/?variant=zh-hk>

- Informational about the history of Molson Land

4.17 (Sun)

n/a

4.18 (Mon)

(AM1470) Vancouver City Council Soon Discuss Plan to Own An Affordable Home

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59400

(AM1470) VSB Consult Public On Whether To Sell Non-School Properties

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59405

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver's Enforcement On Pot Dispensaries End of April. About A Hundred Stores May Have To Close

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/530876/2016-04-18/post-溫市月底執法-料關逾百大麻店/?variant=zh-hk>

- Expect that with the over 100 dispensaries, only about 12 would left
- Some dispensaries respect city bylaw while some don't
- Although the number of dispensaries has been decreasing, the demand is on the rise.

(Ming Pao) City Would Enforce To Close Dispensaries That Violate Bylaws End of April

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160418/vasb_r.htm

- Cllr. Jang: according to current new bylaw, starting Apr 29, police will enforce, and City staff can issue fine and conjunction to dispensaries that violate the law. Hopes the situation will be under controlled somewhat. Believes that most of them will have to cease operation until they get a license again
- Although the number of pot dispensaries will be largely reduced, still enough channels to buy medical use pot
- Jodi Emery: shouldn't force shut the dispensaries as they have been peaceful and open for a long time

4.19 (Tue)

(AM1470) Vancouver Pot Dispensary Disagreed With Their Removal of Business License File Lawsuit

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59414

- Pot dispensary: think the appeal board are pressured by City to reject their appeal, which is unfair

(Sing Tao) VSB Proposed To Sell Kingsgate Mall

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/532397/2016-04-19/post-溫教局擬售東區商場土地/?variant=zh-hk>

- VSB chair Mike Lombaradi: will decide after consulting public opinions. Hope more will come to attend
- VSB: even selling the land, the money can't be used to cover the current operation deficit, but only on new infrastructure like building new schools or renovating old ones

(Ming Pao) VSB Would Consult Public For Future Use of Kingsgate Mall. Own 4 Non-School Properties Looking For Ways To Cub Financial Challenges

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160419/vasa_r.htm

- Lombardi: definitely won't see school properties as the board may not be able to buy it back

(AM1470) Vancouver City Cllr Motion To Ban Corporate And Union's Election Campaign Contribution

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59435

(AM1470) Vancouver Park Board

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59440

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Plans to Increase Rain Water Collection To 90%

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59428

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Suggested Affordable Housing Trial Program

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=bc5248bec66e472f11f85710936fe03c>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Discussed On Expanding Rain Water Collection Facilities

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=bc5248bec66e472f11f85710936fe03c>

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Will Discuss Affordable Home Ownership Program

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14272%3A2016-04-19-18-34-11&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Cllr. De Genova suggested the affordable ownership pilot program last year. Motion will very likely be passed, but still require Province to amend Vancouver Charter. Will persuade Community, Sports & Culture Minister Fassbender
- Whether it would increase City spending? Cllr. Louie: details to be discussed. According to preliminary plan, will increase building density to developers for providing the affordable housing units so that they would pay for the construction cost while City bares at least 20% of the cost. Will let City's financial partner handle the administrative work and assess applicants in order to control the costs for taxpayers

4.20 (Wed)

(AM1470) 420 Marijuana Day At Sunset Beach And Outside Vancouver Arte Gallery

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59456

- The story is informational but not analytical
- Park Board emphasized yesterday, opposed to 420, but won't ask police to enforce. It'll be by VPD's discretion
- VPD: only monitor the event today and won't take any action

(Ming Pao) VSB Urged Students Not to Participate In 420

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160420/vap2_r.htm

- VSB requested each school to report on no. of absent students today. Only School Board to issue a letter to students and parents advising students abstain from participating at 420, as the temptation gets bigger as the scale of 420 expanded

(Ming Pao) City Cllr. Recommended Large Corporate Election Campaign Contribution To Be Decided By Provincial Referendum

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160420/vasc.r.htm>

- Cllr. Reimer: motion to ask Province to hold referendum in Provincial election next year, to allow City to set regulations on election campaign contributions ie. ban union and corporate contributions and limit personal contribution amount.
- Motion supported by Mayor Robertson who has been advocating this in the past year. Think this can increase transparency and accountability. Vision Vancouver has accepted these contributions before but they abide the current regulations
- Cllr. Affleck: Robertson can release his own contribution info to show this genuine concern of the party's financial transparency. Still need to study the motion

(AM1320 Talk Show) 420 At Sunset and Art Gallery

- City of Vancouver has been fueling the pot movement by allowing the dispensaries flourish without much control
- Chinese see pot is a serious matter while as local English media reported, local Canadians think this is their right and don't mind. Long-term use of pot would cause permanent brain damage]
- Too idealistic about sales of pot not going into the hands of children and gangsters
- Not that straight forward that sale of pot all go into government. Only on a superficial level
- The damage of pot on young people will be seen in 10 - 20 years
- City's responsibility for a lack of enforcement for the sale of marijuana processed foods in Sunset Beach as well as Art Gallery. No one has the guts to stop the 420 organizers who seem to have the autonomy to choose the location wherever they want
- Ridiculous that City Council pushes for pot legalization to Feds and Province, and shifted the blame to Park Board
- Worried that 420 will keep expanding further each year

- Not a surprise if 420 expanded to other city especially when pot legalization take place next spring
- no reason to protest with legalization in progress, but organizers can still hold it under any umbrella

4.20 (Wed)– more

(AM1320) About 20,000 People Participated in 420 Event, According to Police

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14296%3A2420&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(westca) See How Horrible It is In Greater Vancouver Upon Marijuana Legalization Next Year

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=485524/明年大麻合法化 看今天大温多可怕/lang=schinese.html>

- 57 comments are made on either the 420 Event or marijuana legalization. One is concerned about marijuana and drugs will negatively impact the hygiene and public health, and Vancouver will lose its status of one of the top best cities to live in; upset about a large number of people got sick after taking pot at the 420 Event while no authorities take charge of it; one said marijuana will lower people's IQ and affect the quality of people and thus quality of life in Vancouver

(Fairchild TV) 420 Event Moved to Sunset Beach

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=599fbfc771d63d7ec5efbab7981f963c>

- Positive shift to Sunset beach as too disruptive to downtown traffic in the past. Hope no kids participated
- Cllr. Affleck: questions about the source of marijuana and who benefits from it as pot dispensaries are opened in the city

4.21 (Thur)

(westca) Chaos in Vancouver Harmful, Damaging To Economy, And All Kinds of Criticism

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=485715/page=1/lang=schinese.html>

- 154 commented: a few said Vancouver is getting more and more messy and people who harm others while they harm themselves with

drugs; also with soaring housing price and high living cost, it's chaotic; No parents want to see their children smoke pot; majority participated in 420 are around post-secondary students and they are the future of the society, worry about the future of Canada and the fall of the country.

(AM1320) Some Violated Smoking Ban on 420

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14295%3A2016-04-21-21-41-33&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

4.22 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver Studies Driverless Vehicles; Criticized As Arrogation

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160422/vas3_r.htm

- Cllr. Meggs: City Council passed motion two months ago to study about driverless vehicles. Expected by 2040, 75% cars on the road will be driverless. Hope the Province will take the lead.
- Toood Stone: no such plan now. City is not allowed to do such testing according to law. It's province's jurisdiction

(Ming Pao) Price for Pot Party: 31 Sent to Hospital And Large Heaps of Garbage Remained

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160422/var1h_r.htm

(Sing Tao) Scholar Worried That AHO Will Drag Up Land Price. Critic: No Harm To Try

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/536994/2016-04-22/post-學者憂溫可負擔置業計劃推高地價-時評員：一試無/?variant=zh-hk>

- Dr. KK Wan, a well-known critic at AM1470: AHO is a trial project on a small scale, can help a certain amount of people. The market itself runs by its own rules, so it won't be impacted by the project. Although it can have negative impact if not run properly, no harm to try on a small scale.

- SFU Finance Professor: bad idea. Developer will ask for higher price and end up putting more money into developers' pocket. As land cost rises, it will cancel out the 20% discounted housing price.

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Park Board Disapproved Of the Large Amount of Garbage Remained After 420

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/537002/2016-04-22/post-大麻日留下大量垃圾-溫公園局不滿/?variant=zh-hk>

- Park Board Chair Sarah Kirby-Yung: the board sent the Mayor a letter about opposing City to allow and “silently agreeing” the 420 event at Sunset Beach. Authority over the beach belongs to Park Board.

(Sing Tao) Vancouver West End Property Resold Next Month For \$8M More Due To Its “Re-development Value”

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/535467/2016-04-21/post-兩柏文 1 個月易手-公司勁賺 800 萬-位於溫西-具重建價-60/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://bc.ctvnews.ca/investors-buy-vancouver-property-resell-next-month-for-8m-more-1.2868434>

(Sing Tao) Robson Street Will Be Closed And Turned Into Public Square. City Council Passed the Motion And Requesting Design Proposal

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/535412/2016-04-21/post-洛遜街路段關閉 變行人休憩廣場-市議會通過將公開/?variant=zh-hk>

- Informational article
- Mayor Robertson: more people walking than driving in that block; it will make Vancouver more livable, more vibrant and suitable for walking

(AM1470) Study: High Real Estate Price Hasn't Force Young People Leaving the City

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59531

- Figure shows no. of young people between the age group of 20-34 living in Vancouver has been growing steadily for over 9.5% (equivalent to 15,800 people) in the past decade. Possibly because of work opportunity

(westca) Incorrect Report: Vancouver's Soaring House Price Scare Away Young People

<http://www.westca.com/House/articles/op=view/sid=486072/道不温哥高房价吓跑年人/lang=schinese.html>

4.24 (Sun)

n/a

4.25 (Mon)

(AM1470) Pot Dispensaries That Didn't Get License Will Have to Close by Friday

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59594

4.26 (Tue)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Set up Emergency Support Hubs

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59608

(AM1320) VSB Discussed About Budget Shortfall

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59607

(AM1470) Survey: 80% Support Banning Corporate's And Union's Political Contribution

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59621

- This would compliments the City council's stand.

(AM1470) Vancouver City Bylaw Officer Will Enforce Pot Dispensaries Starting This Friday

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59622

(AM1320) Pot Dispensaries That Don't Get License Refuse To Cease Operation

- Pot dispensary owner that didn't get the license as it's within 300 meters from schools/ community centres said, will prepare cheques ready for the next 12 months to pay for the fines, but still continue their operation. Will meet with other dispensaries tonight about any further action.

4.26 (Tue) – More

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Planning To Amend Bike Lane Plan On West 10th Ave.

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59628

(Fairchild TV) Over 80% British Columbians Agree With Banning Corporate' s And Unions' Political Donation

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=11eed2e8a05bbbb4508ffa229a7b84c0>

(Sing Tao) 19 Reasons That Pot Should Not Be Legalized

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/542526/2016-04-26/post-大麻不應合法的19個理由/?variant=zh-hk>

- use of pot, even recreational use would lead to brain damages on decision making, emotional management and learning
- 4 -12 times more additives to pot compared to 60's and 70's
- lead to impaired driving, depression, schizophrenia etc.
- IQ drop by 10 points for youth who smoke pot regularly
- Entry drug to other drugs
- Wrong message to children as govt allows it
- Dependence on pot affect social relationships, and subsequently lead to more societal problems such as divorce, finance difficulties, drop in job performance

(Fairchild TV) VSB Will Vote Budget Next Year

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=8f8f63800cdf54a776ba9c14b2059ec0>

4.27 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) 60 Pot Dispensaries Owners Meet To Discuss About Strategies To City of Vancouver' s Bylaw Enforced This Friday

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/544038/2016-04-27/post-溫市大麻附例周五生效-60 店東開會商對策/?variant=zh-hk>

- City would required \$10,000 fine if the dispensary continues to operate

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Launched 25 Support Hub For Earthquake
<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/544039/2016-04-27/post-溫設 25 支援中心-為強震未雨綢繆/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Invited Media To Visit Emergency Operation Centre

http://aml470.com/news_detail.php?i=59658

- Interesting that this coverage highlighted that City wants to let non-English speaking residents to know how to react to emergency, and 5 non-English media outlets were invited to the visit

(Fairchild TV) Pot Dispensaries That Violated Bylaw Must Close After Friday

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=0668a01b2098b4335c37c1a1ac0dd71a>

- Cllr. Jang: City is very serious, and the only city that has the tools
- Cllr. De Genova: need to wait for Feds to bring over the legalization

4.28 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Property' s Value Severely Over-assessed Hardly Affordable

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/545577/2016-04-28/post-溫樓價「嚴重高估」-市民收入難支撐/?variant=zh-hk>

- CMHC report: Vancouver's property values are over-assessed. Conference Board of Canada: sales is decelerating
- Although CMHC's report shows local people is the main supporters of the real estate market, suspect mixed with foreign investment especially those from China

(Sing Tao) Disability Coalition Opposed To Bike Lane Expansion Close To VGH

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/545619/2016-04-28/post-vgh> 毗鄰擬建單車道-傷障聯盟反對/?variant=zh-hk

(Ming Pao) Vancouver's New Emergency Operation Centre Call Accommodate 200 People To Work

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160428/vas3_r.htm

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Reminded Public On Emergency Preparedness

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/545621/2016-04-28/post-溫市府提醒居民加強防震意識/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) False Creek Rowing Centre As New Attraction Open on Wed

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/545623/2016-04-28/post-溫市福溪划艇中心-周三開成新景點/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Free Dragon Boat Lesson At Vancouver Park Board's New Rowing Centre This Sat

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160428/vas2_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Vancouver' s Violating Dispensaries Will Face \$250 Fine If Don't Cease Operation By Tomorrow

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160428/vas4_r.htm

(AM1470) Disability Coalition Is Concerned About Removal Of On-Street Parking In Front Of Hospital

http://aml470.com/news_detail.php?i=59677

4.29 (Fri)

(AM1320) VSB Will Vote On Budget

http://aml320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14376%3A2016-04-28-23-34-21&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) VSB Voted Down Budget With 5:4

http://aml470.com/news_detail.php?i=59692

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) VSB Voted Against Budget

- VSB' s move against the province has been political in the past few years, and although most parents are not happy to see the cuts in education programs and school closures, they still prefer VSB to balance the budget as the impact on parents and students would be more detrimental if the budget is voted down and the Board is dissolved.
- Whether there is any room for the province and VSB to talk and negotiate? Based on the past record, nothing can be compromised except the Province bumping in more money. But it would set a bad example for other school districts that they don' t really have to balance their budget

- Money has to come from somewhere. Surrey will have about 1,000 more students in 2016/2017 school year, Tri-City also sees growth. Vancouver may lose their students due to expensive housing as more young families prefer to move to other cities like Surrey and the Tri-city.
- Too Costly for VSB to hold on to the school facilities if there are not enough students. More fair for the Province to give resources to other expanding school districts such as Surrey
- On the other hand, 8% more students throughout the province move from public school to private schools

(Sing Tao) VSB Voted Down Budget. All Trustees May Be Fired

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/547180/2016-04-29/post-溫教局否決預算案-全體學委恐炒魷/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver Secondary School Staff Society: saying funding shortage is the board' s financial management issue is not acceptable
- Cowichan Valley' s School Board has passed a deficit budget and dismissed by Province in 2002

(Sing Tao) School Trustee Can' t Endure Funding Shortage Anymore

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/547178/2016-04-29/post-學委稱經費短缺已難容忍/?variant=zh-hk>

- Allan Wong: already cut \$80M in the past 10 years. If don' t show the disapproval, it will only get worse. 1st time see so many people oppose to a budget and this shows the seriousness
- UBC Education Professor Michelle Stack: BC gov ' t shouldn' t ignore children' s education and only focus on economy

(Sing Tao) School Counselors Changed 4 Times in 2 Years. Province Wants Parents To Pay From Own Pockets

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/547175/2016-04-29/post-輔導員2年換4人-省府要家長掏腰包/?variant=zh-hk>

- Mrs. Sun, Chair of Vancouver District PAC support VSB voted no. Funding shortage affect counseling services, cut extra-curriculum activities “to the bone”, too much fund raising pressure to PAC

(AM1470) VSB Chair Maintained That Decision Was Right

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59712

(Fairchild TV) VSB Voted Down 2016/17 Budget

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=c073bb4e8333b2af406951b0e96ad3eb>

- VSB Chair Mike Lombardi: in the middle of cutting 3 annex that don't have students.
- UBC Professor: province should review its funding formula, hard for school board to cut as some programs are ongoing. Need to work on building consensus and more guidelines
- Education Minister Mike Bernier: VSB politicize the education decision. Why waste the resources to keep the students' seats when student no. dropped? Will discuss with Lombardi next week

4.30 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) License-less Operators Protested At City Hall As Pot Bylaw In Effect.

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/548604/2016-04-30/post-大麻附例生效-無牌業者市府前抗議/?variant=zh-hk>

- A few dispensary owners said they won't cease operation and one said will pay \$250 fine and keep its operation.

- Cllr Jang: doesn't understand why these dispensary operators protest outside City Hall as many others support and comply to the bylaw.

(Sing Tao) VPD Charge \$250 Fine For Illegal Pot Dispensaries

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/549409/2016-04-30/post-溫哥華警方罰非法大麻店-一天罰金 250/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver police chief: Fine accumulating every day. They can face \$10,000 fine and closure by injunction

(Ming Pao) Education Minister Will Meet VSB Chair On Cutting Deficit And School Closure As Budget Not Passed

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160430/var1h_r.htm

5.1 (Sun)

(AM1470) Vancouver City Cllr. Urges Specialists Oppose To Pipeline Plan

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59745

- Cllr. Carr: best time to oppose to the plan before National Energy Board gives out suggestions on May 20
- Vancouver Mayor's Chief of Staff will be appointed as specialist to reaffirm City's standing on the pipeline plan

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Non-abiding Pot Dispensaries "Gladly" Receive Tickets

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/549794/2016-05-01/post-溫市違規大麻店東-含笑收市府罰款告票/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver's bylaw enforcement officer started enforcement Sat morning from 1100 Richards St.
- Pot dispensaries: pot will be legalized next spring and they can eventually operate after much difficulties, city's action isn't fair

- Mayor in an open letter explained City' s latest way of handling the enforcement and show City' s determination on strict enforcement. Will announce details including no. of dispensaries being ticketed on Monday

(Ming Pao) License-less Pot Dispensaries Will Be Penalized For \$250 Each. City Will Enforce New Bylaw The First Day

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160501/vaplh_r.htm

- Weeds SouthVan: dispensaries paid tax, provide job opportunity, help many patients and help reduce income of gangs, so feels angry for being penalized. City send out enforcement officers is a waste of taxpayers' money

(Ming Pao) Gregor Robertson Support Reporting Office Expenses Although Discretionary Fund Criticized As Party Promotion

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160501/vap2_r.htm

- Cllr. Affleck: motion next Tue to request Mayor to reveal his office' s quarterly expenses and discretionary fund which should be used on party promotion
- Robertson said in a statement: support the motion as it would increase the office' s transparency, but such info has always been openly accessible
- Reporter Bob Mackin need to retrieve the record through Access to Information. Discretionary fund has increased by 50% from 2014-2015 to \$264,000

5.2 (Mon)

(AM1320) 22 Pot Dispensaries Are Shut Down

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14412%3A22&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- City doesn't know if the closed dispensaries will remain closed. Requires public cooperation and help report to City for enforcement
- Jodie Emery: City's enforcement not fair

(AM1320) Pot Dispensaries Said Enforcement Didn't Hurt Their Business

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14409%3A2016-05-02-23-07-07&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- A dispensary in Marpole said, sales even increased in the past week as people are worried that the enforcement would make it hard to get pot.
- One dispensary said will try to be "low key" to prevent becoming a target of City

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Conducts Survey On Property Vacancy

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59781

(AM1470) City Staff Issued Tickets To 44 Illegal Pot Dispensaries

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59774

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Confident with City's enforcement against Illegal Pot Dispensaries?

- Question if public confidence towards City has increased due to the enforcement? Cllr. Jang promised on the phone-in show a year ago that City will enforce, so City council is fulfilling their promise now. Also, City owes public an answer why they let pot dispensaries proliferated at the first place
- Don't think enforcement is too strict: Reporter can reach 3 dispensaries within 5 minutes. Obviously too close. Also, huge gap between number of medical pot users and dispensaries. Still 240

- applications waiting, doubt so much demand on pot. More problems with ppl without prescription can access to pot. Only 18,000 patients are qualified for medical pot throughout BC
- NPA city cllr said waste of public dollar. A smaller no. of callers agree in the context of not doing so earlier
 - Better late than sorry
 - Less than 20% are ticketed, still a small no. Need to monitor whether the dispensaries would open again. Everyone's eyes are on City whether they are serious and determined enough

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Issued 44 Tickets To Illegal Pot Dispensaries Within Two Days

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=56f72d92dc0fb1f1948a30240ac0b20f>

5.3 (Tue)

(AM1470/ AM1320 Talk Show)

- By the time Feds legalize even leisure use pot next year, charges against illegal pot dispensaries may be dropped.
- Political show

(Sing Tao) Developer Maintained To Build 13 Levels The Chinatown's Controversial Apartment With Amendments
Scholars Said "Cover Changed But The Content Still The Same"

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/552435/2016-05-03/post-華埠惹爭議柏文-發展商堅持建 13 層-再修訂計劃-被學/?variant=zh-hk>

- Less apartment units from 134 to 127, 25 affordable housing units; the side closer to Dr. Sun Yat Sen Garden reduce from 13 to 11 levels.
- Developer Beedie Living claimed to have support from a no. of Chinatown associations including Chinatown Merchants Assn, Chinatown Coalition
- But history professor Henry Yu said not acceptable

(Sing Tao) (UBC History Professor Henry Yu: Apartment Not Suitable For (Centre of) Chinatown

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/552434/2016-05-03/post-余全毅：華埠中心不宜建柏文/?variant=zh-hk>

- Yu: historical heritage requires hardware and software. Plan still the same. Centre of Chinatown not suitable to build apartment. Chinatown is different from Shaughnessy in terms of heritage preservation
- Vancouver Chinese Benevolent Association (中華會館): developer already show sincerity, but hope the overall height doesn't exceed 90 feet tall as that's the wish of the Chinatown community according to the vote result

(Ming Pao) High Tower Plan Besides Early Workers' Memorial Scale Down. Open House For Public Consultation On May 16

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160503/vas1h_r.htm

- Plan is scaled down, land use proportion dropped. 1st floor for seniors' recreational use

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Increased Enforcement. 22 Pot Dispensaries Stopped Operation. Issued 44 Tickets, May Apply Court Injunction

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/552433/2016-05-03/post-溫市加強執法-22大麻店停業-開44張罰單-或申請法庭強/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Kerry Jang Received Phone Threats. City of Vancouver Issued 44 Violation Tickets

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/552433/2016-05-03/post-溫市加強執法-22大麻店停業-開44張罰單-或申請法庭強/?variant=zh-hk>

- "only 22 dispensaries abide to City's regulations and closed their doors by deadline"
- Cllr. Jang: received a no. of pot supporters' phone threats against himself and his family claiming to "deal with him". Security was dispatched from City

- Dispensary owners also pay tax, provide job opportunities and help reduce organized criminal groups from profiting from this, even help a lot of patients, thus feel angry
- Only about 15 dispensaries qualify for the distance requirement of the bylaw, so the bylaw would definitely fail

(AM1470) Record Breaking Real Estate Sales In Vancouver Last Month

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59793

(AM1470) Illegal Pot Dispensaries Will File Lawsuit Against City

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59798

(AM1470) Vancouver City Council Passed Motion On Adding Plebiscite On Restricting Election Donation At Next Year's Provincial Election

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59800

- Cllr. Reimer: the motion has been discussed for years, time for voters to decide
- Cllr. Affleck: more appropriate for BC Union of Municipalities than City to raise the concerns

(AM1470) VSB Consult On Future of A Strip Mall

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59770

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Ticketed 44 Illegal Pot Dispensaries

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59783

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Consult Public On How To Deal With Vacant Properties

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59781

- Cllr. Meggs: wants to know whether people want vacancy tax
- Also need to deal with Airbnb when long-term tenants are forced out for the tourist market

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Is City's on-line survey on property vacancy a good use of taxpayers' resources?

- Two critics- very different in stand. One is slightly more progressive, while the other more opposing.
- One critic said, why not let union of municipalities do the survey? But if it provides enough evidence to negotiate with the province, it would be worthwhile. Also, questions of the survey are too negative. Should be more positive and constructive
- another critic said, it's in provincial jurisdiction. Question the real motives behind. The issues raised in the survey can't be addressed in municipal level, so it's a waste of time
- political motive: paving the road and collect data for NDP in the upcoming provincial election as in the past, Vision always did that for provincial or federal election
- survey is only 2 weeks, too short to be accurate and will be pushed by people who have the political motives; not enough promotion either. Even many major media outlets don't report on this
- City gained most revenue from new development projects but must show the public that they are doing something. That's why they provide a platform for people to vent, which doesn't do anything practically
- Allow development projects with bigger units like 900 to 1,000 sq. feet, not just 600- 700 sq. feet
- Should address the fundamental issue in City's vacancy report in March and this one: why property owners prefer to let the unit vacant, even when property tax has been on the rise? Why people don't rent it out when they can earn so much from the high rental rate now? It's because not enough protection to landlords
- Politicians don't want to know the real answer as they don't have the solution
- Should ask in the survey why the home owners leave the property vacant.

(AM1470) VSB Chair Meet With BC Education Minister

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59815

- Whether VSB would give in to cut funding? Lombardi didn't reply directly, but said he understands the challenges and is seeking ways to reduce impact on students.

5.4 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) Chinatown Heritage Preservation Reduce Development Density. Henry Yu Criticized Not Taking Seniors Into Consideration If Build High Tower Besides "Monument"

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160504/var1h_r.htm

- Beedie Living: already made some concessions such as lower certain levels and density to match the monument and Dr. Sun Yat Sen Garden
- But UBC History Professor Dr. Henry Yu: new plan is only "the old wine in a new bottle", density still too high, senior units only 25. Chinese community already voiced out a number of times but developer still ignored and introduce almost the same plan only want to make people "get tired" and accept it. The process is like a children's game
- Yu: not oppose to Chinatown development but the purpose must be to make Chinatown changing for the better. As Chinatown has dire needs for senior housing, the no. of units supplied in this plan is absolutely not enough. If developer is willing to expand the senior housing units to 200, after cost and benefit analysis, he would support the density proposed now
- Chinese community can't keep saying no to developers and must take back the control and lay out a framework for Chinatown's development; otherwise, the issue will linger on. He suggested to use First Shaughnessy as a reference, and lobby City of Vancouver to list Chinatown as a preservation area with development regulations such as development density, control no. of market apartments, increase senior housing, support small businesses and encouraged Chinese youth to participate
- Bill Yuen, heritage of Heritage Vancouver Society (who was NPA School Trustee in 1996-1999): development hasn't seriously respond to community's concerns and increase the mutual benefits of community and residents

(Ming Pao) Hilbert Yiu of CBA Supported Developer To Reduce Density

And Stories. May Have Another Chinatown Meeting To Gather Opinions

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160504/var2_r.htm

- Supported by Chinatown Merchants Association and Chinatown Coalition
- Hilbert Yiu of CBA: development already showed sincerity by reducing market units to 119 and lower the side close to Dr. SYS Garden. If City purchased that parcel of land which may be in tenths of millions, it's taxpayers' money, so support the new proposal. Yiu maintained that it's his personal opinion and don't represent CBA's stand. Will wait after the open house and may have another vote among different Chinatown organizations

(Fairchild TV) Public School Teachers, Parents And Community Groups Protested Outside Vancouver School Board

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=fa9462ba01ad26f19535be3c4c462a5e>

5.5 (Thur)

n/a

5.6 (Fri)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Passed \$6M to Improve Point Grey Bikeway

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=24b486d95a59702839d3a4a2ce8c63cb>

- Streeters: some said not necessary. traffic too crazy now, while some support the greenway
- \$9.4M and \$6.4M improve walk way between downtown Burrard and Cambie, and West around Alms as well as bike lane separation
- Cllr. De Genova: improvement at Point Grey bike lanes were made not long ago. Unfair to the East

5.7 (Sat)

n/a

5.8 (Sun)

n/a

5.9 (Mon)

n/a

5.10 (Tue)

(AM1470) No. of Overseas students from China in local Secondary and Elementary Schools On the Rise, According to Data From Ministry of Immigration

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60005

- Lawyer Richard Kurtland: 18% (2009) to ¼ study permit holders from China are in Elementary and Secondary Schools
- Concerned where they stay at, and who is responsible to look after the welfare of these. Unclear about which level of governments are in their sphere of service
- 10,380 Chinese students in Elementary and Secondary. 3,300 in BC, 5,800 in Ontario

5.11 (Wed)

(AM1470) Luxurious Style SRO Hotels Appeared in Vancouver

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60020

- 12 units at a SRO at 406 Union St. rent between \$795-\$1,095, removed ad when discovered there is agreement with City, that the room must be rented out to welfare recipient or at the rate of \$375 per month
- City's Housing Strategy and Planning Director: according to the agreement, City can rent the units, but City won't set the maximum limit for the rent

(AM1470) Vancouver Millennials May Go Bankrupt For Owning Their Properties

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60023

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60037

- VanCity: Owe \$3,000 each year if live in Vancouver, no disposable income for 25-34 age group. Purchase power lowest in the nation

(Fairchild TV) Study shows Vancouver Millennials Have Lowest Economic Independency in the Nation

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=4a532060a80aefd2e170bbd5d05bae6f>

(Fairchild TV) Vacant Stores In Certain Blocks Along Downtown Robson.

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d52b1dc033ab0c8ac84f3169c5376235>

5.12 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Young Couples Have Lowest Income In the Nation

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/565499/2016-05-12/post-溫市年輕夫婦-收入全國第二低/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Chinese Student Purchased a \$31.1M Vancouver West House

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/565500/2016-05-12/post-華裔學生購入-溫西3110萬豪宅/?variant=zh-hk>

source: (Province) <http://www.theprovince.com/business/real-estate/million+point+grey+mansion+owned+student/11912936/story.html>

(AM1470) Vancouver Public Library Will Go Through Tenth of Thousands of Renovation

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60056

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Suggested To Increase Towing Fee

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60054

- Proposed increase towing fee by 22%, from \$75 to \$91, “retaining fee” from \$38 to \$45

(AM1470) Vancouver Luxurious Homes Sale Price Doubled In 10 Years

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60059

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Provide 120 Modular Housing Units to Low Income People

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60067

- Mayor Robertson: modular housing is highly effective and has lower construction cost, also easy to move, can be used on land that will be designated for development. The new project on Main and Howe will create a small community for low income people as short-term housing
- City is working with province & feds to provide 3,500 permanent housing units in 20 different locations as long-term housing plan

(Fairchild TV) Over 50% Realtors Said Most Offshore Buyers Are From China

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

- Majority of buyers from China and Hong Kong, Europe the next
- But the report hasn't clearly defy offshore buyers and didn't indicate whether the buyers also have Canadian citizenship

5.13 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Build 120 "Container Houses" To Resolve "Affordable Housing Shortage"

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/566948/2016-05-13/post-溫市府解「廉房荒」-將建120「貨櫃屋」/?variant=zh-hk>

- Mayor Robertson: working class can hardly afford a home as real estate price has been soaring in recent years. Modular housing is an innovative plan of City and to help more people to own a home, while City still needs help from Province and Fed to provide long-term permanent housing

(Sing Tao) 12 Containers Converted Into Women Dormitory

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/566945/2016-05-13/post-12貨櫃變身婦女宿舍/?variant=zh-hk>

- the project started by the Atira, a non-profit downtown eastside women resources association in 2012

5.14 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Scholars Suggest Listing Chinatown As Historical Preservation Area

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/568246/2016-05-14/post-學者倡溫華埠列歷史保護區/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://vancouver.sun.com/opinion/opinion-this-used-to-be-chinatown>

- UBC Professor Henry Yu made 3 suggestions to protect Chinatown's characteristic: manage the business mix, make affordable housing for more Chinese Canadian seniors in the area, and designate Chinatown as Vancouver's 2nd Heritage Conservation Area; otherwise, many stores and restaurants in Chinatown would vanish. Said Chinatown supporters should oppose to development like the Keefer 105
- Think City strangely defines Chinatown's heritage only through architectural details but omit the "intangible character" like the people and ambiance

(AM1470) VSB Laid Off 167 People

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60113

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Is Inspecting A Heritage House For Its Cultural Conservation Value

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60103

- 1550 West 29th
- The bylaw on "cultural heritage conservation" was passed in Sept. last year

5.16 (Mon)

(AM1470) Talk Show: Chinatown Development

- Challenging task for City to balance heritage preservation and new development. Both are equally important. Business needs a thriving environment as attracting more people to move in, while making Chinatown a heritage conversation area may make it hard for new development

(AM1470) Vancouver Park Board Looks Into Revitalizing Pigeon Park

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60142

5.17 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Protest At Open House Of Vancouver Chinatown Tower Development Project

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/572569/2016-05-17/post-溫華埠高廈項目-開放日遇抗議/?variant=zh-hk>

- Chart with parties representing the pros and cons sides, and their reasons
- Pros: Chinatown Merchant's Association, Vancouver Chinese Senior Society, Chinatown Coalition. Reasons: prosperity of Chinatown, cultural and recreational space, provide space for seniors' activities
- Cons: Chinatown Youth Coalition, Chinatown Concerned Group, Dr. Henry Yu. Reasons: Chinatown loses its uniqueness, report of "community assessment" not done yet, not preserving Chinatown heritage
- A few hundred people held a "Block Party" protested and requested City to stop all development projects that change Chinatown
- Beedie Living: only a small no. of people oppose, 22 senior groups plan to form a cultural and recreation coalition and sign contract with Beedie for the 1,000 sq. feet space
- Cyrus Lee, Vice Chair of Chinatown Merchant's Association: supportive and want more young people to move in. More high-end

Chinese restaurants will move to Chinatown after the new developments and good for the prosperity

- Vancouver Senior Chinese Association: 915 members require space for activities, current monthly rent of \$700 is not affordable.
Support the new tower as it would provide space

(Sing Tao) Stop Development. Keep Chinatown's Cultural Characteristics

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/572548/2016-05-17/post-暫停發展-保留華埠文化特色/?variant=zh-hk>

- Youth Collaborative for Chinatown, Chinatown Concerned Group etc.: requested City to stop all Chinatown development project as it leads to gentrification, thus low income housing shortage and old special stores move away
- Chinatown concerned group: City promised to do an assessment on relaxing buildings heights in Chinatown in 2011, but it's still not done and more and more high towers were already built
- Chinese senior: more and more Chinese seniors have moved away from Chinatown as it's getting harder to buy groceries. Many stores shut down

(Ming Pao) Each Party Presented Their View About Tower Build Beside Chinatown Monument. Pro: Can't Stop Development. Con: Crashing Community

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160517/vas1hr.htm>

- Chinatown Action Group: about 100 people joined the "block party" and collected 1,400 signatures. Hope new tower will be 100% affordable housing, currently Chinese seniors need 3,000 such units, many don't know English
- Chinatown Merchants' Association: Chinatown will become a dead district if stop development. Need to move to the East for affordable housing. The revised proposal is somewhat balanced and acceptable
- Beedie: 100% affordable housing not realistic

(AM1470) VSB's Possible Closure List Includes 21 Schools

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60184

(AM1320) Vancouver May Close More Schools

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14539%3A2016-05-17-22-39-52&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- May close 21 instead of 13

(AM1470) Jack Chow Building in Chinatown Received International Architecture Award

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60182

Winner of the 2016 Excellence in Live Design Awards

5.18 (Wed)

(AM1470) Vancouver Rank the 9th In An Economic Report

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60210

(AM1470 Breaking News) 420 Costs City of Vancouver \$140,000

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60219

- Complaints received at 420 this year is the total of complaints from Pride Parade, Symphony of Fire and Halloween

5.19 (Thur)

(AM1470) Vancouver's New Website To Promote Lower Than Market Rate Housing

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60227

(Ming Pao) 420 Costs Increased 6 Fold, Costs City of Vancouver \$150,000

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160519/vas4_r.htm

- Total \$148,000 costs doesn't include city staff's normal working hours
- City, Park Board and 420 organizer is discussing for a better location next year

Sing Tao) City of Vancouver 's First Pot Dispensary Given Green Light To Operate

- <http://vancouver.singtao.ca/575587/2016-05-19/post-首間藥用大麻店-獲溫市府開「綠燈」/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) City Council Passed Motion To Increase Towing Fee By 22%

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160519/vas2_r.htm

- City staff: towing fees has been frozen for 9 years, time to adjust
- Cllr. Affleck: should wait till City's report to be released next year
- Busters Towing is Vision Vancouver's political donor.

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Increase Towing Fees

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14560%3A2016-05-18-23-39-06&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

5.20 (Fri)

n/a

5.21 (Sat)

n/a

5.22 (Sun)

(AM1470) Vancouver is Only 9th Most Attractive City in the World

5.23 (Mon)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Passed Motion To Increase Budget For Street Cleaning Each Year

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=70b98536f7f2cff5c36df2424787d87b>

- Increase budget by 50%, increase penalty for littering and increase no. of garbage bins, also support non-profit organizations to clean streets, target illegal dumping

5.24 (Tue)

(AM1470) Vancouver City Council Will Discuss Mobile Advertising On Waters

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60321

(AM1470) TransLink Will Evaluate Fares For Next Two Years

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60340

5.25 (Wed)

(AM1470) City Cllr Suggested Installing Anti-Suicide Fence

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60350

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60362

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver No Time Table For Pot Dispensary Closures. 61 Still Operate Without License As Usual

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160525/vap2_r.htm

- City License Director Andreea Toma: among 61 dispensaries that don't have license, one of them never applied license and so far that owner has received 12 tickets. City has already been collecting info for "next step of action".
- May face difficulty when closing dispensaries. City doesn't have tangible time table now. Enforcement is part of the overall plan, City is assessing the most effective way, including applying for injunction. Believes that City would be able to close all dispensaries without license

- Lawyer Kirk Tousaw who represents a few license-less dispensaries said, many dispensaries have good business as users show support. Believe the Vision Vancouver-led City Council won't have any overly stern measures to avoid political issues

(AM1320 Phone-in Show: Can young people afford to live in Vancouver)

Critic:

- Divided on whether agree with government providing too many subsidized rental housing.
- "Canadian dream" of owning a home with backyard is not realistic anymore. People need to face the reality and can't blame the govt for not able to afford a house in Vancouver
- More smaller housing units to help young people to get started
- Improve transportation network to shorten commute time so people can move further from Vancouver and commute to work

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Ban Large Illuminating Advertising

Boat

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14596%3A2016-05-25-23-21-25&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) Frustrated Vancouver City Cllrs Walked Out Of Public Meeting

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60368

(AM1470) Government and Land Trust Build 358 Affordable Housing Units

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60365

(Fairchild TV) City Cllrs Walked Out Of A Public Meeting As Protest

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=986bdd3d3beae0c7f63c1c771ff0e221>

- Attendee at public meeting: unusual only 3 Vision city cllrs attended. 4 other cllrs. could have voted down this Vision pet projects. Things put on halt now

5.26 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Gregor Robertson Hired 2 Ex-Assistants. Got Paid But No Work Done

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/585213/2016-05-26/post-羅品信聘2前助手-疑乾支薪無做事/?variant=zh-hk>

- Contract totaled \$61,000 for Lara Honrado's company and Rita Ko
- Communication Strategy Director Sarah Zaharia: they have fulfilled all requirements on their contracts

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Housing Policy May Kick Out Working Class

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/585217/2016-05-26/post-溫市房屋政策-被指趕走打工族/?variant=zh-hk>

- UBC Business Professor: City's rezoning policy though for preserving neighborhood characteristics, encourages landlords to build mansions of over millions of dollars thus kicking out working class. Suggested when a piece of land reaches \$2M, landlord should automatically be allowed to build townhouses or apartments of 2-3 levels with the exception of heritage homes
- Mayor Robertson when asked whether he agreed with the above suggestion, he said, this would leave to residents of that community to decide.

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Opposing Parties Criticized Raymond Louie For Unfairness When Chairing A Meeting

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/585216/2016-05-26/post-溫反對派轟雷健華-主持會議欠公允/?variant=zh-hk>

5.27 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Real Estate Price May Top in North America in 2 years. Foreign Investors Plus Low Interest Rate Pushed 25% Increase Each Year. May Pass San Francisco

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160522/vab1h_r.htm

5.28 (Sat)

(Ming Pao) City Of Vancouver Convert Street Meters To Patio. Good Response From Trial. Expect To Expand Let Tenants Apply

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160528/vasa_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Park Board May Build More Outdoor Swimming Pools. Montreal 74 , Toronto 57, Vancouver Only 3

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160528/vasb_r.htm

(AM1470) Vancouver City Cllr. Criticized City For Slow Reactions (Towards Mobile Sea Advertising)

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60434

- Mobile sea advertising wasn't bought up as three city cllrs walked out
- Cllr. Carr: hasn't heard from City about setting time for next meeting

5.29 (Sun)

n/a

5.30 (Mon)

n/a

5.31 (Tue)

Mayor's Op-ed on Vancouver Stepped Up On Street Cleaning Program to Make A Beautiful And Green City

Printed in Sing Tao:

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/591657/2016-05-31/post-溫市擴清潔街道計劃-潔淨綠化城市/?variant=zh-hk>

Westca.com:

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=494508/溫市□大清□街道□划□□化城市/lang=schinese.html>

(AM1470) School District Can Reallocate the \$25M Saved This Year

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60500

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Discuss Putting A Stop From Demolition of Century-old Houses

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60488

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Homeless No. Increased

- Homeless headcount increased from the 2008 level before Vision Council was elected (around 1,576)
- Too much focus and wrong direction on keep building more housing, also need to address mental illness and addiction problems: started from 2008 should worked with two senior levels of govt, not working alone. Homelessness isn't only Vancouver's issue
- Should start before people fall onto the street
- Vancouver presents itself too welcoming to homeless people

- \$610 welfare too low and people may prefer to live on streets?
If over 50% homeless people have addiction problems, their main expense would be drugs and welfare would never be enough to meet their addiction needs
- Low success rate for people returning to drugs– need enough support on housing and counseling, need to prepare them to re-enter to work force and be self-sufficient eventually
- City too generous. Even building lots of supportive housing for homeless but the problem isn't resolved. Not fair to Vancouver taxpayers. Shouldn't be Vancouver's responsibility only
- Focus too much on the pillar on harm reduction and housing, which are not the root problem
- 79 homeless people from other provinces or cities
- need to balance and make Van a magnet to attract more homeless

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver's Homeless Number Reached Record High Of 1,850

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=07ba1599ce7c572506e7ea702fee5415>

- Cllr. Jang: can't rely only on building affordable housing
- Cllr. Affleck: need joint effort with senior levels of govt

(AM1470) Vancouver Won't Evaluate Again Building Extra Fence On Burrard Bridge

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60509

(AM1470) 15% of Homeless People Are Youth As Released in Vancouver's Report

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60508

(AM1470) Vancouver's Homeless Count Over 1,800 In First Quarter

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60496

- Mayor Robertson: two levels of govt need to step up with housing supply, also through mental health, welfare and foster children policies as these are the roots for homelessness

- Cllr. Affleck: Vision-led City Council should work with the other two levels of govt, but not keep criticizing them
- Carnegie Community Action Plan: City failed in providing affordable housing and shelters. Priorities for social housing should be given to people on welfare and homeless people
- City already 1,840 supportive housing units and at least 600 new shelters this winter

(AM1470) Ministry of Education Announced Each School District Can Reallocate Administrative Costs

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60498

- VSB: welcome the announcement, but not helping much with the \$24M deficit and school closure

6.1 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Homeless Over 1,800. Half Have Addiction. 40% Mental Illness

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160601/vas2_r.htm

- Mayor Robertson: homelessness got worse because of soaring housing price and low vacancy rate. Province should increase welfare rate

(Sing Tao) Vancouver 1,847 Homeless. 1/3 Found Jobs

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/593048/2016-06-01/post-溫1847人無家-13露宿者有工做/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Downtown Build New Park With A Sky Scenic Walkway

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160601/vasb_r.htm

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Applied Injunction To Close 17 Dispensaries

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/593033/2016-06-01/post-溫市申禁令關17大麻店/?variant=zh-hk>

- List of 17 dispensaries pending closure included

(Ming Pao) 17 Illegal Dispensaries Taken To Court For Closure. Still 38 Illegal Operation In Vancouver

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160601/vap2_r.htm

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Enforcement On Pot Dispensaries

- The problem nowadays shows City failed to control them as City shouldn't wait to take action till so many dispensaries opened in the first place.
- As long as marijuana is not officially legalized by the Feds, shouldn't be allowed to sell. City goes beyond their jurisdiction when allowing stores to sell poo.
- Pot dispensary bylaw has various loopholes ie. source of marijuana, identity of dispensary staff
- Cllr. Jang will apply injunction for more dispensaries if more insisted not to comply and close
- How much money incurred due to injunction and closure of dispensaries? Cllr. Jang: expense already included in budget
Cllr. De Genova- raised a motion before about City must provide monthly update on the enforcement costs, but voted down by Vision-led council
- Puzzled why City didn't do much to stop the dispensaries from opening before but now all of a sudden extremely proactive

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Enforce Bylaw On Illegal Pot Dispensaries/ Bike Lane Outside A Downtown Arme Raised Concerns

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

- Armory: Bike lane right out side armory not safe for uploading, lack of consultation, lost parking space

- Cllr. Deal: that's one of the 12 routes from last year, and plenty of public consultation done
- Cllr. De Genova: hope staff with work with armory. City also shouldn't deal with the dispensaries in this way which is wasteful to taxpayers money
- Cllr. Jang: 17 out of 55 dispensaries already received injunction due to complaints and will have increased enforcement for the remaining shops. City will allow maxi. 21 new shops to operate

6.2 (Thur)

(AM1470) Vancouver Viaduct Chose Community Representatives

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60541

(AM1320) Vancouver Parents Consultation Organization Meet Education Minister

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14670%3A2016-06-02-22-26-16&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Fairchild TV) Chinatown Monument Amended Plan Rejected

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=309e788d39ad52b4d43dd4001adecaad>

6.3 (Fri)

n/a

6.4 (Sat)

(AM1470 Phone-in Show) Keefer 105's amended plan was rejected by City's design team. What's the pros and cons of this plan?

Guests: Chinatown Concerned Group

- A need to attract more people to Chinatown, and good to provide space for senior groups for activities, but shouldn't depend on the help of developers, because the outcome would lean towards developers. Instead, Feds and Province should provide support
- Chicago's Chinatown was phenomenal as they weighted historical preservation over economic benefits, and they see that pay off in the long run

(Sing Tao) "Condo King" Don't Have High Hope That Vancouver's Housing Would Be Affordable

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/597071/2016-06-04/post-「柏文大王」指溫樓市-「別再奢望可負擔」/?variant=zh-hk>

original source:

<http://www.theprovince.com/business/brace+more+housing+shortages+warns+vancouver+real+estate+guru+rennie/11961028/story.html>

Cllr. Jang's Op-ed: Housing Provides An Integrated Solution To Homelessness

Sing Tao:

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/597076/2016-06-04/post-住屋可綜合解決露宿者問題/?variant=zh-hk>

Westca.com:

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=495448/lang=schinese.html>

(Fairchild TV) Chinatown Monument Amended Plan Reject In the Midst of Residents' Opposition

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=309e788d39ad52b4d43dd4001adecaad>

- Too many western style buildings around Dr. Sun Yat Sen Garden, damaging
- Self-proclaimed multicultural Recreation group: support Keefer 105 because of the recreation space in building, also leave more space between the building and the monument for tourists
- Oakridge development plan scaled down: Cllr Meggs: smaller no. of units now but don't know how many are affordable units. Up for discussion now

6.5 (Sun)

(Ming Pao) Hong Kong To Canada Immigrants First Quarter Increase By 85%. Dissatisfied With Political Realm. Young Elites Seeking To Leave

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160605/vaa1h_r.htm

- Recently more immigrants from Hong Kong: family category may increase, especially spouse.
- Noticeable trend that more Canadian citizens who have went back to HK to work over 10 years ago, and have a young family, returned to Canada in recent years

6.6 (Mon)

(Sing Tao) Gregor Robertson Urges To Charge Luxury Home Tax To Stop The Market Heat

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/599422/2016-06-06/post-過大溫熾熱房市-羅品信籲徵豪華□/?variant=zh-hk>

- Robertson, once again made the same plead: while it's important to increase housing supply, no regulation on global investment rushes into Greater Vancouver's housing market, threaten local economy and local residents.

(AM1320 Phone-in show) Housing: Robertson's statement on speculation tax and luxury home tax, while analysts said should increase density

- Not necessary that Robertson raised this again after doing so not too long ago. Reap "political points" by pointing fingers to the senior levels of govt
- Luxury home tax is aiming at properties over \$4M according to industry standard, but that isn't helpful to average residents

6.7 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) 43,00 Vancouver East Residents Petition Against High Tower

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/600746/2016-06-07/post-溫東 4300 人聯署-反對建高層柏文/?variant=zh-hk>

- Granview-Woodland community: because Mayor wasn't in, city staff received the petition letter
- NO TOWER Coalition: made the plea many times, very disappointed that the Mayor still refused to see them. Hope he can listen

(AM1470) Vancouver Is Expanding Bike Lanes

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60661

- Cambie, Beatty, Richards etc. will finish by July
- Bikers' right group: creating bike lane is one-way streets can help businesses, drivers and loading

****Mon: Awards of Excellence (<http://vancouver.ca/your-government/awards-of-excellence.aspx>)** by June 3

Sat: parking-space patios

Mon: public arts- not sure if it's passed today already? City's investment in public arts help make Vancouver more vibrant and enrich the culture

<http://www.news1130.com/2016/06/01/work-on-the-arbutus-corridor-will-start-next-week/>

Weibo drafts

Kinder Morgan: let's try and see how the Chinese community react to this. So far haven't heard a very definite point of view in this. I think this is a subject Chinese community hasn't paid too much attention to yet. Can insert the chart about 34 tankers per month. What do you both think?

"Together with the FN Chiefs, I send an open letter to PM and fed gov to put a stop on the Kinder Morgan's proposed expansion of Trans Mountain pipeline project. Number of tankers would increase from 5 every month to 34 every month. Vancouver is building a clean, green economy valued at \$31 billion, could suffer up to \$3 billion in damage from an oil spill under the expanded pipeline. Not to mention the hazard to health of Vancouver residents. It's not worth the risk.

Awards of Excellence:

Do you know one, even children and youth 21 or younger, who help make Vancouver an excellent place?

Please be sure to nominate them by this Wednesday!

<http://vancouver.ca/your-government/awards-of-excellence.aspx>

6.6 (Mon)

6.7 (Tue)

Sat: parking-space patios

Mon: public arts- not sure if it's passed today already? City's investment in public arts help make Vancouver more vibrant and enrich the culture

<http://www.news1130.com/2016/06/01/work-on-the-arbutus-corridor-will-start-next-week/>

6.8 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) Robertson Urges Ottawa To Ban Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/602134/2016-06-08/post-羅品信赴京陳情-促禁擴建橫山油管/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470 Talk Show) Kinder Morgan expansion

- Intriguing that Robertson who has good relationship and almost a comrade with Trudeau would lobby, and even join with the First Nations leaders. This puts Trudeau in a difficult position.

6.9 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Right Groups Lobby City of Vancouver To Open More Safe Injection Sites

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/603402/2016-06-09/post-維權團體籲溫市-增毒品安全注射屋/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Vancouver City Cllr Motion To Protect Old Properties (Mole Hill)

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60707

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Is opening more safe injection site a solution to overdose of strong drugs like fentanyl?

- Generally Chinese community doesn't support safe injection site, not to mention opening more. Can't just focus on harm reduction
- Concerned with marijuana legalization making drugs an "admission drug" and lead to other high impact drugs
- Question why the drug users network association can receive funding
- should have a minimum 25 years sentence for drug dealers and freeze their assets

(Ming Pao) Vancouver 44th Most Liveable City in Canada

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160609/vaa4_r.htm

(Sing Tao) Vancouver is Only 44th For Vancouver's Best Cities

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/603386/2016-06-09/post-加最佳城市排名-溫哥華僅排 44 位/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver lost points for lower family median income: \$61,455. West Vancouver highest in Lower Mainland, then North Van, Port Moody, Delta

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's New House Construction Continues To Rise In May

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/603384/2016-06-09/post-溫哥華 5 月份各類新屋動工量續升/?variant=zh-hk>

- Low mortgage rate, hot second hand house market, low stock of new housing- lead to continuous construction of single homes and multi-unit housing
- province. 70% Fed. 65% City

6.10 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Investigates Vacancy Tax Implementation Details To Target Speculation

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/604715/2016-06-10/post-溫市研引進空屋□細節-打擊炒樓/?variant=zh-hk>

- Cllr. Louie: City needs to get permission from Province first
- Insights West: 76% unhappy with Province for not targeting the speculation of property offer
- Realtor Brad Richert: vacancy tax won't help as there is huge demand for housing in Greater Vancouver. Foreign investors won't mind paying it

(AM1470) 80% British Columbians Support Vacancy Tax

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60755

- Support for East Asians is also 83%, many includes Chinese. Although the policy targets at them, and think the tax has a racial under tone, but as long as the policy deals with whether you live there or not, but not where they are from
- 89%- age18-34 highest support
- Which gov't is responsible for lack for affordable housing? 76%

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Park Board Plans To Expand 3 Outdoor Swimming Pool

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/604739/2016-06-10/post-溫哥華公園局-擬增 3 口外泳池/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Removal Work Of Arbutus Rail Started To Make Way For Green Corridor

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60758

- City has set up the Arbutus Green Corridor Design Office to collect public opinions proactively
- Robertson: the corridor will be reserved for light rail in the future

6.11(Sat)

(Sing Tao) 70,000- 90,000 More Jobs In Vancouver. 72% Increase of Canada

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/605953/2016-06-11/post-溫職位年增 7-9 萬-佔全加 72/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver's job growth went from 22nd in the country to 2nd

(Sing Tao) Arbutus Green Corridor Rail Removal Started

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/605910/2016-06-11/post-阿布特斯綠色通道-拆路軌工程展開/?variant=zh-hk>

6.12 (Sun)

(AM1470) Christy Clark, Gregor Robertson Expressed Views On Vacancy Tax

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60763

(Sing Tao: caption story) Gregor Robertson Went to Football Game On A Date With His Girlfriend

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/607042/2016-06-12/post-羅品信拍拖觀欖球賽/?variant=zh-hk>

source: Canadian Press

6.13 (Mon)

(AM1470) Portion of Vancouver Streets Names “ Little Italy”

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60799

6.13 (Mon)

(AM1470) City Cllr. Urges To Tax Airbnb

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60825

6.14 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver City Cllr. Meggs Urges To Tax Airbnb

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/609715/2016-06-14/post-溫市議員麥傑士-促向 airbnb 短租徵□/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) PNE May Expand Into A Theme Park

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60841

(AM1470) Vancouver's Visitors Top The List

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60831

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Park Board Passed Motion to Build A New Community Centre at Marpole

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=80e8ba388b77403cd9dd088151b1084f>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver PNE's Playland May Build A Theme Park

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d80460d2c687f8aeb7548ed896022043>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Has Highest Tourist Growth Across the Country This Summer

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d7e7bd5df3a07138eb7cb500f01f89fe>

6.15 (Wed)

(AM1470 Talk Show) Vacancy Tax

- Robertson doesn't respect private ownership of property and holds views characteristics to Communist. Property once purchased belong to individuals and City has no authority over their use of it. Pressing down CP's railroad price for purchase of Arbutus Corridor is another example
- City's reasoning for vacancy tax is shaky. Rent out a property is ok, but keeping it vacant is seen as a business holding

- City is creating a public impression that they are doing something, but indeed they try to shift the blame so that they won't lost votes for next election

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Vacancy Tax

- A large no. of callers said the vacancy tax is infringement on their right of private ownership
- Not fair to homeowners who don't rent out their properties. Never told that the property could not be vacant
- Increasing housing supply is the solution to affordability, not vacancy tax

6.16 (Thur)

(Ming Pao) Gregor Robertson Determined To Push Vacancy Tax. City Staff Will Study How To Go Around Province To Implement
<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160616/vab1h.htm?m=0>

source: Globe & Mail

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Rent Tops The Country Surpass Toronto
<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/612510/2016-06-16/post-溫市租金全國最高遠超第二多倫多/?variant=zh-hk>

- According to rental apartment website's survey: padmapper.com
- Vancouver: median rent of 1 bedroom apartment: \$1,700, \$380 more than Toronto's \$1,320

(Sing Tao) City Study To Improve Design At Knight & Marine Drive
<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/612443/2016-06-16/post-乃街夾海旁大道-市府研究改善設計/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Christy Clark, Gregor Robertson Excited About the Feds Funding

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60899

- Robertson: funding is largest in the past 6 years

(AM1470) City Study Preservation Of Mole Hill Community Next Year

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60886

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Vancouver Coastal Health Intends To Open 5 More Safe Injection Sites With 2 Close To Downtown Eastside And Possibly Chinatown

- A few said Chinatown's voice is not strong enough, and as a result, City ignored and even bullied Chinatown even though the community has always been opposing to safe injection site even with the first one, not to mention more
- VCH's approach on drug policies have been biased towards drug users, but ironically disregard health of the general public

(Fairchild TV) 3 Levels of Governments Reached 1st Stage of Funding For TransLink's 10 years Plan

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=9e4d3382089cddc44b20a225706d76a3>

(Fairchild TV) City Is Redesigning Joyce Skytrain station

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=374d37146f8e631a2adb03fd6818b497>

- Cllr. Louie: make housing more affordable
- Cllr. Affleck: over 100 emails from the residents are upset
- Residents worried the proposed 5 high towers and want to be involved in the redesign process

(Ming Pao) Ottawa, Province, TransLink Total \$740M For 14 Projects. Kick Start Greater Vancouver's 10 Year Transit Plan

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160617/vaba_r.htm

- Robertson: will sell some TransLink asset, but he hasn't specify the locations. Best if the 2nd stage of funding finalized by the end of Aug. Greater Vancouver Mayor's Council already passed motion, hoping to finance the transit plan by increasing \$3 in property tax each year, increasing transit fare (one time) and revise tolls- without having a plebiscite

(Sing Tao) Justin Trudeau Distributed Money During Visit to Vancouver. Kick Start 10 Year Transit Plan

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/613930/2016-06-17/post-杜魯多訪溫派錢-10年交通規劃□動/?variant=zh-hk>

- How would each city pay for the remaining \$132M? Robertson: still talking to Province, hope will reach agreement soon.

6.17 (Fri)

(AM1470) Century Old Chinatown Inn Up For Sale

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60912

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60931

- East Pender 262 “Mei Wah Inn” belong to a Chinese association 鐵城崇義會, built in 1913, has 120 units, is up for sale for \$9.99M, SRO inn, tenants include Chinese and non-Chinese
- Chinatown Concerned group: worried about tenants will lose their homes and not able to find a place with same rent if sold. Hope City and Province would step in as it's a resource issue; City policies on revitalization ie. removing building height and land use actually leads to gentrification of Chinatown. Hope City would look into it

(AM1470) Alcohol Intoxication Problem Serious According To Vancouver Coastal Health

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60933

6.18 (Sat)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Will Apply For Court Injunctions Against More Pot Dispensaries

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60943

- Cllr. Jang: to further strengthening the enforcement, City will apply for court injunctions against more pot dispensaries
- Already done so for 17 illegal stores, injunctions will be issued by the end of June.
- 3 stores already or promised to close, which shows City's action is seeing result.
- Total 353 tickets have been issued, but only 51 have paid the fine

(AM1470 Phone-in Show) Joyce-Collingwood High Towers

2 guests: Joyce-Collingwood residents, and one lives right outside the development area, so he hasn't received the notice

- Many said the area is already too crowded, worried that the roads will become even more congested especially along Joyce as many who don't live there use that road as well. Congestion will affect livability and economy
- Some said the neighborhood has become less safe as a result of that.
- Understand that City tries to resolve the affordability issue and try to increase housing stock; however, so far this Mayor hasn't been fighting hard on behalf of residents, but lean too much towards developers
- The advocate/ guest said, the info they receive from City is misleading as it gives an impression that it will be a mix of residential developments with lots of townhouses and low-levels condos. No height about the towers wasn't mentioned until later they found out that the number of towers and the stories included all beyond residents' expectations.
- One said Marpole community was a successful example stopping City's development plan. But chance of Joyce-Collingwood is low as they don't have as many residents who have the language and time to protest consistently, and their action is a bit too late

6.19 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Developer Fight For West End Old Apartment

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/616240/2016-06-19/post-發展商搶購溫西端舊柏文/?variant=zh-hk>

source: Vancouver Sun : Cardero 1188, at least 4 developers are interested

6.20 (Mon)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Filed A Lawsuit Against Resource Board For Recommending Pipeline Expansion

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60984

- Robertson: resource board ignored evidence collected by the environmental hearing such as damage caused by oil leaks, and

green house effect created. Not worth the economic and environmental risks

(AM1470) VSB Released Preliminary School Closure List

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=60988

(Fairchild TV) VSB Suggested To Gradually Close 12 Elementary And Secondary Schools In Next Two Years

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=83b887e6ca1b28752a8d05b96c04ba35>

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Applied For Judicial Review For National Resource Board For Expanding Pipelines

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=9b425b229521a86a612a40a846e1c76e>

6.21 (Tue)

City of Vancouver Sue To Stop Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/618969/2016-06-21/post-溫市參與訴訟-阻橫山輸油管擴建/?variant=zh-hk>

6.22 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) May Wah Hotel Full of “Collective Memories” To Long-time Chinese Immigrants

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/620362/2016-06-22/post-滿載老華僑集體回憶-美華旅店前途各方關注/?variant=zh-hk>

- Tone is neutral, explaining the historical background of the May Wah Hotel from Chinatown members, historian and Cllr. Louie.
- Cllr. Louie: lots of sentimental feelings towards the building as he has sold homemade cookies there when he was a child. Huge financial burden for repairs. Urges Fed and Province to help out. Will meet on Friday with Shong Yee clan association, the owner of the hotel

(Sing Tao) Low Rent Hotel Brings Growth To Chinatown Small Businesses

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/620354/2016-06-22/post-廉租旅店帶動華埠小商業生意/?variant=zh-hk>

- Historian Mr. Chu: Chinatown population and small businesses shrinking, but more Caucasians moved in and more coffee shops. Chinatown may become a “Caucasian-town”
- Shong Yee association hasn’t responded before deadline

(Sing Tao) Local Chinese Purchased Home For Their Elementary School Age Daughter As Future Wedding Gift

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/620352/2016-06-22/post-華裔替讀小學女兒買樓當嫁妝/?variant=zh-hk>

- Chinese traditional practice for parents to start saving up and investing a future home for their children or made any kind of investment for their future fund for university—especially now when housing gets expensive. May sound a bit strange to do this so early, but from the investment perspective, it’s common.

(AM1470) Affordability In First Quarter (of Vancouver) Continues To Get Worse

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61027

- Especially single homes in Vancouver– worst record. Affordability increased by 9.9% to 119%

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Proposed To Launch Two New Taxes To Suppress Vacant Properties

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61034

(AM1470) City of Vancouver: Canada Post Dispute Will Affect Property Tax Payment Time

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61047

(AM1470) Survey: Vancouver's Living Expense Still Highest In The Country

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61035

- Mercer's report. Based on expats
- Vancouver: No. 1 most expensive in Canada, 142th in the world, Toronto 143rd
- 5 Most Expensive Cities: Hong Kong, Angora's Luanda, Zurich, Singapore, Tokyo

(AM1470) Scholars: Charging Vacancy Tax Will Encourage More To Rent Out Properties

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61043

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Vacancy Tax

- City of Vancouver and the general public assumed the majority of vacant properties are foreign investors but no such figures is available to prove that. So the first step should be to collect those data, and see if vacant properties is a factor pushing up house prices
- Almost all callers disagreed with the vacancy tax, most reasons are: unfair, violate personal right of ownership, property owners also pay property taxes, not worth it for owners of million dollars properties

- to rent out their properties; City too forceful to do this without province
- Need more legal protection for landlords to encourage them to rent out instead of a punitive measure
 - Can tax new properties that sit empty, but not the existing ones.
Violate right of ownership
 - Worried about people wasting water or electricity simply to make their properties appear as “non-vacant”
 - One said people can easily get around the vacancy tax ie. rent out the property to a family member with say \$1, and can also easily provide the contract as evidence
 - Tax should focus on foreign investors but not wealthy immigrants

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Plans To Implement Vacancy Tax Whether With Province's Support Or Not

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=33936698133cfff4e8303e4edb690110>

- Mayor Robertson: Urges Premier to create a new residential property vacant class. If not heard from premier, City will have to create a business class but more costly
- Cllr. De Genova: too haste, may hurt people and rental market, should put politics aside and talk to the province
- Mike De Jon: will meet with the Mayor on Monday for how to work together

(Fairchild TV) Single Homes In Vancouver Worst In 26 Years

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=7481bflc256a66dac3bflf5721056ca6>

6.23 (Thur)- More

(omni news) discussion on Vacancy Tax

- Although Robertson's strategy is limited, it worked to give pressure to two senior levels of govt as Fed spearheaded a working group targeting on vacancy

6.24 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Three Levels of Governments Form Working Groups To Cool Down Vancouver's Housing Market

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/623190/2016-06-24/post-三級政府設工作組-研為溫多樓市降溫/?variant=zh-hk>

- Ontario's former Chinese Professional Realtors Association: Canadian govt had implemented speculation tax back in 1978, real estate market fall within 2 months, after interest rate went up after 2 years, housing market collapsed, govt had to lure ppl back to the market with mortgage incentives

(Sing Tao) Government Interfered Principle of Free Economy

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/623189/2016-06-24/post-「政府干預-有違自由經濟原則」/?variant=zh-hk>

- Hong Kong charges taxes to suppress housing market but it continued to rise in the past 5 years. Market price should be set by the market. Not possible for govt to suppress

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Criticized For A Lack of Transparency On Freedom of Information

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/623177/2016-06-24/post-資訊自由透明度-溫市遭抨仍不足/?variant=zh-hk>

6.25 (Sat)

Chinatown Buildings Sold For Asking Price of \$5.8M

Bound To Lose 3 Old Stores. Scholars Worried About Losing Cultural Characteristics

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160625/vas1h_r.htm

- Gore 555
- Chinatown Historian John Atkin: hot housing market lead to haste development of Chinatown, worried Chinatown will lose its characteristics
- Barbeque store is a huge signature for Chinatown, but only 3 of such stores remained. Same as the herbal stores
- City shouldn't only focus on façade of the heritage buildings when considering rezoning, but neglected the cultural impact
- Revitalizing Chinatown doesn't necessarily mean bringing in new elements or new buildings; rather, should improve on current characteristics
- Tourists said they didn't want to come to Chinatown for safety reasons. Should start from working on public safety of the area first

6.26 (Sun)

n/a

6.27 (Mon)

(Sing Tao) 200 Vancouver West Residents Criticized City To Widen Sidewalk And Install Suicide Fence

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/627044/2016-06-27/post-擴行人路建護橋欄-溫西 200 居民猛轟/?variant=zh-hk>

- Reporter tried to contact Vision's City Cllrs but no reply by deadline

Vancouver Residents Protest For City Not Listening

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160627/vasc_r.htm

Proposed To Build 7,150 Condo Units In Vancouver East New Towers Around Commercial Broadway Skytrain Station

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160628/vas1h_r.htm

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Released Latest Plan On Grandview-Woodland Development

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=f88920d4589dae7abec2eb05fca153e3>

- Granview-Woodland Community Council: not enough green space
- Commercial Drive CIA: concerned about bike lanes affecting businesses

(omni news) Lack of Public Consultation And Waste of Money On Expanding Burrard Bridge And Installing Fences To Prevent Suicide Etc.

<http://www.omnitv.ca/bc/en/videos/4998627832001/>

- To resolve housing affordability, makes sense to densify around transit hubs, but communities don't want to see their areas being densified

6.28 (Tue)

3 Pot Dispensaries In East Vancouver Filed Lawsuit Refused To Close Doors

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61166

- Lawyer of the 3 dispensaries: City's injunction has technical problems, require City to amend. Filed lawsuit for freedom of speech, personal safety and equality above the law
- City has applied for injunctions to close 17 dispensaries, is filing against another 17

Population in Vancouver East's Collingwood Expected To Rise. But Two Elementary Schools May Be Closed

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/628483/2016-06-28/post-溫東高齡活區人口料急增-惟兩小學恐遭殺校/?variant=zh-hk>

- PAC: not understand why School Board plans to close 2 elementary schools when population of that neighborhood is growing rapidly
- Reporter tried to contact Mayor but was told he wasn't able to reply by the press' deadline on Monday

6.28 (Tue)- More

(Fairchild TV) Richmond's Mayor Is Reserved About Vacancy Tax

- Mayor Brodie: Reserved about vacancy tax but not rule out the possibility of charging vacancy tax
- Looking at definition of vacant home by the period of time and motivation of the homeowners

6.29 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) Residents Said Draft Planning Of Vancouver East 12-Storey-High Condo Too High (Grandview-Woodland)

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/630079/2016-06-29/post-社區草擬計劃批評-溫東 12 層柏文過高/?variant=zh-hk>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Park Board Provides Rental For Umbrella And Chairs

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=05d07931dde3ddcd72bd2f46dc81f420>

6.30 (Thur)

(AM1320) Vancouver's Strategy & Policy Committee Passed Motion To Reduce Vacancy

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15004%3A2016-06-29-23-39-40&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver's Report Provides 3 Solutions To Reduce Vacancy

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/631777/2016-06-30/post-溫市府報告提三方法□空置屋/?variant=zh-hk>

- Through voluntary report, City's own audit and complaint, City can find out who the vacant properties are
- Mayor Robertson: difficult when defining properties vacant continuously for at least 12 months, and need to decide which ones

can be exempted. Best way is still the Province charging the tax as they have the housing data

(Sing Tao) Study Shows Immigrants' Investments Contributed To Higher Real Estate Price

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/631776/2016-06-30/post-研究指移民投資-確實推高樓價/?variant=zh-hk>

- SFU & UBC joint study on how the Canadian Immigrant Investor Program impact the real estate market, discovered that immigrants' investments play a part on housing price, but also other factor such as low interest rate persists

(Sing Tao) Chinese Landlords Agree To Charge Foreign Investors Taxes

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/631779/2016-06-30/post-華裔業主贊成向外資徵附加□/?variant=zh-hk>

source: Huffington Post

- Chinese property owners hold different views, some agree that it should be determined by the free market, but some also support government's intervention
- Some suggest to "freeze" foreign buyers' market- only sell to Canadian citizens and immigrants

(Sing Tao) Vancouver School Board Rejected Selling Mall To Cover Deficit

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/631715/2016-06-30/post-溫哥華教育局-否決售商場補赤字/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Marijuana Working Group Member George Chow: Marijuana Must Be Regulated

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61244

- George: take a more compassionate approach as there are medical users, also given the experience of safe injection site
- Understand that Chinese community in general oppose to legalizing marijuana, will reflect the voices and work as a bridge

(AM1470) Pot Supporters Said Working Group Lean Towards Enforcement

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61243

(AM1470)

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61237

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Plan To Extend Bike Lanes To Commerical Dr.

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=83195156bb3569a78bed5d6da6a14750>

7.1 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) 3 Levels of Government Partner To Build Affordable Housing in Vancouver East

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/633088/2016-07-01/post-三級政府合資-溫東建可負擔房屋/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Vancouver's Bike Sharing Program Launch in 2 Weeks

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160701/vas4_r.htm

(Ming Pao) 26 Affordable Housing Units Build On Vancouver East land Provided By Church

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160701/vas3_r.htm

(AM1470) Kerry Jang Agreed With Marijuana Working Group

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61258

- Cllr. Jang: Vancouver will adjust its policy once pot is legalized. Committee has a good mix with public health and law enforcement, no advocates
- Haven't talked about the penalty yet, but legal age of purchasing marijuana should be 19

(AM1470) Feds Studies Marijuana Legalization. Vancouver's Policies Unchanged

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61252

- Cllr. Jang: City of Vancouver will maintain the same policy, not requiring VPD to enforce to pot smokers, but VPD has their own enforcement priorities, and will focus resources to target organized crime. Feds applauded Vancouver's regulation on pot

(Fairchild) Province Appointed Auditors To Evaluate VBS's Financial Condition

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

7.3 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Chinatown Celebrated Canada Day. Reminiscing Contributions Early Chinese Settlers Made

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/634353/2016-07-02/post-華埠國慶升旗禮-緬懷先僑建加功/?variant=zh-hk>

7.4 (Mon)

(AM1470) 2nd Pot Dispensary In Vancouver Given Operating License

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61332

- 1st non-profit dispensary granted license
- Another 10 dispensaries have obtained permission to organize for their opening, would possibly get the formal license

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Investigates 17 Apartment Units Hosting Airbnb

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/637176/2016-07-04/post-柏文 17 單位涉民宿短租-遭溫市調查/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://vancouver.sun.com/news/local-news/vancouver-investigating-kitsilano-apartment-block-hosting-17-airbnb-units>

(Sing Tao) Parent Group Criticized Province , VSB Playing Politics

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/637146/2016-07-04/post-省府與溫教局鬥法-家長組織抨玩政治/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Investigates Illegal Airbnb. Regulate Contract Over 30 Days

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160704/vap1h_r.htm

7.5 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Wanting Qu Fears For Her Mother's Life As Trial In China Looms

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/638733/2016-07-05/post-母在華涉貪將開審-曲婉婷:她命懸一線/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/vancouver-pop-singer-fears-for-her-mothers-life-as-trial-in-china-looms/article30750606/>

- Wanting: Most serious possible sentence is death penalty; as a diabetic, had grown swollen and feverish
- Concerned her mother's arrest is politically motivated as her mother has been an active member of the China Democratic League, an officially sanctioned minority political party

7.5 (Tue)

(AM1470) Vancouver Issued 2nd Pot Dispensaries License

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61350

7.6 (Wed)

n/a

7.7 (Thur)

(AM1470) Millennials "Forced" To Move By Vancouver's High Rent

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61392

(AM1470) Foreign Buyers in Richmond Has Highest Proportion to 14%

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61402

7.8 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Airbnb Will Not Affect Vancouver's Rental Market

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/643011/2016-07-08/post-airbnb> 稱短租不影響
溫租屋市場/?variant=zh-hk

- Airbnb's report show, Vancouver has 4,200 airbnb units, 1/4 are suites while the rest are an entire housing unit. 80% of them are rented for less than 180 days.

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Studies to Relax Rules To Increase Family Housing Units

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/642977/2016-07-08/post-溫市研究放寬準則-新樓增單位數量/?variant=zh-hk>

- All new apartments must have at least 35% units with 2 or 3 bedrooms
- Mayor Robertson: future's housing mix policy is to attract more young people to move in, will be applied city-wide

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Housing "Not Friendly". Higher Appreciation Potential in Richmond

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160708/vaa3_r.htm

- According to a Chinese realtor, Vancouver has 4% of buyers from overseas whereas Richmond 14% because some single homes in Vancouver is way too expensive, investors rather chose a location with bigger growth potential with a lower cost of principal. Also, Richmond has a higher ratio of Chinese immigrants
- Another realtor said, empty home tax proposed by Vancouver's Mayor shows a not-too-friendly message to foreign investors, whereas Richmond and Burnaby are more welcoming. Perhaps that's why more investors in those cities.

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver Intervenes To Stop Conversion Of May Wah Hotel. Subsidized \$600,000 For Repair In Order To Preserve The 120 Low Rent Units

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160708/vas1h_r.htm

- Worried about the sale of May Wah Hotel will lead to eviction and tenants not able to afford rent elsewhere. Also the controversial Keefer 105 project
- Cllr. Louie: City is preparing to apply various rules to prevent the conversion, remind buyers that the hotel can't be converted right away into condo as it's a historical building. Based on the 120 units, conversion means compensating \$15M, which is impossible to make any profit. Developer would also need City council's approval. He would vote No personally, and believes that it would hardly be passed in City Council.

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Continues To Shut Down Illegal Pot Dispensaries

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61413

(AM1320) Vancouver's New Multi-Unit Housing Bylaw

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15090%3A2016-07-07-23-15-33&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Will Apply For Injunction For 10 Pot Dispensaries

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61432

(Fairchild TV) Report Said Residential Land Development Measures On City Level Leads To Housing Cost Increase

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=adocaobad566bac4acce21e459b10e16>

(Fairchild TV) Young Generation Forced To Move Away To Suburb As Rent Soars In Most Communities Across Vancouver

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=a73027901f88055aaa0fd1a9e25d36c7>

(AM1320) Vancouver Issues More Court Injunctions Against Pot Dispensaries Next Week

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15107%3A2016-07-08-23-03-25&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

7.9 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Aim To Shut Down 10 Illegal Pot Dispensaries Next Week

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/644538/2016-07-09/post-溫市下周將取締 10 非法大麻店/?variant=zh-hk>

7.10 (Sun)

(Sing Tao- Mayor' s Op-ed) Empty Home Tax To Increase Affordable Housing Supply

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/645814/2016-07-10/post-設空置房屋□-增可負擔房屋供應/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver East Protest For Right To Live (In Vancouver)

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/645825/2016-07-10/post-溫東集會遊行爭取居住權利/?variant=zh-hk>

- Chinatown Concern Group: Chinatown is getting less and less like Chinatown and Chinatown's Chinese community is being marginalized. Chinatown is a part of Canada. City doesn't understand the value of Chinatown to local Chinese. Some elderly bus to Chinatown everyday as they have a strong sense of belonging there
- Some protesters hold up signs like "Stop Chronic Eviction"

(Fairchild TV) Protest for A Lack of Affordable Housing in Vancouver downtown, Burnaby

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=6e3262beb24c53ca2e4d7bc4b378fa8a>

7.11 (Mon)

(AM1470) Province Revised Vancouver Charter To Allow Empty Home Tax

http://aml470.com/news_detail.php?i=61488

(AM1470) Robertson: Empty Tax Only Impact Homes Empty For Over 1 Year

http://www.aml470.com/news_detail.php?i=61497

- Robertson: hope to implement next year, tentatively for homes empty for 1 year, haven't decided the details and tax rate, would be based on a principle of efficiency, simplicity and fairness

- Residents who spend their holidays overseas or visit Vancouver each year won' t be affected

(AM1470) Vancouver City Council Vote On Transgender Inclusion Plan on Wed

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61462

7.11 (Mon)– More

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Province Amend Vancouver Charter To Allow Empty Home Tax. Some Blamed Soaring Housing Price On Foreign Investors

reference:

- Want to attract foreign investors to Vancouver back in the Expo 86 era, but now as more investment come in, BC/ Vancouver want to deter the investors, contradicting
- Would vacancy tax be a type of “Head Tax” against Chinese investors in the future?
- Chinese is often a scapegoat. Soaring housing market is complicated.
- Dangerous and can become a discriminatory issue against Chinese–
Vancouver Sun has a long history of printing articles that are discriminatory against Chinese, and often elaborated it. But this time, a columnist said a group of people are suspicious of data government provided although they don’t have any proof
- Vision-led city council is a majority and has an agenda that only serves a small group of people
- Property speculation is over 4 times more 10 years ago. Now about 800 units, while 10 years ago about 3–4000 units.

7.12 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Robertson Taxes Homes Empty For 1 Year

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/649411/2016-07-12/post-羅品信全年空置才徵□/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Province Gives Green Light to Allow Vancouver Implement Empty Home Tax

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/649429/2016-07-12/post-省府願開綠燈-讓溫市徵空屋□/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Province Authorize Vancouver To Implement Empty Home Tax. Robertson Emphasized Target Homes Empty For More Than 1 Year
http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160712/vab2_r.htm

(AM1470) Protesters Occupied Vancouver Council Chamber Urging To Build Affordable Housing (with video)

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61515

- Protesters said they are dissatisfied with City for not fulfilling their promises of building a number of affordable housing projects

(AM1470) Noise Bylaw Increased To 2,000 Last Year

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61511

- Worst: Yaletown, Mt. Pleasant, Kitsilano, Granview-Woodlands—half of the 2,148 complaints came from these 5 communities

(AM1470) Part of Vancouver's Greenest City Plan Accomplished Early

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61514

(AM1470) Parking Fees At Downtown West Increase 6 Fold

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61506

(AM1320) Vancouver Homeless Protest

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15147%3A2016-07-12-23-25-22&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

7.13 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) A Few Dozens Of People Protested At City Hall For More Affordable Housing. Greeted By Mayor And Made A Few Requests

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160713/vas3_r.htm

- 85-year-old Chinese elderly: urges City to build more affordable housing for seniors in Chinatown. She is very fortunate to have a home, but many in Chinatown don't

(Sing Tao) Protesters Forced Into City Hall Urged Gregor Robertson To Build Affordable Housing

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/651302/2016-07-13/post-40> 示威者闖溫市府-促羅品信建廉屋/?variant=zh-hk

- Cllr. Jang met with the protesters, but they asked why city council not solving the homeless issue and asked to build 100% affordable housing at the Tent City at W. Hastings 58
- Chinese elderly: hope to help other elderly to get affordable housing and gov't preserving Chinatown's historical character; Chinatown Concerned Group: support tent city and concerned about housing issue of Chinese elderly and low-income people in that area

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Rates 27th Nationally On Affordable Housing

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/651253/2016-07-13/post-可負擔房屋城市-溫排全國第 27 位/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Ban Bee-killing Pesticide

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/651269/2016-07-13/post-毒死蜜蜂-溫市禁殺蟲劑「益達胺」/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Proposed To Increase Parking pass To \$800

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/651133/2016-07-13/post-溫市擬增西端泊車證費至 800 元/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Noise Complaints Increased To 2,148 Cases

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/651213/2016-07-13/post-溫市噪音投訴-倍增至 2148 宗/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1320) Vancouver Continued To Shut Down Pot Dispensaries. Apply 10 Court Injunctions

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15194%3A10&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) Proesters Request City to Build Affordable Housing

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61524

(AM1470) Vancouver Ban A Type Of Pesticide

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61527

7.14 (Thur)

(AM1320) Pot Dispensary Sold Marijuana To Adult Without Prescription

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15179%3A2016-07-14-23-25-20&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Marijuana advocate & pot dispensaries owner Dana Larsen: two of her dispensaries have sold marijuana to adults without prescriptions. Vancouver's bylaw hasn't clearly stated that while Fed's regulation is unclear. Not worried if they would get into trouble by VPD
- Cllr. Jang and VPD can't be reached for comments

(AM1470) VPD: CBC's Police Ethnic Diversity Report Misleading

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61576

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Renal Units Exceed Target of 5,000 units. City Council Passed 2 More Development Projects

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160714/vasb_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Vancouver City Cllr. Complained Aggressive Tactics Of Realtors. Send Out False Info And Knock On Doors To Inquire On Selling

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160714/vasc_r.htm

- Cllr. Ball: False info includes some communities would disappear and property owners better add their property into a "combined piece of land". Also some misleading letters that make residents feeling unsettled; seniors and new immigrants are targeted.

- “BC Independent Realtor Consultation Group”: need to deter participation and on-going use of such sales tactic

(Sing Tao) Report: 60% Residents May Leave Vancouver For Not Able To Find Housing

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/653150/2016-07-14/post-報告:居所難求-6成居民或遷離溫市/?variant=zh-hk>

- Cllr. Jang: not surprised with the City staff report. 1/5 residents on rental housing. Need to follow example of HK, Tokyo to provide more 2- 4 bedroom housing
- Developers may be required to provide a fixed number of 2-3 bedrooms when building apartment towers

7.15 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Real Estate increased 23% Highest Rate Among Mayor Canadian Cities

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/654918/2016-07-15/post-溫哥華樓市升23-漲幅冠全國大城市/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Vancouver City Cllr. Agree To Ban Pedestrians Sending Texting Messages

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61594

- Cllr. Meggs agreed with Toronto’s recommendation as texting is equally dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists when they text messages. But that’s province’s jurisdiction

7.16 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Expensive Houses Labels Chinese Buyers May Lead To Ethnic Tension As Chinese Community Worries

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/656474/2016-07-16/post-高屋價似標籤中國買家-華社憂衍生種族矛盾/?variant=zh-hk>

- Non-profit “Civic Society” (公民協進會) that promotes Chinese community’s participation in civic and election affairs, Ken Tung: returns to 90’s when locals blamed Hong Kong immigrants for soaring housing market, but offshore buyers is only 3.3% and only targets at the higher end homes. So the impact on middle income housing is still mostly caused by market supply, as well as low interest rate and low Canadian currency exchange rate. Each level of govt should work together to build more affordable housing for low and middle income earners
- For foreign investors: should implement a special transaction tax ie. higher tax for low and middle level housing to protect locals, and also for selling properties
- SUCCESS: ethnic labeling can’t resolve problems but destroy harmony
- Chinese Consulate General Fei Liu: as only 3% are foreign buyers, should look for solutions at the rest of the 97%, and investigate money laundering

7.17 (Sun)

n/a

7.18 (Mon)

(AM1470) Report: TransLink Service Ranked A

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61675

(AM1470) Arbutus Corridor Construction Started Early

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=616577.19 (Tue)

(Ming Pao) Wanting Qu's Mother Face Trial For Corruption Total 3 Accusations. Qu Wishes "Live Well". Gregor Robertson Voiced Out On Line

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160719/vaa1h_r.htm

(Ming Pao) TransLink Service Ranked A, Second After Montreal In Canada

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160719/vasc r.htm>

(Ming Pao) Retired Finance Deputy Minister Milburn Appointed To Audit VSB's Expenses

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160719/vap5 r.htm>

- BC Education Minister Mike Bernier: VSB rejected School Act to pass a balanced budget and stop budget cuts, but at the same time trims budget, which confuses parents and students. The worst is, every year they claimed that there was a deficit, but ended up having revenue
- Mike Lombardi: welcome the audit, and will fully cooperate

7.18 (Mon)

(AM1470)Vancouver City Council Discussed Re-development Of Little Mountain Community

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61683

(Fairchild TV) About 5,000 Short-term Rental Units In Vancouver Mostly Through Website

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=a708e6694d15c224ba99ec44b5879802>

7.19 (Tue)

(Apple Daily) Acused Of Conspired To Corruption With Professor. Worried Most About the Cat Given By Daughter

<http://hk.apple.nextmedia.com/realtime/china/20160719/55379403>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Hold Public Meeting For Re-developing Little Mountain

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=561ac63524680368701567891601024a>

7.20 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) White Caps VS. Crystal Palace 2:2 Break Even With Premier League

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/662399/2016-07-20/post-白帽迎戰水晶宮-2:2 戰平英超勁旅/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Guangzhou City Cup Welcome By Supporters. White Cap VS. Crystal Palace Started With Lion Dance

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160720/vas3_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Wanting Qu's Mother Not Admit Charges. Court Have Emergency Measures In Place

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160720/vaa3_r.htm

- The case raised attention as it involved singer Wanting Qu's mother

- As Ms. Zhang has diabetes and heart disease, the court has emergency measures in place and ambulance waiting outside
- Ms. Zhang rejected all 3 accusations (corruption, bribery, abuse of official power), hasn't abuse power as as

(AM1470) Roberson Comforted For Open Trial For Girlfriend's Mother

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61728

Robertson: family happy that it's an open trial and waiting justice to be served

(Apple Daily) Harbin Gov't Official Face 3 Charges. Wanting Qu's Mother Alleged Of \$4B Corruption Face Trial

<http://hk.apple.nextmedia.com/international/art/20160720/19702250>

(Apple Daily) Singer Wanting Qu's Mother May Face Death Sentence For TW \$1.7B Corruption. New Song "End Injustice Period" Hoping For Fair Trial

<http://www.appledaily.com.tw/appledaily/article/international/20160720/37314832/>

(AM1470) Vancouver Mobi Bike Sharing Program Launched Today

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61722

- Robertson: Mobi would help more ppl get connected to different modes of transit and fill the gaps existed in transportation network

(AM1320) Vancouver Launched Bike Share Program

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15224%3A2016-07-20-23-19-21&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-5

- About the delay of the program, Robertson: City wants to roll it out when it's more complete, and will expand the program step by step, no definite time table yet. Will not compete against bike rentals as mobi stands are located 50 meters away from bike rental shops and price is higher

- Mr. Kwan, Chinese owner of a bike rental shop on Denman 700: not sure how mobi will affect his business, possibly will face a few difficult years till the program closed down. As the management company of mobi receives a large amount of subsidy from city, they may not manage it well. Also based on other cities' experience, it's a loss business with low rate of success. Management company may try to attract tourists to join, and it will become a tourists' biking program subsidized by public money. Better to locate the mobi stands around skytrain stations if to benefit local residents rather than around Stanley Park etc.

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Will Discuss (Grandview Woodlands) Community Development Plan Next Week

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61710

- Grandview Woodlands Community Committee: hardly believe that City would keep their promise of building only 24 floors. Also worried for rent increase after the re-development and would cause eviction.

7.20 (Wed)– More

(Fairchild TV) 2 Soccer Tournaments Last Night, Including Vancouver–Guangzhou Friendship Cities Cup

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=8eb8c14637ad7f04b17390e3c4b16ec9>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Launched Mobi Bike Sharing Program

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=7e0bb07735b79680eb1ee707248353fd>

7.21 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Robertson Concerned With Girlfriend's Mother's Health. Said Qu Family Comforted With Open Trial

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/664284/2016-07-21/post-羅品信關心女友母親健康-指曲家「對審訊公開感欣/?variant=zh-hk>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Park Board Plans To Add Temporary Outdoor Swimming Pool

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=92cfd88945f213d00026de20ba91b717>

7.22 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) Refused To Admit Selling Land Without Authorization Received \$350M Bribe. Death Sentence Suggested. Threatened To Harm Her Daughter

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160722/vaa1h_r.htm

- Prosecutor suggested death sentence as Wanting Qu's Mother Ms. Zhang refused to admit the charges and the bribe involved as large as \$350M
- Defense lawyer: investigators threatened to harm Wanting if Zhang refused to cooperate before interrogation started

(Sing Tao) Prosecutor Suggested Death Sentence. Zhang Waiting For Result

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/666168/2016-07-22/post-檢方建議死刑-曲婉婷母親審完待判/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Land Transfer Power Problematic

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/666175/2016-07-22/post-土地使用權轉讓有無問題/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Omni Apply To Restore Mandarin, Cantonese TV Channel

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/664214/2016-07-21/post-omni申辦新台-恢復國語新聞報道/?variant=zh-hk>

- Omni multicultural television is applying to CRTC for Omni Regional TV channels that cover Pacific, the East, Quebec
- Proposal: restore Cantonese, Mandarin, Punjabi, Italian's daily news as Canada's only multi-lingual news channel
- Omni eliminated 110 positions in May last year, mostly reporters and producers. News is canceled and changed to half an hour interactive program

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Bike Share Program. Private Bike Shop Worries Business Drop 40%

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/664149/2016-07-21/post-溫單車共享計劃-私營憂生意減4成/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Promote Water Conservation Through Online Game In The Midst of Pokemon Go Heat

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/665979/2016-07-22/post-溫市府藉小精靈熱潮-推「慳水」網上遊戲/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Added Memorial Plaque At Shanghai Alley To Commemorate Lilian To

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15246%3A2016-07-22-23-34-46&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-

[02&Itemid=97&lang=zh](#)

- When asked about a street in Vancouver South was named under Jack Uppal of the Indo-Canadian community who passed away two years ago, and when there will be a street named under Lilian To, Mayor Robertson explained, it's decided by City's asset naming committee, the process of street naming is complicated, lots of names on the list, but still other naming opportunities at public facilities and buildings

(AM1470) A Chinatown Street Officially Named After Lilian To

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61788

(Fairchild TV) Street Outside SUCCESS' Chinatown Office Named After Their Late CEO Lilian To

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=ce44d51a5f4d0628c1bcfe81ad4c8129>

(AM1470) Robertson: Real Estate Market Slows Down Would Help Relieve Bubble Pressure

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61792

- Robertson: price still high but volume lower which eases the pressure for a softer landing
- Cities like North Van and Coquitlam said vacancy tax is hard to implement, would rather prefer non-resident tax. Cllr. Jang explained, each city has its own ways dealing with its own situation. Actually easier for city to check on vacancy homes by simply checking hydro usage. But for non-resident tax, need to ask for citizenship record from feds
- Rmd Mayor Brodie: vacancy tax & non-residents' tax won't help resolve housing problem as these are just bureaucracy. The real solution is to increase housing supply.

(AM1320) Vancouver Plans To Build Mobile Swimming Pools

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1523

[9%3A2016-07-21-23-05-17&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh](http://www.singtao.ca/2016-07-21-23-05-17&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh)

7.23 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's First Street Named After Chinese. Lilian To Way Officially Unveiled

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/667639/2016-07-23/post-溫首條以華裔命名街-陶黃口斌徑正式揭幕/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Robertson Concerned About Qu's Mother's Case. Hope For A Just Trial

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/667644/2016-07-23/post-羅品信關注曲母案-冀法院公正裁決/?variant=zh-hk>

- Robertson: hopeful, and hopeful for a just trial

(Ming Pao) Vancouver's First Street Named After A Chinese "Lilian To Way]" Unveiled In Chinatown

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/>

(the link has some problems and can't be viewed. Only the headline shows)

7.24 (Sun)

(AM1470) Wanting Qu's Mother May Face Death Penalty

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61825

7.25 (Mon)

(AM1320) Province Charge Foreign Buyers Extra Property Transfer Tax

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15270%3A2016-07-25-23-17-57&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Sing Tao) Province Authorize City of Vancouver To Charge Empty Home Tax

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/672304/2016-07-26/post-連環出手-省府賦溫市權力徵空置□/?variant=zh-hk>

- [UVic Professor Norman Ruff: according to Robertson's definition of charging homes empty over a year tax is too loose, City would only receive a very small amount of tax. Owners can go around it if they lend their home to a relative for a month within a year, or, through airbnb. Astronaut family also stay here for a certain period of time each year](#)
- [Province sharing address of drivers license holders or rental property data, it may violate privacy. If City builds its own data base through investigation, it would incur lots of extra cost. As City would only receive a small amount of tax from this, the benefit would be minimal. Also challenging to charge it fairly](#)
- [UBC Economics Professor Joshau Gottlieb: empty home tax requires a reliable self-regulating system or bureaucratic system to conduct the investigation. Very complicated. Best way is to make adjustment when filing tax return for empty homes](#)

(AM1470) Gregor Robertson Will Observe Province's New Measures (Targeting Offshore buyers on Vancouver's real estate)

- too early to comment on these policies now, but good that Province finally intervene. Province should target general users market but not individual investors

(AM1470) Chinese Realtors Professional Association: Province's Measures Should Cool Down Greater Vancouver's Housing Market

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61853

- 15% a bit too much and too haste, would deter investment although still grey area exist
- investors would go to areas outside Greater Vancouver

(AM1470) Greater Vancouver Real Estate Board Commented On Province's Housing Measures

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61867

- cause “unnecessary” impact. Province indeed had a very long period of time dealing with housing affordability, but never consult real estate board about the new measure

(AM1470) Woodland Development Project Amended

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61873

(AM1470) Vancouver City Council Passed Little Mountain Development Project

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61878

(AM1320) Victoria Observing how Province's Property Transfer Tax Would Work

- will see how empty home tax works in Vancouver. Believe it will be expanded to other cities in BC

(AM1320) University Professor Criticized Province For Loophole In Policy Targeting Foreign Buyers

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15275%3A2016-07-25-23-22-54&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- UBC Commerce Professor Thomas Davidoff: family member of a so-called astronaut family can easily escape from the 15% transfer tax when they purchase a property with a family member who live in Greater Vancouver; may affect people on work visa who want to purchase a home here. So they should be exempted. Foreign buyers may turn to other areas in the province as the tax only applies to Greater Vancouver

7.26 (Tue)

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Studying To Restrict Moorage in False Creek

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15279%3A2016-07-26-22-47-54&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-

[02&Itemid=97&lang=zh](#)

(AM1320) Province Announce Data On Foreign Buyers

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15278%3A2016-07-26-22-47-14&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1320) Grandview Woodlands Development Plan

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=1&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Property Surcharge For Foreign Buyers

- Some worried investors would go to Toronto instead.
- Media in Hong Kong and China reported that many investors in China questioned about this policy, and whether it is discriminatory
- Most Chinese see the new tax as a damage- short-term, worry that it would make BC less reliable and attractive for investment in the long-term as gov't changed its policy all of a sudden.
- Over 90% buyers are locals. Whether restricting foreign investors would help lower housing price is still unknown. But if the no. of buyers including local drop drastically because of the new tax, it would affect the housing market thus economy.
- About half of the callers think taxing foreigners is fair as they flip properties and make it unaffordable for locals and especially the younger generation. Where the foreign investors come from is irrelevant

(Ming Pao) Province Charges Foreign Buyers 15% Property Transfer Tax

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160726/vaa1h_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Greater Vancouver Real Estate Board Criticize Province For Too Rush

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160726/vaa2_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Realtors Expect Some Forego Deposit Observe The Market

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160726/vaa2_r.htm

- An immigration consultant/ notary public said, some investors in China need to find a safe place to invest their money, so they would be willing to pay the 15% surcharge. The tax may not have much impact overall, but would cool down the market in the short-term for sure

(Ming Pao) Shanghai Buyer Put It On Hold. Tianjin Property Owner Worries Mortgage Not Enough

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160726/vaa5_r.htm

- A buyer in Shanghai who just purchase a single home in Vancouver two days ago decided to give it up after the announcement. Doesn't want to pay \$225,000 more for the \$1.5M property. Rather wait till she got the Canadian's landed immigrant status
- One buyer in Tianjin may have difficulty financing mortgage with the new tax

7.27 (Tue)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Consult Public On Grandview-Woodland Development Plan

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=16b88c4db6ea7cb431e96c118b97939a>

- To residents who said too many high-density towers Mayor- the plan in general takes a balance approach with more housing and good community service, will make decision based on what was heard

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver's Real Estate Ranked As High Risk

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=512ba6448f63790387e2ad3d3bc630d0>

(Sing Tao) Former Attorney General: Should Not Charge Vacancy Tax

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/672376/2016-07-26/post-前律政廳長不應徵空置□/?variant=zh-hk>

Source: Globe & Mail

- Geoff Plant: current policy already allows property owners who live on the property pay less property tax. Empty home tax would be redundant. Many property owners let their homes sit empty for at least a few months due to various reasons, not necessarily only investors who wait for its value to rise ie. prepare to move, change of plans so delay their plan to move, seniors moving to senior homes when facing temporary health issues.

7.28 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) Feds Request 70 Financial Institutions To Assess Vancouver's Housing Market If 50% Collapse

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/674187/2016-07-27/post-聯邦要求70金融機構-為溫樓市瀉50做壓力測試/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Canadian Non-Residents From Hong Kong Don't Have To Pay Property Transfer Tax

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160727/vaa1h_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Hot Money Expect To Flow To Toronto. Realtors "Ready For Battle" In Vancouver Island

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160727/vaa4_r.htm

7.29 (Thur)

(AM1470) Vancouver Launch “Safe Place” To Protect LGBTQ Members From Violence

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61920

(AM1320) VPD Launch Plan To Protect LGBTQ Members

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15289%3A2016-07-28-23-44-52&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Fairchild TV) VPD Launch Program To Assist LGBTQ Members When Faced Harassment

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=ce2eb393c7bb5ee9841e1824128f52fa>

(AM1470) Vancouver Announced Woodland Development Plan

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61931

- Mayor: ensure a large no. of young families can live in affordable housing. Also plan to work with First Nations Coalition to preserve the unique cultural characteristics. That would become one of the most multicultural communities in Vancouver

(AM1470) BC Notary Public Association: Buyer’s Ownership Purpose Indifferent From Other Provinces

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61906

(AM1320) Richmond Mayor Opposed To 15% PTT For Foreign Buyers

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15287%3Aptt&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

7.30 (Fri)

N/A

7.31 (Sat)

(AM1470) Gregor Robertson: Hope Province Charge Vacancy Tax

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61967

- Mayor Robertson: doesn't want Province to amend Vancouver Charter, rather have BC Assessment to charge empty home tax as they deal with taxes related to properties. It would increase City's workload and would need a lot of subsidy as well as info like drivers license, address and rental amount from Province. To implement the tax, City also needs data from the Province

(AM1470) Foreign Buyers' Property Transfer Tax May Encourage "Birth Tourism"

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61969

(AM1470) Lawyer Worried 15% Property Transfer Tax Would Lead To Lawsuit Overseas

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61958

(AM1470) Survey: 90% Agree Province's Move To Charge Foreign Buyers Tax

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61953

(Sing Tao) 90% British Columbians Support Property Transfer Tax. 42% Doesn't Believe It Will Cool Down Market

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/679433/2016-07-30/post-9> 成省民挺物業轉讓□-42 不信可冷卻樓市/?variant=zh-hk

(Sing Tao) Policy Only One Day Old. \$5M Contract Collapsed. Industry Urged Exemption For Current Contract Holders

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/679444/2016-07-30/post->新政出籠僅一日-500 萬元合同已告吹-業界促豁免已簽/?variant=zh-hk

- Realtor: when foreign buyers cancelled the transactions, local sellers also suffered. Their plan of buying other home would be affected, thus impacting the entire industry and society
- As Federal government released 400,000 "multiple times super visas" to Chinese citizens, it's a welcome signal for them to come to Canada. But the new tax sends out a different message: we want their money, but don't invest it on real estate

(Sing Tao) Land Title Office Over Time To Assist Transactions Pass Deadline

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/679450/2016-07-30/post-方便樓房交易趕死線-田土廳破例加班/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Premier Fearless Of Lawsuit To Implement Property Transfer Tax

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/679431/2016-07-30/post-徵物業轉讓□-省長毋懼法律挑戰/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) China, Taiwan Buyers Fly To Vancouver To Pay In Order To Meet PTT 'Deadline'

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/677931/2016-07-29/post-趕轉讓□「死線」-中台買家飛溫過□/?variant=zh-hk>

7.31 (Sun)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver's Annual Pride Parade

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

- Mayor Robertson: Vancouver has been a leader for LGBTQ rights and this year trans rights.

(AM1470) 90% Greater Vancouver Residents Support Foreign Buyers' Property Transfer Tax

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=61990

8.1 (Mon)

(Sing Tao) First Canadian Prime Minister Participated In Vancouver's Pride Parade. The Trudeau's Family Warmly Welcomed By the Crowd

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160801/vasa_r.htm

- Mayor Robertson: Vancouver is trying to make this the largest pride parade in the world. Prime Minister is very supportive and witness it together, celebrate this moment

(Sing Tao) First Prime Minister Participated In Vancouver's Pride Parade
Popular

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/682572/2016-08-01/post-溫哥華自豪大遊行-總理首參與受歡迎/?variant=zh-hk>

8.2 (Tue)

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) If City doesn't relax the development permit process and the charges, even with the new PTT policy, it may not improve housing affordability

- 3-40,000 units need to pass
- 40,000 people move to Greater Vancouver each year, but 70,000 units are put on hold during the permit application
- Vancouver- avg. 4 -7 years due to lack of budget, lack of staff, consultation takes too long
- Affordability is a demand and supply issue.
- Last week when the 15% PTT policy rolled out, only 3 homes were sold in Rmd, 1 in Vancouver. But indeed the market has already slowed down gradually the past few weeks. But for people who need to purchase a home to live, now they can take their time instead of rushing it or leaving out the home inspection
- More impact in Rmd and Bby because the housing there has more room for upward growth
- Consultation takes a long time- City needs to balance development and preservation of the history of the community
- With the new PTT, many buyers are observing cautiously instead and refrain from entering the market.
- Given the definition of affordable housing as not more than 30% of income, even if housing price drops, it is likely still be unaffordable
- Eg. A 800 sq. ft apartment unit in Vancouver, each unit requires \$7,600 development fees, amenity and "green" fees- other cities like Bby and Rmd is half of that
- Before new PTT is launched, foreign buyers are blamed for causing the soaring housing price. But now people gain in retrospect that the problem is on City that charges high development fees and permit process is too lengthy, plus a lack of affordable housing supply.

(Ming Pao) PTT Could Disrupt Large Number Of Deals Yet To Close.

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160802/vaa1h_r.htm

- Realtor worried about Domino Effect: complete under 100 transactions on an average Friday, but last Friday dropped to 60-70. Many rather forego the 5% deposit. 4 canceled transactions so far.
- Another realtor said, as developers have lending agreement with banks, developers need to sell 70% of pre-sale units in order to receive the last sum of bank payment to install new appliances. If a large no. of foreign buyers cancel their transactions, projects may be disrupted. Sellers can sue gov't for the policy implemented with short notice. Expect issues will get complicated in the next 1-2 months
- Bob Rennie: new tax won't help affordability, competition still stiff although demand for housing would drop in the short-term

(Ming Pao) Canadian Citizens Living In Hong Kong/ Taiwan Make Use of The Price Drop Opportunity

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160802/vaa3_r.htm

- According to a Chinese realtor, a no. of Canadian Citizens who have moved back to Hong Kong or Taiwan, and are planning to move back to Greater Vancouver may take advantage of the price drop after the new PTT policy and purchase home now.
- One Hong Kong- Canadian who is planning to move back to Vancouver as her son is going to university, is planning to fly here next week to look for a home. Already asked a realtor time to keep an eye for her

(Sing Tao) Cramping Transactions Before New Tax Implemented In Greater Vancouver

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/684492/2016-08-02/post-大溫新稅實施前-房價過幾翻倍/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Wanting Qu Facing Criticism From Chinese Netizens Over Support of Her Mother

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/684413/2016-08-02/post-曲婉婷微博憶母>

[遭網民圍攻/?variant=zh-hk](#)

- Source: <http://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/wanting-qus-vancouver-success-now-a-point-of-criticism-for-chinese-netizens>
- Sing Tao's own report: UBC professor: Chinese citizens think suspects should apologize or feel regret; however, Zhang persisted that she is innocent. This makes them angry. Wanting's comments further inflamed those sentiments

Because so much information on her mom's case in Harbin and the improper sale of a big farm were released to the public in China — admittedly without the same kind of scrutiny we would have in Canada. A lot of public anger at the case. The Chinese public expect either an apology or contrition.”

- While China's current anti-corruption campaign is seen skeptically abroad, Beijing's effort to crack down on municipal and regional officials has been very popular within China, which further explains Chinese netizens' willingness to comment

(Fairchild TV) Arbutus Corridor Removal Finished Ahead Of Schedule

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=ca8f0604222d01681e211a903ea53063>

8.3 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) 4,000 Buyers Forego Deposit As New Tax Implemented. Soon-Immigrants Pay 15% More Expecting Their New Born

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160803/vaa1h_r.htm

- a Chinese realtor said, a young person on Canadian working visa and waiting for Canadian citizenship purchased a 44K home in Richmond prefer to pay the new tax as the deposit costs more. Also his wife is expecting.
- Lawyers and notary public are busy helping foreign buyers transferring properties to their children or friends with Canadian

Citizenship

(Ming Pao) Pre-Sale Active While Market Cools Down. Local Buyers Willing To Take Foreigners' Purchase

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160803/vaa2_r.htm

- A Chinese realtor said, at least 10 local buyers are interested in taking over foreigners' forego properties as long as they are willing to reduce \$10,000 to \$20,000

(Ming Pao) New Tax Hardly Increase Purchasing Power. More Housing Is the Way

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160803/vaa3_r.htm

(Ming Pao) House Sales Drop 75% A Week Since New Tax

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160803/vaa5_r.htm

(Sing Tao) Real Estate Transaction Volume Increase A Few Folds Before New PTT Implemented

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/684492/2016-08-02/post-大溫新PTT實施前-房數過幾翻倍/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Sales Down After One Week. Vancouver West Single Home Volume Drop 80%.

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/686164/2016-08-03/post-宣布後一周銷情淡-溫西獨立屋暴跌9成/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Non-Residential Agricultural Land Exempted From PTT. Province Pay Close Attention To Potential Speculation

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/686226/2016-08-03/post-無住宅農地免ptt-省府注視有否炒賣/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Rental Market Will Have 50% More Units If Airbnb Changed to Long-term

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/686228/2016-08-03/post-airbnb單位若全改長租-溫市租屋市場單位將增5成/?variant=zh-hk>

- Cllr. Meggs: Vancouver is trying to solve the rental housing shortage issue through a no. of initiatives including expanding Laneway house, charge empty home tax and consultation regarding short-term home rental

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) How can the Mayor fulfill his promise to the tent city protesters of building a new social housing project without associated funds?

- Money comes from Province while city takes the credit
- Robertson has been involved a lot in housing issues which is outside city's jurisdiction. This is more a political move to support the New Democrats in the upcoming provincial election
- Not fair to the neighborhood at Hastings 88. City can't just fulfill a request every time when the homeless advocates ask for more social housing
- Robertson has been spending lots of money in building homes for the homeless since he came to office, but the homeless count always stays at around 2,000.

One reason is that homeless from other places keep coming to Vancouver and take advantage of the resources here. City needs a more comprehensive and effective approach

- Two callers said at least the Mayor is doing something and willing to listen to the homeless, while the majority think it is only a political gesture
- City better leaves the homeless issue to the province. Not effective and not fair to Vancouver tax payers to bear all the costs
- City allows the opening of pot dispensaries is contradictory as the availability of pot is a magnet for homeless who often rely on drugs

(Fairchild TV) Robertson Met With Tent City Homeless

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=f014a5a660e277e244ed7659db4e32f9>

- Mayor: promised build 100% social housing with 300 units at Hastings 88. Welfare has been frozen for so many years. Will urge to work with province

8.4 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) New PTT Leads To Transaction Explosion Of Record Breaking 9,200 Cases A Day

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/687979/2016-08-04/post-轉讓□引爆過□潮-一日 9200 宗破紀錄/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Greater Vancouver Volume Of Housing Sales Drop But Value Increase In July

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/687988/2016-08-04/post-大溫七月房銷量跌價升/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Rental Apartment Buyers Are Mostly Canadian Citizens. Low PTT Impact

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/687991/2016-08-04/post-購買出租柏文多國民-轉讓□影響微/?variant=zh-hk>

8.5 (Fri)

n/a

8.6 (Sat)

(Fairchild TV) Hollow Tree Sculpture As Part of Public Art Projects Unveiled At Stanley Park

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

(Sing Tao) PTT Doesn't Help With Housing Supply. Foreign Investors Scapegoated

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/691299/2016-08-06/post-轉讓□無助房屋供應-海外買家成「代罪羔羊」/?variant=zh-hk>

- Sing Tao hosted a forum and invited community leaders and industry representatives to discuss about the impact of PTT. They include former Vancouver City Cllr. George Chow
- In conclusion, they think the new PTT may cool down the real estate market, price adjustment for houses over \$3M may take place, but don't help with housing affordability in the long-run. Province is simply reacting to public opinions and opposition party, and have no intention of tackling the real problem when "scapegoating" foreign buyers who have no voting right. The real solution should be recognizing the demand and supply issue, increase housing supply, speed up City's permit process, and regulate Airbnb
- Lawyer Mr. Chin: 70% population in Greater Vancouver are homeowners, rise of property value is good for them, especially for retirees
- David Choi, "Canada Vancouver Chinese National Coalition": ignore the fact that 85% are local buyers, and no exemptions for buyers who have already signed the contract, damage legal
- George Chow: don't respect contract. Province hasn't addressed the importance of housing, new measures don't reflect the real problems
- Cyrus Lee, BC Chinese Professional Realtors Association: impact local buyers ie. some want to sell their home and help finance new homes for their children

(Sing Tao) Look Out For Potential Racial Discrimination

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/691303/2016-08-06/post-提防潛在種族歧視/?variant=zh-hk>

- David Choi: the Province should make use of the strong economy to effectively enhance capitals from immigrants. Every \$100 foreign

buyers invested in local housing, gov't taxed \$50, so gov't can't ignore their tax contribution while blaming them for speculation. Also, many media reports around housing point to "Chinese Money" but didn't mention whether they are Chinese-Canadians. Such wording that uses skin color to distinguish people has a negative denotation. Although it has not yet reflect hatred, need to pay attention that it's moving towards racism

- George Chow: Although Chinese have settled in Canada for over 100 years, subconsciously still being seen as foreigners
- Mr. Chin: like in the 80's, BC has successfully utilized capital from Hong Kong investors to convert the empty land into the now prosperous Yaletown

8.7 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Province Still Reassured Foreign Investors Months Before Implementing New PTT

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/category/省市/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Vancouver Residents Oppose To Use Tar To Build Temporary Walkway

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=62134

- City: will build a 4-meters-wide temporary walkway before consultation is finalized so people can utilize the greenway asap
- Some residents oppose to this as it damages the scenery there, can cause cyclists and skateboarders speeding

8.8 (Mon)

n/a

8.10 (Wed)

**(Ming Pao) Vancouver Plans To Use Container Swimming Pools
Next Summer. Consider Building Mini Pools**

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160810/vas1h_r.htm

8.14 (Sun)

**(Sing Tao) Greater Vancouver “Working Kings” Salary Close To
\$473M**

[http://vancouver.singtao.ca/699850/2016-08-11/post-大溫市府打工皇帝-
年薪逾4-73億/?variant=zh-hk](http://vancouver.singtao.ca/699850/2016-08-11/post-大溫市府打工皇帝-年薪逾4-73億/?variant=zh-hk)

source: [http://www.richmond-news.com/city-hall/city-hall-wages-top-
120-million-1.2319536](http://www.richmond-news.com/city-hall/city-hall-wages-top-120-million-1.2319536)

- According to Richmond News, in 2015, Vancouver City Hall Staff's total salary sums up to about \$473M, second is Surrey, 362M, Burnaby 153M

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160706/vaa3_r.htm

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- ***This week:***

waterwise challenge

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/665979/2016-07-22/post-溫市府藉小精靈熱潮-推「慳水」網上遊戲/?variant=zh-hk>

<http://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/waterwise-challenge.aspx>

Sun:

- Vancouver has won 10 awards for its work in improving sustainability so far this year:

<http://dailyhive.com/vancouver/vancouver-greenest-city-2020-targets-hit>

Zero waste ideas

<http://bit.ly/2ahwvXA>

8.15 (Mon)

(AM1470) Gregor Robertson: Pressure Province & Feds To Build Affordable Housing

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=62409

- Robertson: City pledges \$50M worth of land to create affordable homes for low to middle income, senior and families next year, including 400 rental units rated between \$750-\$1,400. Will plan with participating developers first, then pressure and wait for funding from two levels of govt.

(AM1470) Vancouver Spent \$50M To Build Rental Units

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=62399

- Robertson: City urgently needs these 400 units

(AM1320) Vancouver Build 400 Affordable Housing Units

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15432%3A400&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Pledges To Build 400 Rental Units In 4 Parcels of Land

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=ad9a866c59fa615f586374a79bfa69f1>

- Rent will be between \$375- \$2,000

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Plans To Build 400 Affordable Homes. \$50M Plan Waiting To Be Assessed

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160816/vas1h_r.htm

8.16 (Tue)

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Chinese Consulate General Criticized On BC's New PTT Policy

- Different angle: Chinese media: difficulty Chinese overseas student face vs. English media: whether Liu Fei should speak on that

- Appropriate if she spoke on behalf of Chinese nationals who suffer because of the changing policy, but because she didn't clarify this, many think it's inappropriate to criticize other country's internal policy
- Re: Liu Fei: govt shouldn't blame on foreign buyers especially Chinese for the soaring housing price. The main issue is a lack of housing, and transportation system, critics said Chinese buyers don't represent all buyers. Local Chinese are not foreign buyers. Believe that it's only a small no.
- Australia has long had policies that protect locals and require foreigners purchase new properties only. The issue with BC is only with its lack of notice

(Ming Pao) Province Responded To Liu Fei's View On PTT Ineffective. BC Has Solutions To Follow

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/tor/htm/News/20160816/tba3_r.htm

8.17 (Wed)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Mayor Expressed Opposition Against the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Plan

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=232f983bd0b0c382d0844f118072f725>

(Sing Tao) Gregor Robertson: Expand Trans Mountain Pipeline Non-sense

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/709627/2016-08-17/post-羅品信擴建橫山油管荒謬/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Chinese Visa Student Planning To Settle But Victimized, Unable To Afford PTT

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/709653/2016-08-17/post-圖置業安居-女華生無力付ptt成受害人/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/property-transfer-tax-chinese-student-1.3719106>

(AM1470) Preliminary Result Seen In Vancouver' s Bike Sharing Program

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15465%3A2016-08-19-21-16-56&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- 3 people use a bike on average. Higher than Seattle' s bike sharing program (user rate under 1 each day), Boston and Washington 3-5 people per day, Taiwan 11.5

8.18 (Thur)

(AM1320) East Wing Of Vancouver City Hall Taken Down

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15465%3A2016-08-19-21-16-56&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

8.19 (Fri)

(AM1470) Concord Pacific Sues City of Vancouver Over Selling False Creek Land

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=62529

8.20 (Sat)

(Fairchild TV) Environmental Groups Oppose To Trans Mountain Pipeline Project With 140,000 Petition Signatures

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d0cbb81ea2db4fa36a4f3321c964099b>

8.21 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Mak Shu Wing Passed Away At The Age of 103 As Volunteerism Model

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/category/社區/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Mak' s Autobiography And Legacies of Work

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/715752/2016-08-21/post-我的生平傳略-麥冬青遺著/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) More Chinatown Property Sold. Concern Group Worried Traditional Stores Lost Due To Gentrification

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160821/vasa_r.htm

- A two-storey-high property at Gore & Keefer was sold at high price, Chinatown Concerned Group worried that low income seniors in Chinatown would lose a social and retail community, and houses there would become increasingly unaffordable
- City planner Karen Hoes: City has a 3-year-plan to combat the loss of culturally unique stores, which is to allow higher buildings in Chinatown to increase living density, and allow developers to build social amenities as an exchange. Also help to protect façade of buildings. However, City can't lend towards any particular ethnic culture or confine certain stores within certain areas; otherwise, will be discriminatory
- Concerned group: City is still able to do something. Like San Francisco's "Legacy Program", protect certain businesses such as Chinese barbecue stores, and relax building limit. Current ones tighter than San Francisco's
- But a high-end cutlery store isn't as pessimistic. Some small Chinese restaurants are planning to re-open on Pender St.

8.22 (Mon)

n/a

8.23 (Tue)

n/a

8.24 (Wed)

n/a

8.25 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Close to Half East Asians Oppose to Marijuana Legalization

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/723214/2016-08-25/post-逾半東亞裔省民反對大麻合法化/?variant=zh-hk>

- 60% British Columbians agree with marijuana legalization, only 46% East Asians support

(Ming Pao) Returned To China A Few Months. Shocked To See Property Awaiting For Renovation Got Torn Down. Sue Separated Husband And City of Vancouver For Negligence

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160825/vaa1h_r.htm

- A Vancouver Chinese lady Jin Fang LI, sued her separated husband Sheng Yun DONG for tearing down her property at Carnarvon 6289. A contractor representing the property owner found an architecture firm that helped them apply for City's permit and torn down the building
- Li: City neglected to notify the actual identity of the property owner which was unfair to her
- Her husband Dong applied for City permit through fraudulent ways

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver On-line Survey On Proposed Revision of Signs Management Bylaw

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160825/vas2_r.htm

(AM1470) Survey: Different Ethnic Groups See Moral Issues Differently

https://www.facebook.com/step30vancouver/about/?entry_point=about_section_header&tab=page_info

8.26 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) “King Of Volunteer” Wayne Mak Funeral On Sept 1

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/725458/2016-08-26/post-義工王麥冬青-喪禮>
[9 月 1 日舉行/?variant=zh-hk](http://vancouver.singtao.ca/725458/2016-08-26/post-義工王麥冬青-喪禮)

(Ding Guo’s View) Xiao Song Talks About Vancouver. BS?

Xiao Song’ s on-line talk show on Vancouver:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FoQD0smKJYo>

<http://estateinfo.ca/20160825/7027.html>

- According to Ding Guo, this talk show is going viral on line. While some on weibo think positively about the Mayor after seeing this on-line talk show in China, critic Ding Guo criticized Xiao Song for lacking the knowledge to talk about politics, and the Mayor’s bike lane expansion, homeless policy and empty home tax policy are not as positive as Xiao Song said

8.27 (Sat)

n/a

8.28 (Sun)

n/a

9.1 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) MP Jenny Kwan And Chinese Community Groups Urged Three Levels of Government To Take Over The Land Besides the Workers Monument To Build Affordable Housing

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160901/vas1hr.htm>

- Chinatown concerned group: Chinatown is losing more and more of its character, and getting gentrified from a community of low income seniors. Some conversation groups already listed Chinatown as an endangered community
- A Chinatown resident: too much changes recently, some items cannot be bought there anymore, the harmonious atmosphere is gone. Main cause is high income population attracted there by the new towers. Protecting Chinatown's characteristics is equally important for Chinese and non-Chinese.
- MP Jenny Kwan: Feb Liberal has promised to introduce new legislation, hope it would include building new social housing. Past abolition of such policy has led to loss of 500,000 affordable housing units
- Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and over 100 Chinatown groups that it represented continue to oppose to the Keefer 105 project

(Sing Tao) Chinatown May Build High Tower. Community Groups Urge Government To Take Over

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/736501/2016-09-01/post-華埠擬建高樓地皮-僑團籲政府收購/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Chinatown Community Group Urge Governments To Take Over Keefer 105 Land

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=62814

- Canadian Chinese Military Museum Former Chair Howe Lee: damage architectural characteristics of Chinatown, hope other buildings that reflect Chinatown characters can be built and promote Chinese history and culture in Canada

(Fairchild TV) A No. Of Chinatown Groups Oppose To Development Plan At Keefer 105

<http://www.fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=922e012726a1c14d3321f51798dda751>

(omni news) Apartment Controversy At Keefer 105

<http://www.omnitv.ca/bc/yue-can/videos/5108928674001/>

- Tower at Keefer 105 doesn't match with the surrounding historical and cultural structures and it is the center of Chinatown
- Chinatown's long-term existence will be jeopardized if losing its cultural and historical characteristics

9.2 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) "King Of Volunteer" Passed Away At Age of 103. Five Hundred People Bid Farewell To Wayne Mak At Funeral

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/738556/2016-09-02/post-義工王享壽 103 入土為安-人瑞麥冬青舉殯-500 人溫市送/?variant=zh-hk>

(omni news) Celebration of Life For Wayne Mak

<http://www.omnitv.ca/bc/yue-can/videos/5110375074001/>

9.3 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Real Estate Optimism May Give Way To Fear Source:

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/vancouver-canada-home-prices-bubble-1.3744304>

9.4 (Sun)

n/a

9.5 (Mon)

N/A

9.6 (Tue)

(AM1470) BC NDP Recruiting Raymond Louie & Kerry Jang To Their Caucus

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=62914

- Horgan: Louie & Jang are hard working and have done numerous good things in the community.
- Jang: haven't decided

(AM1320) NDP Intends To Recruit Two Vancouver City Cllrs To Run For Next Years Election

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15667%3AAndp&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Sing Tao) New Democrats Plans To Send 6 Chinese For Next Year's Provincial Election

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/744916/2016-09-06/post-擬派6華裔明年征省選/?variant=zh-hk>

9.7 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) National Congress of Chinese Canadians (全加華人聯會) Formed Special Committee To Promote Chinatown Preservation

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160907/vasb_r.htm

- Passed motion to further pay attention and participate in policies of 3 levels of gov't, and formed committee that advocates for conserving historical and cultural characteristics of Chinatown in different region

9.8 (Thur)

N/A

9.9 (Fri)

(AM1320) Bike Share Manager Accused of Conflict of Interest

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15697%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1320) City Not Interfere With Pot Dispensary Close To Temporary School

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15699%3A2016-09-09-22-38-32&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Principal of that Christian School that used that temporary location: (total student population 130, operate till 2018 there) most students go to school by car, only a few walked to school, so not concerned
- Vancouver's Chief License Officer: will reconsider enforcement if the dispensary wants to expand or move within that area

(AM1470) Vancouver East Pot Dispensary Within 300 Meters From School

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63001

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Still 54 pot dispensaries operating illegally, City is applying for Injunction. Is the process too slow?

- Both City and VPD are slow. Chief license officer: why city takes the longer and less effective route (injunction) if City claims that they are determined to shut down illegal dispensaries? Police only takes action if involves minors, violence and criminal activities. Never released how many are closed down yet. If close down one dispensary a week, a large no. would have been closed in the past 4 months already
- Question why the Abbotsford and Delta police are so much more effective in closing down the dispensary right away, while VPD is slow to action and set out boundaries for their enforcement
- City doesn't show real determination and sincerity to solve the problem

- City should set a maximum limit of how many dispensaries are allowed in the City. Based on the no. already got the license and those applying, Vancouver may have at least 50. Doubt why Vancouver needs so many
- A few callers said they are suspicious if the Mayor has reached any agreements with the marijuana stakeholders. The host clarified that there is no evidence to show that
- Interestingly, two callers recommended the host to send a recording of the phone-in show to the Mayor as they think the Mayor doesn't understand their concerns. The host and critic both mention that City has someone listening to their show and sometimes responded the questions they raised.

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Consult Public On Liquor Regulation

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=62997

- Informational

(AM1470) First Think Tank Formed By Chinese. Exclusive Interview With The Grizzly Bear Institute of Canada

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63016

- Many think tanks in Canada have apparent political leaning, ie. Fraser Institute is right-leaning, Canadian Policy For Alternative is left. The Grizzly Bear Institute of Canada doesn't involve politics, purely exchange on trade and culture between Canada and China. Will invite scholars from China to forum in Canada

(AM1470) Parents Of Vancouver East Secondary Miss Their Schools As They Face School Closure

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63003

9.10 (Sat)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver's Chinese Consulate Held Event To Celebrate China's 67th Founding Anniversary

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=0d8de407709900f85e7f5a4c211adbdb8>

- Story ended with Mayor Robertson' s greeting in Mandarin- people appreciate his effort in greeting the Chinese community in Chinese, and this continues to be seen a friendly gesture

9.11 (Sun)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Refuses To Clean Up Drug Apparatus

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63040

(AM1470) Gregor Robertson Will Take New Measures To Tackle Housing Problems

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63051

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Consults Public On Renewing Robson St.

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63053

9.12 (Mon)

(Ming Pao) City 2 Ways To Tackle Rental Housing Shortage: Empty Home Tax And Regulate Air BnB

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160912/vas3_r.htm

- 50% Vancouver residents rent their homes hope all levels of govt step in to help. Vancouver is continuously looking for solutions ie. empty home tax, regulate Airbnb

(AM1470) Parents Petition With Over 10,000 Signatures To VSB Not To "Kill Schools"

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63071

9.13 (Tue)

n/a

9.14 (Wed)

(AM1470) Vancouver May Implement Empty Home Tax Next Year

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63120

(AM1320) Gregor Robertson Announced To Implement Empty Home Tax

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15762%3A2016-09-14-20-55-48&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- informational

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Empty Home Tax

- sends a message that investment is wrong, like communist mentality while govt shifts the blame of rental housing shortage to landlords
- Asians' mentality is working hard to owe a home, not asking govt for help
- Not fair to landlord, legal right to possess a property, not state-owned.
- A caller said he feels helpless and unfair as he has a second property that he wants to sell but not able to for over a year, also try renting it out but nobody is interested
- simply a political gesture, inefficient. The projected \$2M revenue resulted from the new tax may not even be able to cover the admin cost. Expect not a lot of properties would meet that taxable category

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver May Charge Empty Home Tax Next Year

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=433d9cb8f9bb7b8623c18045a1c75c18>

- Fed's Canada Housing & Mortgage, Jean-Yves Duclos: glad that city and organization sharing same concerns and doing something
- Mostly informational

(Fairchild TV) Westside Real Estate Owned By Students

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=ff3720b7127fdd214b1a9ff3828fcd16>

- David Eby: 9 titles identified total valued \$57.1M, 70% of value supported by mortgage. One re-sell in a year. Need to review how widespread the issue of banks issuing mortgage to people who have no apparent source of income

(AM1470) Green City Cllr: Empty Home Tax Should Exceed 2%

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63132

9.15 (Thur)

(AM1470 Talk Show) Empty Home Tax

- Question about its effectiveness and may not even cover the admin cost, more a political gesture as over 50% of Vancouver residents are renters
- Not the first time that the Vancouver City Council under Robertson made a decision before doing public consultation

(Ming Pao) Chinatown New Dragon Street Lamps Welcome Mid-Autumn Festival

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160915/vasa_r.htm

- Mayor Robertson: glad to see the completion and renewal of this art work created with joint efforts over 30 years ago, now even with LED light bulbs. A very important investment in Chinatown, City staff and City cllrs have put in a lot of efforts. Like the lamps especially when he was born in the year of dragon
- Chinatown Merchants Association: facing funding shortage as some Chinese merchants moved out of Chinatown. Through last night's fund raising dinner, also proactively inviting some new Caucasian merchants to join their association

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Implement Canada's First "Empty Home Tax". Public Consultation On Tax Rate Within 0.5% to 2%

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160915/vaba_r.htm

- Canada's first ever empty home tax, targeting people who speculate-homes vacant for entire year, non-principal residence and rental homes
- Mayor: will make ensure "astronaut families" or people who work overseas won't be affected,
- If a property isn't occupied by a month within a year, whether it would be categorized as "vacant", City community service general manager Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas can't provide an exact answer, but said City hopes to convert as many empty homes into rental units as possible

(Ming Pao) Empty Home Tax Can Help Tract Overseas Tax Evasion. Scholars Worried Too Many Loopholes In Exemptions

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160915/vabb_r.htm

- Some scholars praises the policy for helping CRA track whether landlords has any overseas tax evasion, making speculations difficult
- UBS Business professor: work like Home owner's Grant,
- UBC Real Estate Professor: empty home tax won't help rental shortage, need more measures. Some may still be willing to pay, so win-win situation
- Realtor: compared to PTT, impact is small. Most investors rent out their properties

(Sing Tao) Vancouver May Implement Maximum 2% Empty Home Tax Next Year

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/761381/2016-09-15/post-溫擬明年開徵-最高2空置稅/?variant=zh-hk>

- Mayor Robertson: empty home tax isn't a magic bullet, can't solve all rental market problems but can be a starting point.
- The question about who can be exempted will be discussed at city council next week and also public consultation

(Sing Tao) Responsibility of Rental Home Supply Shifted To Private Property Owners

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/761426/2016-09-15/post-增房屋供應責任-推了給私人業主/?variant=zh-hk>

- Critic: political move. Many don't want to rent out their properties because the current act leans towards tenants, violate Canadian Constitutions. Rental home supply should be govt's responsibility, but now shift to private property owners. Communist govt won't even do this nowadays.
- Dubious with the effectiveness, rental market is a complex issue. Real solution should be increasing rental housing stock ie. provide tax incentives for developers and lower development fees for building rental housing

(Sing Tao) One of the Oldest Chinese Schools in Chinatown Re-open This Fall With Practical Cantonese Lessons

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/761141/2016-09-15/post-推廣應用廣府話-文彊學校今秋重開/?variant=zh-hk>

- Mon Keang School, a Cantonese Saturday School located at the Wong's association, organized by the Youth Collaborative For Chinatown
- Huang: City's focus is on repairing structures, but non-material legacy is also very important such as picture and documents that show the development and history of Canadian Chinese community, as well as Cantonese and its culture that are closely related to daily life of Chinatown residents in the old times

9.16 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) Gregor Robertson Demo Buying Magazine With App To Help Vendors

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160916/vasa_r.htm

9.17 (Sat)

(Ming Pao) Mayor's Council Agree Raising Property Tax. Pass First Stage TransLink Financing. Transit Fares Increase Each Year In Next 3 Years

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160917/vap1h_r.htm

(Fairchild TV) Mayor's Council Passed First Stage Financing

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d56aaddcafb45e8a8e01b5a76e4b2e0f>

- Mayor Robertson: Reasonable compromise. Small increase relative to the opportunity, a catalyst piece to get the ten year project in motion
- Mayor Corrigan: affect housing affordability, can't keep adding charges
- Unifor: happy to see it, but province should quit playing games
- Premier: already supported about \$200M of the project

(Sing Tao) Increase Property Tax Transit Fares Next Year. Raise Funds for TransLink Capital Fund

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/764287/2016-09-17/post-明年加物業□車費-籌措運聯基建資金/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Chinese Real Estate Buyers Switched To Seattle, Toronto

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/764306/2016-09-17/post-「中國房屋買家轉向西雅圖多倫多」/?variant=zh-hk>

- source: <http://www.juwai.com/news/192440.htm>
- juwai.com provides purchasing services for buyers in China, and real estate news and info for 50 countries in the world. Compared to last year, inquiry of investors from Mainland China on Vancouver real estate has dropped 81% in Aug, whereas Seattle increased by 143%

- According to a consultant of juwai.com, Seattle has similar living standard yet housing a lot less expensive than Vancouver, and has already become Chinese investors' most inquired city in North America
- Signs already show that foreign buyers have switched their interest from Vancouver to Seattle and Toronto, especially the high end single homes. The trend will be even stronger in the fall

9.18 (Sun)

n/a

9.19 (Mon)

n/a

9.20 (Tue)

(AM1470) Empty Home Tax Would Include Airbnb Rental Units

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63259

- Cllr. Affleck: the new tax is a nightmare of bureaucracy
- Cllr. Ball: seniors who live by themselves may refused to move to senior homes as they don' t their home be taxed
- Mayor Robertson: residents shouldn' t worry. The tax will work in a similar way as filing income tax through voluntary system with random checking

(AM1470) City will hold public consultation on Empty Home Tax This Fall

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63257

- DeGenova: oppose to Empty home tax. City should encourage ppl to rent, not to punish
- Mayor: the suggestion is well supported by residents

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Passed the Empty Home Tax Motion

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15842%3A2016-09-20-23-38-23&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

9.21 (Wed)

n/a

9.22 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Launches New Start Strategy To Settle Immigrants And Refugees

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/772806/2016-09-22/post-溫市推新開始策略-安頓移民和難民/?variant=zh-hk>

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Discusses About Implementing Living Wage Program

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=36d6a670240681fbbf69cbba0c9065ce>

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Passes Living Wage Suggestion

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15855%3A2016-09-22-22-57-48&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Hall Showcases 3 Pieces of Art Works That Reflect First Nations' Daily Life

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=b0a9a7c2f22037c4a5e3e8c08a34cf0c>

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Passed To Completely Stop Using Natural Gas By 2050

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15862%3A2050&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Renewable city strategy.
- Canadian Taxpayers Coalition: lack of thorough evaluation. Will lead to huge increase in fuel cost for hospitals, schools and buses, and it will be transferred to taxpayers eventually

9.23 (Fri)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver Will Stop Using Natural Gas By 2050

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

- Cllr. Reimers: goal is new buildings built after 2030, and buildings built at 2015 or 2016 will still be standing by then
- Canadian Taxpayers Association: \$3.5M more for schools
- Restaurant Owner: govt shouldn't force business owners to give up on natural gas right away and increase cost, should be a gradual process and best with subsidy.

9.24 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver City Council Passed Living Wage Motion

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/774717/2016-09-23/post-溫市通過市府人員-基本生活時薪 20-64 元/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1320 Talk Show) Empty Homes Tax was Mentioned

- Communist mentality and unreasonable. People have the right to manage their belongings in whatever ways they want. Would be equally unfair if empty suites or extra vehicles are taxed
- Now most snowbirds are from US or the East. What if the snowbirds are from Asia?
- A form of discrimination against wealthy people who own more than one property

(Sing Tao) Greater Vancouver Housing Unaffordable A Policy Issue

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/777620/2016-09-25/post-大溫房屋難負擔-屬於政策問題/?variant=zh-hk>

- Sing Tao held a forum with UBC on Sat, called "Real Estate Changes Under Immigration: Echoes 30 Years Before And After". Also one English forum held last Friday
- Some forum speakers said, current affordability issue is a housing policy issue but not related to immigrants. The reaction is similar to 30 years ago when immigrants from Hong Kong were attacked for the rising housing cost. When Chinese are involved in the controversy about real estate investment, should strengthen communication with other ethnic groups`

- Media seldom reports on the “happy stories” about how people who sell their homes for a good price and retire
- Many wealthy property owners in Greater Vancouver don’t have to work, so only using data of people’s average income can hardly find out the problem for housing affordability

9.25 (Sun)

n/a

9.26 (Mon)

n/a

9.27 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver’s Chinese Benevolent Association 110th
Anniversary Celebration

[http://vancouver.singtao.ca/781105/2016-09-27/post-溫哥華中華會館
110 周年慶/?variant=zh-hk](http://vancouver.singtao.ca/781105/2016-09-27/post-溫哥華中華會館110周年慶/?variant=zh-hk)

(Ming Pao) Thousand People Celebrated CBA’s 110th Anniversary.
Canton’s “Silkway” Music Group Enchanting Performance

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160927/vas1h_r.htm

9.28 (Wed)

N/A

9.29 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Mayor Robertson Clarifies No Intension To Ban Natural Gas in Vancouver

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/784649/2016-09-29/post-羅品信澄清-溫市無意禁用天然氣/?variant=zh-hk>

9.30 (Fri)

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Hall Celebrate PRC National Day

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=619c0570b1c04cd3426085a383cafb62>

- Cllr. Jang: acknowledged members of the Chinese community made to the city

10.1 (Sat)

(AM1320) Worksafe BC Investigates VSB

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15942%3Aabc&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Lombardi: first time heard such accusation, he and other school trustees won't resign
- Document shows that the working environment at VSB continually creates fear, and lack of awareness for safety, asking the province to step in

(AM1470) Vancouver School Board Accused Of Bullying

- http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63547

(Sing Tao) Province's Work Safe Investigates On Vancouver School Trustees Bully Superintendent

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/788302/2016-10-01/post-溫爆學委欺凌督學-省工作安全局徹□/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) VSB Workplace Bully Harassment Complaint Filed By Senior Admin Staff

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161001/vasa.htm?m=0>

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver Raised PRC Flag Celebrate Chinese National Day. Chinese Consulate General Witnessed Historical Moments

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161001/vas1h.htm>

10.2 (Sun)

N/A

10.3 (Mon)

(AM1470) Kerry Jang: People Who Asked Him To Stand Down Is Out Of Discrimination

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63569

- Cllr. Jang: recently there is an online petition asking him to step down, it's out of racial discrimination.
- City Hall is responding to community's request to raise a foreign flag and allow people to celebration their national day overseas, it's very normal. At the same location, a Mexican flag have been raised as well. That flag pole is used to celebrate Vancouver's multiculturalism.

(AM1320) China Flag Raising At Vancouver City Hall Controversial

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15963%3A2016-10-03-23-00-13&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Most people attended the event wear red scarves. A group requested the Acting Mayor Kerry Jang to apologize and resign for wearing the practice of wearing red scarf
- Cllr. Jang: the accusation is out of racial discrimination. City can raise flags of other countries. No time to respond to unreasonable accusations

- According to the on-line petition, some said City's practice is not acceptable and betray Vancouver, and oppose to wearing the red scarf which is a symbol of Communism. This group has protested earlier against local groups celebrating China's late President Mao.

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Explained Why Raising China's Flag

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15959%3A2016-10-03-22-56-01&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- The pole at the north side of City Hall has raised flags of many countries, and it doesn't represent support of that country. It won't replace the Canadian flag as it is on top of the City Hall building
- The event is initiated and applied by the Canadian Alliance of Chinese Association, who also decided how to promote the event and the contact the media. Any organization can apply to raise a flag

(AM1470) City Responds To PRC Flag Raising Controversy

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63597

- Additional point: under permission of the Premier, City Hall has always responded to community's requests to raise flags on their national day. The community group is responsible for the organization of the celebration, City Hall only provides the venue.

(westca.com) City of Vancouver Wear Red Scarves Raise Chinese Flag Controversial

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=521355/温哥华市政厅升中国国旗惹争议/lang=schinese.html>

- Over 500 people left comments. Opinions vary. Most question why necessary to raise a flag, some said not appropriate to wear the red scarves and it is too condensending to the Chinese gov't. One sympathized that City Hall being "tricked" into this.

(westca.com) Vancouver's Chinese Acting Mayor Wear And Raise The Flag. People Are Emotional

<http://www.westca.com/News/article/sid=521507/lang=schinese.html>

(*HK media: Stand News) Vancouver City Hall Raises PRC Flag. City Cllr. Wear Red Scarf Associated With Cultural Revolution Controversial

[tps://www.thestandnews.com/international/](https://www.thestandnews.com/international/)溫哥華市政廳十一掛五星旗-市議員繫紅領巾-引文革聯想惹爭議/

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Reinterates Restaurants Can Use Natural Gas. Chinese Food Industry Worried The Ban Would Affect Their Cooking

[https://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160928/vas1h_r.h](https://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160928/vas1h_r.htm)
tm

10.4 (Tue- More)

(Fairchild TV) VSB Passed Motion To Postpone Closing 11 Schools Next July

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=676a5420f160ad3e229d508cd3aefb1f>

- Lombardi: we take allegations seriously and will also do investigations on our part

(Fairchild TV) PRC Flag Raising Ceremony At City of Vancouver

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=b55cbaf159d9406f1ad739e1abc8257f>

- Critic: too high profile and grand, may cause negative response from the Mainstream and damages multiculturalism in reverse
- Cllr. Louie: shows inclusiveness, tolerance. Many other countries have raised their flag before.

(AM1320) Suncor Donated \$9.5M Worth of Land to City of Vancouver

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15983%3Asuncor950&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Cllr. Affleck: Vision-led City Council thought oil and pipeline companies have no values in Vancouver. Accepting this offer is hypocritical

10.5 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) VSB Chaos. Province Not Ruling Out Firing School Trustees

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/794632/2016-10-05/post-溫教局亂作一團-省府不排除炒學委/?variant=zh-hk>

- Informational

(Ming Pao) Education Minister: Not Rule Out Replacing Trustees. VSB Postpone School Closure, Bullying Controversy Continues

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161005/vas1h r.htm>

- Lombardi: postpone school closure has nothing to do with the bullying accusation

- Bernier: kept shaking his head at VSB after hearing the accusation, upset that VSB hasn't made any decision on a lot of important issues. Seriously considering whether to replace the board, but will wait till the result of WCB's investigation

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) VSB Bully Accusation

- Critics: superintendent and the admin staff are the experienced people in VSB, while Trustees are elected and may only have experience as long as a term lasts. Also, very unusual for the senior admin staff to take sick leaves like this. All know that the VSB School Trustees don't want to balance the budget, which is against the Province's requirement and what the admin team is working towards. VSB is the only school district with this issue in BC. Based on this and even without knowing the inside stories, more likely that the School Trustees are at fault
- Whether this constitutes bullying? One critic said, not credible as the senior managerial staff are more experienced than the Trustees. The guest critic, Sophia Woo, who was an NPA Trustee said, had witnessed both Vision and NPA trustees belittling the senior admin staff in public. But the other critic argued that cannot be categorized as bullying
- Woo: Trustees voted to postpone the school closure plan in order to take people's attention away from the bullying accusation
- One caller said she supports the Trustees without explaining why. Most callers

(AM1470 Talk Show) VSB Bully Accusation

- VSB needs to postpone school closure plan because they need to rely on senior staff's help yet so many of them are taking sick leaves

(Fairchild TV) Education Minister Considering Whether To Replace VSB
<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d47f862879f48e26415ecdb4273f4774>

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Discussing Regulation Airbnb Through Licensing

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

- Mayor Robertson: short-term rental has impact on hotel industry who needs to pay tax. Unregulated and not a fair playing field
- Cllr. Meggs: expect half and hundreds, most rental at downtown and west end, can help improve vacancy rate significantly
- Cllr. De Genova: just passed empty home tax, now more housing policy, with limited no. of enforcement officer, not sure how to track people down, question how effective
- Cllr. Affleck: Real solution is to simplify bureaucracy and development process. Taxation is out of control under this govt

10.6 (Thur)

(Ming Pao) VPL Signed Agreement With LAC. Help Research For Historical Archives

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161006/vas2_r.htm

(Sing Tao) Joe Peschisolido Regrets Wearing Red Scarf At PRC Flag Raising Ceremony

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/796491/2016-10-06/post-升中國旗禮上繫紅領巾-蘇立道遺憾/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://www.richmond-news.com/news/peschisolido-regrets-wearing-communist-scarf-at-china-flag-raising-1.2358643>

(AM1470) VSB Financial Audit Second Time Postponed

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63675

(AM1470) 250 Social Housing Units Will Be Built In Vancouver East

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63672

(AM1320) Vancouver's PRC Flag Raising Controversy Continues

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15993%3A2016-10-06-19-10-27&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) Protest Requesting Kerry Jang To Step Down

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63660

(Fairchild TV) Controversy On PRC Flag Raising Ceremony Hosted By Vancouver City Cllr. Jang Continues

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=867b28af28629f14bcc0aa513c835fbb>

(Fairchild TV) VSB's Special Audit Postponed Again

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=fd37bf43895111c28b572a5ce87545f>

(AM1320) Airbnb Asks City Not To Ban Secondary Suite Rental

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16017%3Airbnb&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

10.7 (Fri)

(Ming Pao) \$7M Build 250 Social Housing Units With Medial Facility At Downtown Eastside

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161007/vas1h r.htm>

- Vancouver Chinatown Foundation: Chinatown is connected to DTE and impact each other. Chinatown would benefit as situation in DTE improves
- Responding to still lot of people setting up tent in the parcel of empty land there, Mayor Robertson: City has no plans to apply for injunction, but will send city staff to persuade them to move to shelters as the condition there gets worse

(Ming Pao) Meena Wong Leads Public To Submit Petition Letter Requesting Kerry Jang To Apologize And Resign.

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161007/vas2_r.htm

(Sing Tao) Province Extend 2 More Weeks For VSB Financial Audit

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/798511/2016-10-07/post-溫教局財務審計-省府允再延兩周/?variant=zh-hk>

- VSB is the only one among the 60 school boards in BC that couldn't deliver a balanced budget, as more senior staff took sick leaves lately, and VSB voted to stop the consultation on school closures, province needs to extend the audit so that they can have more detailed info to make the decision

(Sing Tao) 4 Groups Protested At Vancouver City Hall Calling Kerry Jang To Resign

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/798318/2016-10-07/post-4 團體溫市府集會-要求鄭文宇辭職/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Jang: Understand Meaning of Red Scarf. Didn't Refuse. Fear Diplomatic Problems

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/798322/2016-10-07/post-鄭：了解紅領巾意思-怕掀外交風波沒拒戴/?variant=zh-hk>

- Cllr. Jang: clarifies English media misinterpreted what he said about "people who criticized hates all Chinese". He actually means, it is racial discrimination when people blamed Chinese "for buying lots of houses, take away jobs and university admission"
- Why didn't refused to wear the red scarf, Jang said, ceremony already started, Chinese Consulate General and all other guests were wearing the red scarves and someone put it on him. He has no choice. If rejected it, may cause diplomatic problems and bring the Canadian govt in difficult situation."
- Raising the flag himself doesn't violate Fed and City policy
- Substitute for Cllr. Deal as she was sick.

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Building Permit Increased 15% Each Month

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/798443/2016-10-07/post-溫建築許可總額按月升 15/?variant=zh-hk>

10.8 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Province Investigates VSB Finance. School Trustees Worry Releasing Parents' Privacy

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/800060/2016-10-08/post-省府溫教育局財務-學委憂泄家長私隱/?variant=zh-hk>

- Patti Bacchus: special investigator appointed by Province can obtain VSB's "confidential info" including emails sent by parents to trustees. Worried some may obtain those emails and breach privacy without consent of parents.
- Province said, the investigator would abide to BC's Privacy Act.
- About accusation against school trustees bullying superintendent, Bacchus: only very few people knows the content. VSB, VSB Chair and acting superintendent never received the complaint

(Sing Tao) PRC Flag Raising Ceremony Leads To Protest. City of Vancouver May Consider Review Policy

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/800113/2016-10-08/post-升中國旗招抗議-溫市府考慮或改政策/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://vancouver.sun.com/news/local-news/city-of-vancouver-to-review-policy-after-chinese-flag-flap>

10.9 (Sun)

N/A

10.10 (Mon)

N/A

10.11 (Tue)

N/A

10.12 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Ranked North America's Most Sustainable City

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/806414/2016-10-12/post-溫哥華膺北美最可持續城市/?variant=zh-hk>

- International Consultant Company Arcadis' report: Based on its strong employment market, balance between work and entertainment, Vancouver ranks North America's No.1 Most Sustainable City, and 23rd globally. Vancouver has the highest mark globally on air quality, also positive in transit infrastructure

10.13 (Thur)

N/A

10.14 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Chinatown Square Parking Lot Renovation Attracted More People

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/810244/2016-10-14/post-華埠廣場連停車場-大翻新吸引人流/?variant=zh-hk>

- Easypark parkade worked with City of Vancouver to repair and renew the 20-year-old, three-sided clock at Chinatown Square
- Sounds like a commercial article that promotes EasyPark though, as it used two paragraphs talking about things EasyPark does ie. support community events and the Vancouver's first parkade that provided electric car charging stations

(Sing Tao) Safe Injection Site For Women Permitted By VCH

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/810252/2016-10-14/post-女性專用毒品注射屋-獲溫沿岸衛生局批准/?variant=zh-hk>

- City of Vancouver said in press release, this is about service provided by a personal organization and it's not the type of safe injection site that requires Fed's permission. If it's set up at DTE, the location can decide it themselves, not related to City.

(AM1320) Organization Opened Safe Injection Site In Vancouver

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16081%3A2016-10-14-18-16-07&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Temporary safe injection site at Main & Hastings opened by Market Society
- Cllr. Reimer: City hasn't shown support or opposition to it, but City is more inclined to support safe injection site with medical staff, which is better than letting drug users taking drugs alone, and this can reduce deaths by overdose
- City asked drug users to use safe injection site operated by VCH as there are medical staff there
- Mayor Robertson requested Health Canada to support and speed up application for more safe injection sites

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's Second Hand Housing Increased 24% Top the Country

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/810182/2016-10-14/post-溫二手房價按年漲 24 冠全國/?variant=zh-hk>

- Teranet Home Price Index: Vancouver's housing price increase by 0.2% from Aug to Sept, no drop for 21months continuously

(Ming Pao) 10 Year Transit Plan Consultation. TransLink Likely Increase Property Tax For Financing

[http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161014/va
sb_r.htm](http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161014/va
sb_r.htm)

- Mayor Robertson and TransLink CEO Kevin Desmond: now is best timing to implement, haven't heard any opposition against property tax increase
- Robertson: still have to consult two levels of gov't for 2nd stage funding source, negotiation work in the next few weeks very critical

(Sing Tao) TransLink Urged Two Levels of Govt Invested In Greater Vancouver's 10 Year Transit Infrastructure

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/810172/2016-10-14/post-運聯促請兩級政府-注資大溫十年運輸基建/?variant=zh-hk>

(Fairchild TV) TransLink Suggested Regional Development Surcharge, Criticized For Adding Burden To Developers

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

- "Urban Development Institute": be cautious this won't increase housing building cost, must have a clear corresponding rezoning plan
- Canadian Taxpayers Coalition: will make housing more unaffordable, should find other ways to cut costs ie. municipalities streamline the development process
- Cllr. Carr: development surcharge for city is already insufficient to cover the current needs, TransLink's proposed surcharge would in some ways take away City's resources

10.16 (Sun)

10.17 (Mon)

(Sing Tao)

[http://vancouver.singtao.ca/815016/2016-10-17/post-溫教局預算案爭
拗-可望今晚落幕/?variant=zh-hk](http://vancouver.singtao.ca/815016/2016-10-17/post-溫教局預算案爭拗-可望今晚落幕/?variant=zh-hk)

(Ming Pao) **溫教局或破僵局 今票決平衡預算**

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161017/vas2 r.htm>

(AM1470) **溫學務委員指責省府尊橫及政治決定**

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63933

四名偉景溫哥華學務委員包括Mike Lombardi、Patti Bacchus、Joy Alexander 以及黃偉倫，下午回應教育廳長貝尼爾今早突然宣布辭退全體學務委員事件。

委員會主席Mike Lombardi 一開始就指責省府決定尊橫，是政治的決定，將民選的委員會解散。他指出，溫哥華的家長應該感到憂慮，因為教育局現時由省府掌政。

Patti Bacchus亦指責省府，在校舍防震提升入學規定的政策把持不定，調□專員又要求交出私隱資料協助調□，令教育局職員難做。對於教育廳在教育局即將通過一份平衡預算之際作此決定，她質疑省府的企圖。

Bacchus 又□，調□專員 Peter Milburn 的審核工作一次又一次推延，是因為沒有實質的問題能□找到，又指從來無人向她報告有欺凌事件發生，她亦沒親眼目睹相關的事件，她認為指控並無理據。

(AM1470) **貝尼爾宣布解散溫教育局學務委員**

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63929

溫哥華校區兩名主要職員早前以健康理由離職，被指受到溫哥

華教育局的欺凌和騷擾事件有新發展。教育廳長貝尼爾今早突然宣布，將溫哥華教育局的學務委員解散，並委任三角洲前督學Dianne Turner 為學務委員，任期一年。

本月初，溫哥華督學Scott Robinson與財政秘書Russell Horswill相繼以健康理由離職，有指事件涉及溫哥華教育局欺凌問題，教育廳其後指派別調員Peter Milburn，就有關指控進行調查，並提交有關教育局財政短缺審核，相關調查於上星期六已向教育廳長貝尼爾提交。

貝尼爾經審閱調查報告後，今早宣布決定解散溫哥華教育局學務委員會，對於選擇在教育局今晚就財政短缺進行表決前辭退學務委員。貝尼爾表示，學務委員會應該在6月30日提交平衡預算，另外明顯在這段時間亦沒有意願作出改善，因此需要作此決定。

貝尼爾強調，有關決定已經過仔細考慮，而今日的決定，是希望平定溫哥華教育局的內部問題，同時為穩定各家長及學生的情緒。

貝尼爾又重申，有關欺凌的投訴，BC 工作安全局仍在調查當中。

(AM1470) 中國商人:海外買家調查影響投資意欲

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63926

中國一名計畫在加拿大投資的地產富商表示，他的客戶對BC省政府在大溫地區徵收海外買家稅，感到困擾。

建業地產股份有限公司創辦人胡葆森表示，一些來自中國的投資者向他講，大溫地區八月份開始，向海外買家徵收百分之十五額外物業轉讓稅之後，他們投資大溫樓市的意欲降低。

胡葆森是今個禮拜，中國企業家俱樂部訪加代表團的成員之一。他表示，中國買家現在傾向在多倫多、滿地可，甚至美國、澳洲同英國等英語地區，尋找投資機會。

胡葆森接受《加新社》訪問時表示，明白BC省政府希望穩定溫

哥華的樓市，但是他期望省政府能□改變海外買家□政策。他表示，計畫明日訪問渥太華，同總理杜魯多會面期間，討論這個問題。

胡葆森計畫未來兩三年，協助中國買家在加拿大投資物業，當中以住宅為主，投資額超過一億。他話，海外買家□不會影響他的計畫。

(AM1470) 溫市諮詢會征集空屋□意見

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63911

溫市政府現正收集有關空屋□的公眾意見，市民可在**18**日前填寫網絡問卷，市府亦舉辦兩場公眾□詢會，現場有職員收集市民意見。

昨日舉行的第一場活動約有**200**名市民參與，第二場活動將於明日在**Oakridge Mall**□舉辦。

溫市議會 **6** 月通過動議，令職員研究市府推出空屋□的詳細計劃，並在 **7** 月獲得省府授權，市府現正就此議題進行公眾□詢，市議會預計在 **11** 月收到職員報告後作最終決定。

(AM1320) 省教育廳解散溫哥華教育局

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16107%3A2016-10-17-19-49-23&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

省教育廳長**MIKE BERNIER** 早上公布解散溫哥華教育局，委任三角州市前督學接管教育委員的工作，**BERNIER**表示因為對教育局沒有信心。

省教育廳長**Mike Bernier** 表示，解散溫哥華教育局是因為教育局未能在今年**6月30**日前提交平衡預算，宣布委任三角州市前督學**Diana Turner**出任臨時教育委員，接管教育局的工作，**BERNIER**表示，因為對溫哥華教育局沒有信心，又指雖然教育

10.16 (Sun)

N/A

10.17 (Mon)

(Sing Tao) VSB Budget “Dispute” Expected To Be Over Tonight

[http://vancouver.singtao.ca/815016/2016-10-17/post-溫教局預算案爭
拗-可望今晚落幕/?variant=zh-hk](http://vancouver.singtao.ca/815016/2016-10-17/post-溫教局預算案爭拗-可望今晚落幕/?variant=zh-hk)

(Ming Pao) VSB Deadlock May Be Resolved Depending On Balanced
Budget Vote

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161017/vas2_r.htm

(AM1470) Vancouver School Trustees Slammed Province Outrageous And
Politically-motivated

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63933

(AM1470) Bernier Announced Dismissal of VSB Trustees

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63929

(AM1470) Chinese Merchants: Foreign Buyers Tax Affect Their
Investment Appetite

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63926

- Some wealthy investors from China are losing interest to invest in BC's real estate since the new PPT. They are now turning to Toronto, Montreal, even other English-speaking countries like US, Australia, UK

(AM1470) Vancouver Consult Opinions On Empty Home Tax

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63911

- informational

(AM1320) Province Dismissed VSB

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16107%3A2016-10-17-19-49-23&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Bernier: audit makes him worry about VSB even more but need to remain confidential till report is done
- Lombardi: VSB's current problem is caused by Province's cut in the past 10 years, school closure and selling school properties
- When asked why only Vancouver couldn't balance budget, Lombardi: each school district face different problems. VSB could balance budget previously but not this year as they didn't want to cut expenses, so voted down the budget in April
- Why can balance budget without closing schools in April? Lombardi: to meet Province's seismic upgrade requirement and with efforts made by parents and school staff
- Will Vision Education board sue province or come back in next election? Lombardi: will continue to speak for Vancouver's school system, and would challenge Christy Clark in next year's election

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Would Dissolving VSB Affect Vancouver's Education?

- Former Vancouver School Trustee Sophia Wu & Former Richmond School Trustee Grace Tsang basically shared the same view: suspicious that the audit probably shows that the current VSB won't be able to work in the interest of the school district, so fired the board before the vote tonight. Wondered though how the substitute can handle so much work. Tsang said she has worked with Superintendent Scott Robertson who has superb working attitude, unusual that he takes sick leave
- Not too many callers, but most are upset that VSB is playing politics, parents and students suffered the most from this
- A caller said very upset with the senior staff taking sick leaves and sacrificing students' benefits
- Another caller: shouldn't dissolve the board. The sick leaves are not reasonable. Province doesn't provide enough funding and education quality has dropped

10.18 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Entire VSB 9 Trustees Dismissed By Province

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/816809/2016-10-18/post-溫教育局9學委-遭省府全體免職/?variant=zh-hk>

- Mike Bernier: witnessed VSB still focus on political strategy but not the managing responsibility. Don't have confidence that VSB would change their mind in the last minute
- Mike Lombardi: province's act is barbaric, and political interference. Parents should be worried now because the province is now in control of the board
- Allan Wong: although the province has the power to dismiss the board, not acceptable to ignore public opinion
- Mayor Robertson: don't think dismissing VSB respects Vancouver's voters. To meet voters' expectation, school system must be open. Obviously Province hasn't put students' welfare on the top of the list

(Sing Tao) Give Up Political Power Struggle And Ensure Good Learning Environment

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/816813/2016-10-18/post-棄政治鬥爭-確保學習環境/?variant=zh-hk>

- Some parents are worried and disappointed with the dismissal. Too extreme, not helpful to solve the problem
- "Parents' Heart Society": not surprised with the Province's action. VSB has been adding unhealthy activities into school system. ie. since transgender policy passed in 2014, a large no. of students sent their children to private school or schools in China. VSB should ensure a healthy and safe learning environment, and enhance its academic qualities, so that more students would return to public school system. As student no. increases, province would give out more funding according to the student ratio.
- A parent who has transferred his children to private school: support Province's decision, hope Vision trustees can give up on the

political power struggle and work towards building a healthy and safe learning environment for students

(Sing Tao) NDP: Province Blamed VSB For Their Wrong Policy

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/816819/2016-10-18/post-ndp:省府把錯誤政策歸咎 vsb/?variant=zh-hk>

- John Horgan: Christy Clark brings more chaos to students, parents and teachers, making Ministry of Education declaring war against VSB
- BCTF Glen Hansman: province should ensure all school districts have enough funding, but dissolving school boards elected by voters

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Ban A Townhome Airbnb Through Court Injunction

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/816827/2016-10-18/post-溫市府促法庭頒令-禁一城市屋短租/?variant=zh-hk>

source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/airbnb-rental-lawsuit-1.3808555>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Formed Film Commissioner. British Expert Appointed

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/816729/2016-10-18/post-溫成立電影傳媒中心-英專家獲委首任專員/?variant=zh-hk>

- Mayor Robertson: films & media is one of the fastest growing industry in Vancouver. With David Shepherd's expertise and new films & media centre, it would help push Vancouver's digital entertainment industry to an even higher level

(Ming Pao) 9 Vancouver School Trustees Collectively Dismissed. WCB Investigating Education Board's Working Environment

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161018/vaa1h_r.htm

(Ming Pao) VSB Staff Said Bullying At Workplace

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161018/vaa4_r.htm

(Fairchild TV) BC Education Ministry Dismissed Entire VSB

<http://www.fairchildtv.com/news.php>

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Announced Formation of Films & Media Centre

<http://www.fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=5cd00703b9f76cf9d58e542811393f67>

(AM1470 Feature Story) Empty Home Tax

- The story is a bit longer than usual story, summarizing the main points discussed on empty home tax. It used an example of landlords who don't want to rent out their properties because of their past experience of renters damaging their properties. Pointed out current BC Tenancy Act is biased and doesn't protect landlords. Conclusion drawn from experts: gov't shouldn't use punitive measures like empty home tax to solve the affordability issue, but rather, give incentive to developers ie. Density bonus for building affordable housing

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Will Build 250 Affordable Rental Units

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16127%3A250&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Sing Tao) Bernier: Don't Have To Kill Schools In Vancouver In Foreseeable Future

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/818702/2016-10-19/post-貝尼爾:可見將來-溫哥華不殺校/?variant=zh-hk>

- Province will continue to give \$200M to improve seismic upgrade of 9 schools in Vancouver. Criticized VSB's financial chaos for changing from a budget shortfall of \$21M to surplus within 3 days

(Ming Pao) In Response to NDP MLA's Request: Education Minister Said Stop Killing Schools. Funding Continues

https://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161019/vab1h_r.htm

- Province never said used balanced budget as a threat for seismic upgrade funding as VSB claimed. When VSB couldn't balance the budget, Province still went ahead with seismic upgrade with a no. of schools

(AM1470) Vancouver City Staff Submits Regional Affordable Housing Strategy Progress Report

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63985

- Consultants requested City to have clearer definition of "affordable housing", and assist young family on home ownership as it is critical for their life long investment and retirement plans
- Regional Affordable Housing Strategy Progress Report has 5 main goals: to increase supply and choices, increase rental housing supply, protect low income housing units, compliment transit infrastructure on housing supply, and resolve homelessness

(AM1470) Bernier Release Open Letter To Vancouver Parents

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=63984

10.20 (Thur)

N/A

10.21 (Fri)

(Fairchild TV) Province Dismissing VSB Criticized As Un-democratic

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=1afc2196baf7c236bdf6a200de6af8b2>

(Fairchild TV) A No. Of Unions Protested To Support Dismissed Vancouver Trustees

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d3acf9ea06733ab725beeec8333da403>

- Lombardi: calling for by-election

10.22 (Sat)

(AM1470) NBC Forecasts Huge Drop In Vancouver Housing Market

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64053

- Single homes will drop by 9%, apartment will drop by 5%

10.23 (Sun)

(Sing Tao) Canada National Bank Financial: Vancouver's Housing Price Will Drop By 20% Next Year

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/825498/2016-10-23/post-加拿大國家銀行：溫哥華房價明年暴跌 20/?variant=zh-hk>

- 20% seems a lot, but as the housing price in Vancouver is exceedingly high, the real drop is actually categorized as “moderate”
- shows 15% foreign buyers tax works, increase of minimum payment for first time home buyers and 3% property transfer tax for properties over \$2M also contribute to this

(Sing Tao) Vancouver PTT Pushed Away Foreign Buyers. Buyers From China Re-direct To Seattle

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/825444/2016-10-23/post-溫哥華購房口逼走海外買家-中國買家轉攻西雅圖/?variant=zh-hk>

- according to a couple sources including Seattle Times, First Financial Post and Vancouver Sun, Seattle, which has similar living standard but housing price lower by at least a half, becomes the first destination in the choice of housing investment for investors from China. Some even sell their properties in Vancouver and re-invest in Seattle. Not only on luxury homes anymore, but also single homes in districts with good schools. Housing median price is around \$582,000, increase by 15.1% compared to the same period last year, 1.1% increase from last month

(Ming Pao) Big Development At East Van May Attract Tens of Thousands Of Residents. 7,000 More Units In Next 30 Years

<https://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161022/vap1h r.htm>

(Ming Pao) Former Trustee Support 9 Dismissed Trustees . Criticized Province Violate Democratic Principles

https://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161022/vas4_r.htm

- Most of these former trustees from COPE. NPA trustees supported province's action.
- 9 trustees' work include meeting parents and school liason, not possible to be replaced by one person. Also violate democratic principle

(Ming Pao) VSB Senior Staff Resume Work From Sick Leave Before Mid Nov

<https://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161022/vas5 r.htm>

(AM1470) Former School Trustees And Public School Students Protest Against Dismissal of Trustees

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64034

10.23 (Sun)

(Fairchild TV Talk Show) Dismissal of VSB Trustees

http://fairchildtv.com/newsarchive_detail.php?n=38&topic=567&episode=1246

10.24 (Mon)

溫市政府職員建議在 Burrard 橋下興建防洪閘及防波堤

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=cc9ab9433145b7cd5962fb23e04924dc>

溫市一個以預製件組合興建的可負擔項目即將動工

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=b1a405a500f9395652c668db08aab6b2>

(AM1470) 溫市首個流動組合屋預提供 40 個單立

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64078

10.25 (Tue)

(Sing Tao)

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828760/2016-10-25/post-溫市擬仿荷蘭防洪-布拉德橋底建水閘/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao)

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828691/2016-10-25/post-溫市推 250 呎組件屋-明春 40 間落成入伙/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao)

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828699/2016-10-25/post-逾 200 人集會-研租屋難題/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao)

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828696/2016-10-25/post-溫裁有權禁拆第一桑尼斯舊屋/?variant=zh-hk>

**(Ming Pao) 保育華埠擬限建築密度增社屋
文化中心今有開放日蒐民意**

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161025/vas2_r.htm

**(Sing Tao) 溫市府有權保育第一桑拿斯區
法院駁回業主呈請**

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161025/vasb_r.htm

卑詩最高法院駁回四名於溫哥華第一桑拿斯區(First Shaughnessy District)擁有房屋業主提出的呈請，認為溫市府有權透過保育區的規劃條例去保護區內某部分建於1940年之前的房屋。

訴訟中的四名呈請人均屬第一桑拿斯區並擁有建於1940年之前的物業業主，指控溫市府無權和不合理去作出制定古蹟保育區(Heritage Conservation Area, HCA)有關附例，並指因為市府沒有給個別物業進行評估而決定物業是否值得保育，他們指政府欠缺立法程序的公平性。

溫市府對法院的裁決表示高興，並指溫市議會在2015年通過設立古蹟保育區，首個就是第一桑拿斯區，而其規劃條例是要合法地保護區內1940年之前建成的古蹟物業免被拆毀。

卑詩最高法院法官菲茨帕特里克(Shelley Fitzpatrick)駁回呈請人的指控，於裁決中指公眾曾經有大量機會去就當時建議的HCA附例提出意見。

呈請人爭辯，市府的做法屬惡意及失實陳述，但法官認為均沒有足夠證據去證明，包括沒有證據指市府曾不適當地去傷害擁有1940年之前物業的業主。

就呈請人指控市府判定保育的物業欠理據一點，法官則認為情況相反，市府有足夠的基礎去證明1940年之前建成的物業是有古蹟價值和應該保育；而在《溫哥華憲章》(Vancouver Charter)下，溫市府有清楚的權限去保護和保留古蹟物業，「包括劃定一個古蹟保育區的權力。」

據法庭文件指出，第一桑拿斯區在1900年代初定立，當時卑詩政府將土地撥給加拿大太平洋鐵路公司(CPR)，公司更在1907年公布會發展一個高尚的新住宅區，以公司前主席Sir Thomas Shaughnessy名命，叫「桑拿斯高地」(Shaughnessy Heights)。當時溫哥華富裕和名望一族遷入這新區，房屋由當時著名的建築師所設計，闊大和宏偉，CPR後來更創造第一桑拿斯區作為「花園式」城市規劃的例子，於精心設計的街道內，在特大面積的地皮上建造有私人花園的獨立屋。

第一桑拿斯區的界限東至橡樹街(Oak St.)，西至東大道(East Blvd.)，南北界限為愛德華國王路(King Edward Ave.)至西 16 街(W. 16th Ave)。

10.23 (Sun)

(Fairchild TV Talk Show: Chatting Platform) Dismissal of VSB Trustees

http://fairchildtv.com/newsarchive_detail.php?n=38&topic=567&episode=1246

- School trustees usually need to rely on school board's senior staff's expertise and experience and work together. Unusual that VSB trustees have such intensive relationship with them
- Lots of issues discussed are already discussed in previous media reports, or about Richmond and general overall education funding formula

10.24 (Mon)

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Suggested Building Anti-Flood Gates Under Burrard Bridge

溫市政府職員建議在 Burrard 橋下興建防洪閘及防波堤

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=cc9ab9433145b7cd5962fb23e04924dc>

(Fairchild TV) Pre-made Modular Housing Plan Starting Soon in Vancouver

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=b1a405a500f9395652c668db08aab6b2>

(AM1470) Vancouver Will Build 40 of Its First Modular Housing Units

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64078

10.25 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Plans To Follow Netherland And Build Flood Gate Under Burrard Bridge

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828760/2016-10-25/post-溫市擬仿荷蘭防洪-布拉德橋底建水閘/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) 40 Modular Housing Ready To Move In Next Spring

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828691/2016-10-25/post-溫市推 250 呎組件屋-明春 40 間落成入伙/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) About 200 People Attended Workshop Discussing About Rental Problems

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828699/2016-10-25/post-逾200人集會-研租屋難題/?variant=zh-hk>

- Redress workshop. Cllr Meggs: City proactively managing short term rental Airbnb, encourage building more rental units and how rental market shortage affect family and personal life.
- MLA David Eby: if govt still not providing workable solution, similar meetings will be held in next few years.

(Sing Tao) Ruling Gives City of Vancouver Right to Remove First Shaughnessy Old Homes

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/828696/2016-10-25/post-溫裁有權禁拆第一桑尼斯舊屋/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Conservation of Chinatown Limits Building Density Increase Social Housing. Chinese Cultural Centre Open House To Gather Public Opinions

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161025/vas2r.htm>

- In order protect Chinatown's cultural characteristics and provide assistance to residents there, City of Vancouver plans to limit Chinatown development, including setting a density cap for buildings in Chinatown, and require developers to provide certain % of social housing units in new projects.
- City planner Karen Hoes: City has already capped the building height earlier but no cap on density yet. As long as the building meet the height requirement, developers can determine how many units they want to build. Problems arise when developers combine smaller parcels of land to build high density residential buildings. City wants to have new regulations so that developments would meet residents' expectation
- Chinatown needs more social and senior housing. Tentatively require new developments to have 20-25% of social housing and public amenities

- Youth Collaborative for Chinatown: hope City would have policies to conserve old stores and address the issues of old stores closing down. Many owners chose to close the business as they age or move away due to rent increase

(Sing Tao) Court Ruled City of Vancouver Has Right To Preserve First Shaughnessy District

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161025/vasb r.htm>

- 4 homeowners who filed the lawsuit: City's decision isn't based on any individual property assessment provided, lacks a fair legislation process
- Court: according to Vancouver Charter, City has such right to determine the area for conservation

(AM1320) Shoppers Apply To Be Pot Distributor

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16211%3Ashoppers-drug-mart&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Shoppers: believes that they can provide quality and safe pot, hopes to sell it to patients with pharmacists providing counselling services; but no interest in producing pot

(AM1470) Shoppers Apply To Sell Medical Pot

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64109

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Shoppers Apply To Sell Pot

- Critics: Disagree that liquor store have the priority over both medical and recreational pot. Province likely to let liquor stores do so as they can have control over it, rather than splitting that with Feds. Liquor store should sell recreational pot, while Shoppers, medical, as pharmacists are available
- City only responsible for zoning of stores. Each level of govt has its own authority. Should be clear
- But not all drug store wants to "fight" for this. Some want to wait and see as there is still uncertainty before the legislation is formed

for both the rich and poor. The poor may feel even more “under-privileged”

- A volunteer at Salvation Army shelter: may not an issue of lack of housing, but outreach and counseling for homeless. ie. A shelter at DTE, not full every day. Salvation Army, clean, one room with 6 beds. People may not be willing to live there due to various past baggage. If there are counseling services to remove that barrier, they would be willing to move in there.

(AM1470) Special Adviser's Report Criticized Vancouver School District Finance Mismanagement

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64204

(AM1470) Dismissed Trustees Criticized Report Ridiculous

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64205

- Patti Bacchus: Vancouver is one of the school districts with highest efficiency, admin expense is strictly controlled to be under 3%. Not true to say VSB has redundant staff. The fact that the funding each BC student received is 2nd lowest across the country is true.

(AM1470) Bernier: VSB Finance Mismanagement

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64217

- VSB's inner operation is intervened by political will of some trustees, affecting the independent decision making process. Some trustees have unusual and overly extensive participation in internal operation. Also communication problems. Trustees never receive work performance review, VSB's staff redundancy is more severe than other districts.
- Some trustees not respect staff and BC Superintendent Association Chair even when outside of the meetings, affecting the morale
- Reject selling Kingsgate Mall and chose have a budget shortfall

(AM1320) VSB Audit Released

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16241%3A2016-10-28-22-48-21&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(Fairchild TV) Protesters Urging For More Affordable Housing Outside Housing Summit

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=2fea04bd67b80c08086b7411bea92f04>

- Mayor Robertson explained why Vancouver can't have 30% non-market price units: don't have as much density and value to have as much inclusionary zoning for affordable housing as New York does. But cash that come from that can help achieve affordable housing elsewhere in the City.

(Fairchild TV) Education Minister Refused To Apologize To VSB Dismissed Trustees

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=9d8db10df40e63c76bcf1b26deac6d40>

(Sing Tao) Need Annual Income \$710,000 To Purchase Vancouver West Single Homes

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/832533/2016-10-27/post-購溫西獨立屋-家庭年入要 71 萬/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver: red warning again

10.28 (Fri)

(Fairchild TV) BC Education Minister Bernier's Special Advisor Finished VSB's Audit

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=ec0c5dbf1690d83f53fad507995b0bd6>

- Patti Bacchus: staff already laid off earlier and add extra work to staff. Short sighted to use capital funding to fund education program

(Sing Tao) Bernier Not Apologize As 4 Former Trustees Sue For Compensation

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/834392/2016-10-28/post-面臨 4 溫學委民事索償-貝尼爾拒道歉拒撤言論/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Protesters Crashed Housing Summit, Urged To Build Affordable Housing.

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/834475/2016-10-28/post-到房屋峰會現場示威者促增建廉屋/?variant=zh-hk>

- Mayor Robertson agreed with some of the requests made by protesters ie. tax the rich more to build housing. Mayor's Office: City has provided free passes for protesters to attend to talks in the summit

(Ming Pao) Protesters Occupied Stage Requested Build Social Housing. Crashed Housing Summit. Gregor Robertson "Speechless"

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161028/vasa_r.htm

- Mayor Robertson: understand protesters' frustration; emphasized that without support of two senior levels of gov't, City also feels discouraged for as they neglected the current housing situation
- Chinese senior protester: lived in Chinatown 20 years. Recently there are high end coffee shops opened there which residents can't possibly afford, feel that low income seniors can't find a place to live. Request more affordable housing but not large private development or coffee shops

10.29 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Province Audit Report Released. Criticized VSB Financial Mismanagement

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/836051/2016-10-29/post-省審計報告出爐-抨溫教局理財不善/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) VSB Staff Redundancy Costs \$12.8M. Two Audits 59 Suggestions For Improvement

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161029/vas1h_r.htm

- Suggestions: make sure trustee fulfill their management role but not advocacy

(AM1470) City Cllr Suggest Re-consider Building Bike Lane On West 10th

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64233

- Cllr Ball: many patients and medical staff around VGH got hit by bikes, worried more accidents when bike lanes are built. There are other ways to resolve congestion problems, building bike lane would cause more accidents. West 7th is a good to build bike lanes

(AM1470 Phone-in Show) Vancouver's Pot Policy: what kind of difficulties City's enforcement officers face since the new pot policy implemented? What impact will it bring to Vancouver's Pot policy as pharmacies like Shoppers Drug Mart sell pot?

Melissa De Genova:

- Vision-led City Council is hypocritical to run the pot dispensary policy ahead of Feds.
- Allowing the dispensaries mean more robberies and taking away police resources to dispensaries away from something more important.
- When Fed's pot legalization policy kicks in, Vancouver's pot dispensaries will refuse to shut down as City welcomes them in, and very problematic.
- Not make sense when shops that don't sell food properly can be closed down while pot dispensaries are allowed to operate without a license and treated as a protest
- Whether people take pot and drive, City not able to enforce it now.
- In preparation for legalization, Vancouver needs to set aside a budget and plan for lots of clean up. Don't believe the wide-spread dispensaries will be allowed to continue then

10.30 (Sun)

N/A

10.31 (Mon)

(AM1470) 溫市申請增設受監管注射屋

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64251

11.2 (Wed)

(Sing Tao) Study Shows Airbnb Brings \$400M To Vancouver Annually

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/842573/2016-11-02/post-研究指airbnb一年-帶挈溫市4億收益/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) One-on-one interview With VSB Trustee: One-man-band, Huge Responsibility

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/842567/2016-11-02/post-專訪溫教局官方學委-特納:一人決策責任重/?variant=zh-hk>

11.3 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Rapid Development In Vancouver South East Attract Retailers

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/844536/2016-11-03/post-溫東南區發展快-吸引零售商進駐/?variant=zh-hk>

- The article talks about the rapid development in River District, informational

(Sing Tao) Greater Vancouver Single Home Transactions Dropped 50%. Price Resistant Still Goes Up By 25%

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/844525/2016-11-03/post-大溫獨立屋成交跌逾5成-樓價企硬按年仍升2成半/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Lack Of Consultation For Vancouver's Proposal To Open 2 More Safe Injection Sites

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/844486/2016-11-03/post-溫市擬增2注射屋-團體轟當局諮詢不足/?variant=zh-hk>

- Strathcona Residents' Association: VCH didn't sufficiently consult the community before applying. Two safe injection sites are within one block, it would definitely attract even more drug deals in the area.

- Strathcona BIA agreed with Residents' Association's concerns, criticized VCH's policy is ineffective in solving the addiction problem there, and would create another new problem

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver Applied For Injunction To Take Down Tent City

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/844499/2016-11-03/post-清拆遊民營地-溫市府申禁制令/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) City Clean Up Tent City As Hygiene Deteriorated

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161103/vap2_r.htm

(AM1470) Senior Home Lacks Funding Rely On Donation To Maintain Services

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64345

- Facing aging population, more seniors need 24-hours-medical care and put demand on senior homes. Although Province pays for huge funding each year, each senior home still face strapped financially
- Villa Cathay was built in 1978, finally received funding and ready to be rebuilt into a 10-storey-high tower
- Government only provides subsidy for each senior but no funding for facility repair, thus need to rely on donations
- Chinese seniors usually prefer these ethnic senior homes because they provide Chinese meals and entertainment of their own culture
- Some religious senior homes also provide counseling care, such as Columbus Residence. But not funded by province as well.

(AM1470) VSB Announced Appointment of 2 Senior Staff

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64334

(AM1470) City of Vancouver May Shut Down Tent City

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64331

(AM1470) Vancouver City Council Passed Motion To Open More Parks

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64328

(AM1470) Vancouver Proposed To Build Anti-Flood Gates

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64327

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Passed Motion To Open More Public Washrooms

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16287%3A2016-11-03-19-41-46&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Cllr. Ball: hundreds of seniors and people of disability said lack of public washrooms in Vancouver make it difficult for seniors to go out. This is an issue about hygiene and living quality.

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Applied Injunction To Request Homeless People To Leave

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16288%3A2016-11-04-00-00-41&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- City: shut down due to bad weather and safety concerns
- A protester said, City doesn't care about homeless people's safety and would resist any clean up
- Mayor Robertson has met with the homeless people in Aug and has promised to develop that lot into social housing but it would take a few years

11.4 (Fri)

(Sing Tao) Burnaby School Board Requested Province Re-elect VSB Trustees

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/845698/2016-11-04/post-本拿比教育局要求 bc 省政府重選溫哥華學務委員/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) Many School Districts Urged By-election For Vancouver School District

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64373

- Mike Lombardi: requests from these school boards is very clear, they respect democratic principles and the board should be chosen by voters. New Democrats have promised to recover the original board or hold a by-election, but these people don't limit to NDP supporters but from entire political spectrum

(Fairchild TV) A Group of Homeless People Camped At A DTE Empty Lot

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=132eb557618302f19126586eec17c6cb>

11.5 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Groups Pressure To Hold By-election For VSB Vacancies

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/848075/2016-11-05/post-溫教局學委空缺-團體促早日補選/?variant=zh-hk>

- BCSTA: school board's purpose is to serve the public, so it should be managed by trustees chosen by voters

(AM1470) Short-term Rental Service Company Welcomes City's Regulations

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64393

- HomeAway, a short-term rental service company that has been operating for 25 years, welcome City's regulations. There is local demand for short-term rental housing ie. people who renovating their homes or applying for divorce. Hope City's regulations would be fair and effective, but won't make this into illegal market

(AM1470) Fraser Health Authority Conduct Consultation Regarding Opening Safe Injection Site In Surrey

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64385

11.6 (Sun)

N/A

11.12 (Sat)

(Sing Tao)

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/859668/2016-11-12/post-祝融又光顧溫空置屋-疑地板上生火引致/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) 溫市政府計劃調高部份街道停車咪錶收費

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64575

(AM1320) 溫市市府研究調整泊車咪錶收費

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16367%3A2016-11-13-22-29-00&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

11.13 (Sun)

(Ming Pao) 專家憂華埠掀遷拆重建潮

溫市府擬放寬樓房高度

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161113/vas1h r.htm>

市府正就「華埠經濟振興及發展政策檢討」(Chinatown Economic Revitalization Update and Improvements to Development Policy)諮詢民意。市府表示，原本的政策已經施行了三年，需要作出檢討。該檢討草案就傳統樓宇、可負擔房屋、吸引新居民、刺激經濟等多個方面作出建議。最具爭議的部分是修改華埠南部的土地用途，草案提出假若加入社會房屋及長者房屋，可以放寬高度限制。

華埠歷史學者阿特金(John Atkin)指出，根據市府的文件，修訂物業高度限制，主旨是「提供更大空間促進發展與增長」。但阿特金同時指出，市府對華埠遠景的設想是「一個能夠訴說其歷史的地方。一個符合其居民需要的地方，包括年輕人與長者的需要。一個商業、社交、文化活動的中心。」

身兼加華歷史協會主席的阿特金認為，這一個新策略，應該聚焦與維護年代久遠的建築與商店，而不是鼓勵將現有樓房拆卸之後重建。

阿特金指出，修正草案認識到片打街的重要性，繼續保留HA-1的土地用途規劃，也尊重國家歷史區(National Historic District)的界限，對該區的特色有所認知。但該草案同時卻容許在華埠南邊興建高樓，最高可達200呎，卻讓他深深不以為然。

阿特金說，更大型建築對於商店的負面影響不能低估，他列舉一系列案例，指出華埠新建的一棟大廈地面店舖被一家大型傢俬店所佔據，銀行緊貼另一家銀行開建，對路過的行人來說，這一組合毫不生動。對面街角，緬街(Main St.)夾奇化街(Keefer St.)的地方出租給一家只在晚上才開業的餐廳，並不符合鼓勵傳統店舖的目標。

阿特金憂慮，這一策略一旦推行，將衍生出強大的拆遷重建動力，現有華埠特色的魚檔、燒臘舖、果菜店，將被這股重建的洪流所淹沒，無處容身。

市府指出，由於華埠以南地區將出現重大發展，故此不得不放寬高度限制。這包括新的聖保祿醫院(St. Paul's hospital)將在該地興建。喬治亞高架路(Georgia Viaduct)將會拆卸改建樓房，對北邊的唐人街也會帶來壓力。

阿特金認為，華埠的轉型，肇因於人口老化，新居民與新商店遷入，華埠原本的規劃確實有改變的必要。可是為了鼓勵修建長者屋，而放寬高度限制的作法被濫用。假若片打街以南的鄰舍被夷平，可能是一個得不償失的結局。

阿特金建議，政策修改後高度限制在90呎，樓房正面最高75呎較為妥當。但樓宇高度放寬到120呎或200呎，則必須加以反對。阿特金認為要鼓勵興建更多長者房屋，可以採用其他辦法。

按照計劃，市府職員在完成諮詢工作後，將在2017年向市議會呈交報告。

(Fairchild TV) 大溫華人華僑各界紀念孫中山先生口辰 150 周年

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

11.14 (Mon)

(AM1470) 溫市政府試圖阻止無家可歸者在溫東紮營

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64602

(Fairchild TV) 溫市政府宣布加入一個全球計劃解決城市人患糖尿病的問題

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=Odd53c8891cc022924207db32a860bb4>

(Fairchild TV) 溫市東區一個社會服務團體向市府租用地點面臨關閉

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=e2bd79902aa2c126084f080211564dc8>

- East 6th Ave. The Church of God: want to continue their service to the community. Urges City to provide a new location if not the current site

11.12 (Sat)

(Sing Tao) Fire on Another Empty Home. Suspicious of Fire Burning From Wooden Floor

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/859668/2016-11-12/post-祝融又光顧溫空置屋-疑地板上生火引致/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1470) City of Vancouver May Increase Some Road Side Meter Parking Rate

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64575

(AM1320) Vancouver Studies Adjusting Parking Meter Rate

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16367%3A2016-11-13-22-29-00&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

11.13 (Sun)

(Ming Pao) Scholars Worried Tear Down & Redevelopment Fad At Chinatown Follows After City Relaxing Building Height

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161113/vas1h_r.htm

- City reviewing and consulting the public on the “Chinatown Economic Revitalization Update and Improvements to Development Policy” that was implemented since 3 years ago.
- City recognizes the importance of Pender St and HA-1’s rezoning, also respected the National Historic District’s boundaries, but most controversial part is changing land use of some land in South Chinatown. If adding social housing and senior housing, can lift the building height restriction and as high as 200 feet.
- Chinatown Historian John Atkin: according to city document, this is to “provide larger space to facilitate development and growth”. City’s vision of Chinatown is to make it a place to tell history; meet residents’ needs including young and old; a centre for commercial, social and cultural activities.
- The new strategy should focus on and preserve buildings and stores with long history, but not encourage tearing down and re-developing.
- Can’t underestimate the negative impact huge development has on

- small businesses. I.e. At a new building, a large furniture store and two banks moved in, which makes the area unattractive. Across the street at Main & Keefer is a restaurant that opened at late hours, which doesn't align with the goal of encouraging more traditional stores.
- City explains, South of Chinatown will face huge re-development including St. Paul's hospital, so lifting the building height is necessary. But Atkin said, it would also create re-development pressure to north Chinatown. Fish stores, barbeque and fruit stores would be pushed out of the area
 - Atkin: Chinatown's change arise from aging population, new residents and new stores moving in, so it's necessary to amend the original plan. But in order to encourage building senior homes, the lifting of building height may be abused. The loss may be greater than the benefits it brings. City should use other ways to encourage building senior housing. Didn't mention what ways though
 - Atkin suggests: restrict the building height within 90 feet; the front under 75 feet. But oppose to increasing building height to 120 feet or 200 feet.

11.14 (Mon)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Attempts to Stop Homeless Group Camping At Vancouver East

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64602

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Announced To Join A Global Project To Address Diabetes Problem in

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=Odd53c8891cc022924207db32a860bb4>

(Fairchild TV) Social Service Agency That Rent City's Property At Vancouver East May Face Closure

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=e2bd79902aa2c126084f080211564dc8>

- East 6th Ave. The Church of God: want to continue their service to the community. Urges City to provide a new location if not the current site

11.15 (Tue)

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Will Vote On Empty Homes Tax Recommendation

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16386%3A2016-11-15-19-44-34&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) Empty Homes Tax: 1% of Property Value

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64628

- Melissa de Genova: concerned about extra pressure brought to enforcement officers on top of the work on pot dispensaries
- City Financial Chief Esther Lee: Empty Homes tax's enforcement is done through auditing, different from pot dispensaries
- Mayor: empty homes tax would encourage people to rent out properties, release the pressure on the rental market shortage. As supply increases, rent will come down

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Hold Public Meeting On Raising Parking Fees

http://www.am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16384%3A2016-11-15-19-40-26&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- According to the Sun's report, Busters, the towing company contracted to City is Vision's donor. In 2014, Busters donated \$10,000, last year \$15,000.

(Sing Tao) Airbnb Deleted 130 Vancouver Ad.

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/864037/2016-11-15/post-airbnb%e5%88%aa%e9%99%a4-%e6%ba%ab%e5%b8%82130%e5%80%8b%e6%8b%9b%e7%a7%9f%e5%b%a3%e5%91%8a/?variant=zh-hk>

- Self-regulation, removed 130 "commercial operators"

(Sing Tao) Court Announces Injunction Of Vancouver East Tent City This Week

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/864020/2016-11-15/post-%e6%ba%ab%e6%9d%b1%e9%9c%b2%e5%ae%bf%e8%80%85%e4%bd%>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Downtown Protest Against TransMountain Pipeline Today

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/869963/2016-11-19/post-溫市中心今大遊行-反橫山油管計劃/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Downtown Core Highest Risk To Be Ticketed.

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/869977/2016-11-19/post-溫市「抄牌」高危地-市中心核心區稱冠/?variant=zh-hk>

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/we-looked-at-every-parking-ticket-issued-in-vancouver-last-year-here-s-what-we-found-1.3856456>

(Ming Pao) Report Suggested Metro Vancouver And City Build Rental Housing As Greater Vancouver's Population Growth Reaches 35,000 Each Year

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161119/var1h_r.htm

- Metro Vancouver: By 2040, each year population growth reaches 35,000, needs at least 18,000 more units in next 10 years, with 5,500 rental units. Can reach this goal in various ways, including re-developing Metro Van Housing Corporation's current location, just like Vancouver's Heather Place property. After re-development, instead of 86 units, it has 200-300 units, currently waiting for development permit.
- Another way is to build rental housing on empty lots, or, build rental housing on properties owned by City or Metro Van

11.23 (Wed)

(AM1470 Talk Show) Drug overdose

- Lack prevention and educating how devastating the impact of drugs has; current “education” emphasize on taking drugs safely, drug addicts are dignified but ignoring the fact that how undignified this habit brings, people don’t see the danger it brings
- Q: Does bike lanes make traffic congestion worse?
A: lack data to support either way

(Ming Pao) Carfentanil Appeared in DTE. Fatal With Small Amount. 100 Times Stronger Than Fentanyl

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161123/var1h_r.htm

(Ming Pao) Vancouver May Increase Property Tax By 3.4% For Its \$1.3B Budget Next Year

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161124/vasa_r.htm

- \$80.1M will be invested in affordable housing, which is the largest amount in Vancouver’s history
- will launch a new Street Cleaning Utility Fee to take care of illegal dumping and make public space cleaner

(AM1320) Mayors Council Passed Transportation Plan’s Funding Component

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16462%3A2016-11-24-00-38-35&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- Mayor Robertson: good day for Greater Vancouver; decision is a result of majors of the region and TransLink board members. Hope funding for 2nd phase can be confirmed by May next year.

11.24(Thur)

(AM1470) Park Board Discussed About Increasing No. of Public Washrooms

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64857

(AM1320) Park Board Will Vote On Increasing No. of Public Washrooms Next Week

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16473%3A2016-11-24-23-54-29&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) Record Breaking No. of Users At Pop-up Injection Site

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64856

(AM1320) Usage at Pop-up Injection Site Significantly Increase

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16472%3A2016-11-24-23-51-54&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) Tent City Campers Moved to Another Park

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=64885

(AM1320) Vancouver May Raise Property Tax

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16467%3A2016-11-24-19-36-57&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

- City: increase property tax by 3.4% next year to expand services and cover cost for social housing, security and art

11.25 (Fri)

(Fairchild TV) DTE Volunteers Set Up Tent And Dispensed Unauthorized Drugs

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=e79877ffd47fdef9d994832b365071c1>

11.26 (Sat)

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) & (AM1470 Phone-in Show)
both on Chinatown New Development

- In sum, they acknowledged that City also wants to preserve Chinatown's heritage and increase supply of senior housing through new developments. However, they think that City's current direction does the opposite from its intention as more traditional stores moved out, too many new expensive developments lead to gentrification, and more elderly can't afford to live in Chinatown anymore.
- Chinatown doesn't have any indoor space for seniors to gather and socialize; it has detrimental impact on their health subsequently
- The proposed big box style of stores and developments don't match with Chinatown's heritage buildings. The impact will be irreversible
- The clan societies' buildings are deteriorating and they can't afford to repair them. Need senior gov't's help
- Understand that conserving Chinatown's historical buildings is costly, but Chinatown has an irreplaceable status as historically early Chinese workers settled there; its value is more than providing ethnic foods and supplies like Victoria Dr. or Richmond. Urging two senior levels of gov't to assist City to provide sufficient funding
- Questioned why so many elderly didn't received notice for the public hearing. Demand City to hold another open house next year. Also, the format of the open house is not in-depth. Suspicious of City only doing window-dressing and not sincere to hear from the public

(Fairchild TV) Three Levels of Governments Build Affordable Housing Together

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=01657d0923fcfe6b240ac1d182f998ea>

- Mayor Robertson: need to keep building rental housing to compliment empty home tax. A priority and incentive to create more rental housing than condo

11.29 (Tue)

(Fairchild TV) Feds Approved Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=47648d4793a97f09d9440bd7caf3869e>

(Fairchild TV) Environmental Group Disappointed With Approved Pipeline Project

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=b9fcbc854cc45e5802618e283d3fe525>

- Wilderness Committee: Trudeau violated election promises
- BC Policy for Alternatives: importing energy overseas isn't as optimistic as it is
- Vancouver Mayor's Office's statement: Vancouver created 94,000 new jobs last year and contributed to significant tax revenue. Kinder Morgan is a risk that is not worth it

(Fairchild TV) New Affordable Housing On Top of Firehall Partnership Between City And Non-Profit

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=e1ad6ffc6195076ffef9077d6f57e4ed>

- Mayor Robertson: new approach to combine firehall and affordable housing, better use of land

11.20 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) Trudeau Promised Environmental Protection Over Two Approved Pipeline Expansion Projects

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161130/vab1h_r.htm

(Ming Pao) 200 Protesters In Vancouver Downtown Joined Politicians Disapprove Fed's Decision

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161130/vab3_r.htm

- Van City Cllr. Carr: feel betrayed as Trudeau's gov't once gave people hope. Lying and stupid.
- First Nations' Carleen Thomas: betrayal. Fed's decision is the beginning of a long term battle
- Union of BC Indian Chiefs: expect more lawsuit, protests and civil obedience

- Mayor Robertson: profoundly disappointed, huge step backward in Canada's environment and economy, asked Vancouver residents and First Nations to join in to continue to say "no"
- Burnaby Mayor Corrigan: ignore scientific evidence

(Ming Pao) Province Reaffirms "5 Conditions" For Pipeline Assessment

<http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161130/vab4 r.htm>

(Sing Tao) Protest In Downtown Vancouver Over Trans Mountain Pipeline Approval

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/886095/2016-11-30/post-橫山油管獲准擴建-溫市中心爆發示威/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Environmental Group: Project Out Dated And Cause Pollution

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/886100/2016-11-30/post-環團轟項目過時兼高度污染/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Province Reassures 5 Requirements. Gregor Robertson Disappointed

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/886108/2016-11-30/post-省府重申須符 5 要求-羅品信失望/?variant=zh-hk>

(AM1320 Phone-in Show) Kinder Morgan Pipeline

- Agreed with Trudeau, already taken the most balanced approach for environment and economy, and benefits for BC and Alberta
- Environment is important but should be based on economic development because people need to make a living. Theoretically oil sands damage the environment but with careful planning and monitoring, its impact isn't as bad as it is.
- Sustainable energy is a long-term goal, oil can't be placed overnight. Still need to depend on oil
- Currently pipeline is too old, 63 years old. Risks will be enlarged if pipelines are expanded, but not a new risk and the risks have been assessed when the project first started. With current technology, emergency measures will be much better than before. Oil spill at Burnaby before should have a much lower chance to happen.

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Opens A New Winter Shelter

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=a2dad69202cc3e9f4c44851e6945c04b>

11.30 (Wed)

N/A

12.1 (Thur)

(AM1320) Winter Shelter In Downtown Vancouver Open Early

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16533%3A2016-12-02-00-19-44&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

12.2 (Fri)

(AM1470) Chinatown May Mah Hotel Up For Sale Again For \$12M

http://am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65082

- Original plan of May Mah Hotel is to sell it for \$11.5M and continue operation; however, as structural problem was found after the inspection and requires huge repair that costs between \$5M – 500M, the owner now reduced the price to \$8M and sell only 60% of its ownership
- Carol Lee, foundation chair: no repair has been done to the historical hotel. As the Shon Yee Benevolent Association of Canada (加拿大鐵城崇義會) reserved 40% ownership, they can help maintain the building and continue to serve seniors in the community. But their members disagreed. So the hotel is up for sale again for \$12M

12.3 (Sat)

(AM1470) Biologist: Approve Pipeline Project Equivalent To Killing Killer Whales

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65102

- “Raincoat Protection Foundation”: besides oil spill, the increase traffic at the water would cause risks to killer whales and salmon

(AM1470) City of Vancouver May Cancel Pet Restrictions For Supportive Housing

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65099

(Sing Tao) May Mah Hotel Up For Sale Again After Rejection To Selling Chinatown Foundation

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/890524/2016-12-03/post-拒華埠基金會收購-美華旅店繼續放售/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Penalty For Vancouver's Illegal Pot Dispensaries Increased 3 Folds To \$1,000

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/889166/2016-12-02/post-溫市非法大麻店-罰款增 3 倍至 1000 元/?variant=zh-hk>

- Vancouver City Council passed the motion to increased the penalty from \$250 to \$1,000, which is the highest amount under Vancouver Charter
- Cllr. De Genova: still unfair to licensed dispensaries. Even it they pay penalty once a month, still lower than the annual \$30,000 license fee
- Among 1,000 tickets issued, only 250 paid

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver May Increase Penalty 4 Folds To Maximum For Unlicensed Pot Dispensaries

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161202/vasb_r.htm

- \$250 is for ordinary unlicensed operation, but if that persists, City can issue ticket once a month. Still 60 dispensaries operate without a license
- Cllr. De Genova: even with \$1,000 penalty it does nothing, in a way encourages those illegal operation to continue
- Whether City will take action to shut down the remaining illegal dispensaries, City Licensing said, as Fed will announced later about the new legalization policy, City can't take any action

(AM1470) Concerned Group Gather Petition Signature Against TransMountain Pipeline Expansion

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65108

- Dogwood Initiative's over 100 volunteers collected signatures on the street
- Cllr. Carr: submit an emergency response measure to Green Party, demands Feds to reconsider the plan. Also need to have a national education campaign for citizens to understand the impact of pipeline

expansion to global warning; hope to gather public voices to overturn Fed's decision

12.4 (Sun)

(Ming Pao) Expense Increase As Owners Wait 17 Months For Renovation. City of Vancouver Speeds Up Building Permit Process.

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161204/vasb_r.htm

- After 4 months of negotiation, City of Vancouver will have a huge amendment on building permit process in order to relief the pressure from the current backlog, which is a problem well acknowledged by industries, ordinary citizens and city cllrs.
- A Vancouver resident's \$40,000 renovation plan increased to \$75,000 as the wait was stretched from 3 weeks to 17 months and more detailed assessments are required, also suffered from immense stress
- City: process lengthens because of loss of many experienced staff and hot real estate market. Will consider speed up the process, make risk-based decisions, audit on resource allocation, apply on line.

(Sing Tao) Save Vancouver West Historical Building. Centry-old Mansion Move to Vancouver East

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/891720/2016-12-04/post-保留溫西歷史建築-百年大屋移居溫東/?variant=zh-hk>

original: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/west-end-character-home-starts-precarious-journey-to-new-life-in-east-vancouver-1.3880123>

(Sing Tao) Vancouver Downtown High End Shopping Area. High Demand, Land Shortage

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/891661/2016-12-04/post-溫市中心名店區-土地短缺市場旺/?variant=zh-hk>

- Robson is still the most expensive rent in downtown

(Sing Tao) Chinese Community Groups Urge Local Chinese Voters Proactively Participate In Politics And Vote

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/891677/2016-12-04/post-僑社籲華人積極參政-選民踴躍投票/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) “Support Chinese Joining Politics” Forum Urges Chinese To Vote. Understand Voting System And Integrate Into Mainstream

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161204/vas1h_r.htm

(Fairchild TV) NDP, BC Native Chief Oppose to Pipeline Expansion

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

今年是香港戰役(Battle of Hong Kong) 的 75 周年。這不但是中國人難忘的一年，對於當年為了保衛香港對抗日軍而犧牲的加拿大軍人，也是重要的里程碑。這段加拿大和香港、中國共同擁有的歷史也讓我們更加的緊密。謝謝溫市議員鄭文宇出席在香港舉行的紀念儀式，代表溫市政府致送花圈，表達對這些加國軍人最崇高的敬意。

12.5 (Mon)

溫市府與 **BC** 業主會合作向業主提供權益資

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65131

為配合房屋空置□政策，溫哥華市府與**BC**業主協會合作，向可能出租物業的業主提供資料，了解他們本身的權益。

溫哥華明年開始將實施房屋空置□，若業主不想繳付□項，就要將空置單位出租。不過，不少業主對於要將房屋出租都感到憂慮。

溫哥華市府現同**BC**業主協會合作，設立專門網站，向業主提供所需資料，例如如何檢□租客的信用記錄、尋找法律意見，以及舉辦教育活動等。

BC業主協會行政總裁David Hutniak表示，今次服務能□幫助業主更加了解自己的權益，以及出租物業的程序，從而做一個成功的業主。

協會將會向溫哥華市的業主，提供登記服務優惠。另外，明年1月19日亦會舉行免費網上講座。

而市府今個星期開始，將會向業主發信，向他們解釋空置□政策。

12.6 (Tue)

4.3 (Sun)

n/a

4.4 (Mon)

(AM1470) Vancouver Plans to Regulate House Sharing Activities

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59051

4.5 (Tue)

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Aim For 2040 Zero Car Accidents

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=b6112307fe321db79a00e9632a8b87cd>

- So far 6 fatal accidents, 5 involved pedestrians
- Cllr. Deal: City staff will study other cities to make improvements on street design, separate bikers and pedestrians
- Cllr. Abbott: the motion is redundant as 2040 Transportation Plan already passed two years ago

(AM1320) Vancouver's 1st Street Named After a South Asian

- The late Indian merchant Jack Uppal
- City Council announced earlier that an attached plaque with the late SUCCESS CEO Lillian To's name will be placed along side with Shanghai Alley. However, it is not a street named after her

4.6 (Wed)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Passed Building Residential/ Commercial Buildings

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=59103

- 75 new rental units in the area of Main Street and 49th Avenue, Vancouver's Punjabi Market neighbourhood
- Mayor Gregor Robertson: will help with revitalization, and bring more families to the area.
- However, only 5 of the 75-units will have three bedrooms, which many families with two or more children require.

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Council Concerned About Residents Doing Short-Term Rental To Foreign Travellers

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=d40e8b592e9c23339fed96f2ff63ae4a>

4.7 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) Vancouver's 1st Street Named After a South Asian

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/514823/2016-04-07/post-溫市首條南亞裔冠名街面世/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) City of Vancouver's Airbnb Study Will be Done This Fall

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20160407/vap3_r.htm

- City Council passed unanimously on conducting a study about the impact of short-term airbnb rental to real estate market, and to find solutions to the rental housing shortage problem contributed by the large amount of airbnb
- A no. of citizens spoke at council yesterday, urges for measures to stop negative impact ie. safety, property damage that airbnb bring to the neighborhood, but some said the income from airbnb is in line with City's affordable housing policy
- Cllr. Meggs: rental housing should meet local residents' demands first, not tourists
-

(Fairchild) Mayor Said Mixed Used Property Above Canada Line Station Can Address Traffic & Living Issues

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=369eb968269fa49b22b4596a2ce9fbbe>

- Mayor: expect such projects will be made given.
- High density in exchange for convenient transportation will be an unavoidable trend. Interviewed two streeters. They agree with that.

(AM1320) Mixed Used Canada Line Station Open

(Sing Tao) Old Single homes in Vancouver West Sold \$1.1M More

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/514835/2016-04-07/post-溫西舊屋續有價有市-高出叫價 110 萬易手/?variant=zh-hk>

- Dunbar & W19th, 71-year-old, 5,363 sq. feet single house, priced \$3.18M but sold \$4.19M, \$1.12M more
- According to Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver, median price of single home in Greater Van is \$1.34M, Vancouver West \$3.07M, Vancouver East \$1.28M

12.5 (Mon)

(AM1470) City of Vancouver And LandlordBC Work Together To Provide Info On Landlord Rights

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65131

(Fairchild TV) Vancouver City Staff Recommends Latest Plan To Revitalize Chinatown

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=cdde90d3321aee7ac051cf58d649a5f5>

(AM1320) City of Vancouver Assist Landlords To Rent Out Properties

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16561%3A2016-12-05-23-53-19&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

12.6 (Tue)

(Sing Tao) Landlords Organization Launches New Website To Encourage Property Owners To Rent Out Properties

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/894614/2016-12-06/post-房東組織推出網站-助業主出租物業/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) Residents Criticize Character Home Zoning Plan. Not Good For Rebuild And Depreciate Value

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/894618/2016-12-06/post-居民抨溫市特色屋區劃-礙重建損權益累貶□/?variant=zh-hk>

- Shaughnessy Heights Property Owners' Association Vise Chair Anthony Chu: already RS5 being protected since 1993, not necessary to re-define again
- Although the purpose is to increase affordable housing, City only listens to a small group of people. Online survey is misleading as well.
- Home zoning plan would cause property value depreciation and limit their rights to repair or rebuild

12.7 (Wed)

(Ming Pao) Chinatown May Restrict Building Height Preserve Small Traditional Stores. Vancouver City Staff Seeking Public Feedback On New Plan

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161207/vas1h_r.htm

- clarifies that city staff is trying different ways to preserve heritage buildings and stores in Chinatown; however, city can't make it mandatory for certain types of merchandise or stores can stay in a certain area. But considering giving out incentives to legacy businesses like San Francisco
- City wants to maintain certain distance between buildings especially between the higher floors to ensure "sky" can be seen

(omni) Vancouver City Staff Urges Residents To Voice Concerns About Chinatown Development

<http://www.omnitv.ca/bc/yue-can/videos/5239267725001/>

(omni) City of Vancouver May Increase Property Tax To Combat Fentanyl Crisis

<http://www.omnitv.ca/bc/yue-can/videos/5239277761001/>

- Mayor Robertson: support first line responders

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Staff Recommended Increasing Property Tax To Combat Severe Overdose Problems

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php?n=52b939a7696391395ea818f43f82b5e5>

- Cllr. Affleck: \$3.5M without public consultation is not good governance. Inflation rate should be around 1.3%

(AM1320) Vancouver City Council Discuss Property Tax Increase

http://am1320.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=16577%3A2016-12-08-00-06-48&catid=1%3A2010-10-18-20-52-02&Itemid=97&lang=zh

(AM1470) Vancouver City Staff Recommend 0.5% More On Property Tax To Combat Fentanyl Crisis

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65188

(AM1470) City of Vancouver Prepared For Extreme Weather

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65195

(AM1320) Park Board's New Joint Action Agreement

http://www.am1470.com/news_detail.php?i=65194

(Sing Tao) Vancouver BikeShare Program Will Have WiFi in 94 Stations

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/896006/2016-12-07/post-溫市單車共享計劃-94站將設wifi/?variant=zh-hk>

(Ming Pao) Vancouver Bike Share Program Expand To East. Sponsored By Telecommunication Company

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161207/vasb_r.htm

(Fairchild TV) City of Vancouver Have A Number of Salting And Snow Trucks Ready For Snow Storm

<http://fairchildtv.com/news.php>

12.8 (Thur)

(Sing Tao) 90-years-old Au-Yeung Yik Fung Awarded Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/897069/2016-12-08/post-90 歐陽亦芃-獲總督義工勳章/?variant=zh-hk>

(Sing Tao) City of Vancouver May Charge Extra 0.5% Property Tax To Combat Fentanyl Crisis

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/897053/2016-12-08/post-芬太尼危機極耗資源-溫擬額外加地稅0.5/?variant=zh-hk>

- Cllr. Meggs: drug overdose problem unprecedented, entirely different from one year ago
- Cllr. De Genova: City should use other ways to solve the problem, not increase more tax burden to residents
- City is holding public forum today on fentanyl and Mayor is attending to listen to public opinions

(Ming Pao) Vancouver May Increase Another 0.5% Property Tax To Combat Fentanyl Crisis. Vote On \$3.5M Contingency Next Week

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161208/vas1h_r.htm

(Sing Tao) 150 Feet Tall Chinatown Building Would Damage Chinatown Appearance, According To A Community Group

<http://vancouver.singtao.ca/897060/2016-12-08/post-指華埠聳立 150 呎新廈-團體：破壞傳統風貌/?variant=zh-hk>

- City planning and Development Director Karen Hoese: city's policy is to balance heritage conservation and economic revitalization, ensure new structures match with Chinatown's characteristics; clarifies that building density and height unchanged. All developers have to provide at least 20% social housing
- City planner Helen Ma: clarifies people misunderstood frontages as height
- Chinatown Concerned Group: according to City document, maximum height of Main St. and South Chinatown was 90 feet, but now as long as developers agree to build 20% social housing, they are exempted from public hearing and can build up to 120-150 feet. Currently at Main 700 already two 150feet tall buildings, inconsistent with CBA and other heritage buildings that are 90 feet high
- City would invest \$3.6M for Chinese Society Legacy Program and assist repairs

(Ming Pao) Tireless Contribution To Society, 90-Years-old Au-Yeung Yik Fung Awarded Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers

http://www.mingpaocanada.com/van/htm/News/20161208/vas2_r.htm

from 5 to 7 judges. Through inviting different teams participating, hope to attract more residents to see and more supprises for locals

省政府有責任令樓房市場政策更趨公平

近年樓價節節上升，令住屋成為溫哥華一個顯著的議題。高昂的屋價對城市的經濟影響嚴重，削弱市府支持本地商業的能力及對外來投資的吸引力。溫哥華作為全國經濟增長最強勁的城市，我們必須以一個平衡、完善的方針應對目前的樓市問題，以確保經濟持續向好。

在強健的經濟帶動下，我們的年輕人需要有足夠能力負擔在溫市居住，以填補科技業等高速增長行業數以千計的新職位。對於在本地六間大專院校的學生，長者以及中至低收入人士，對可負擔房屋的需求亦同樣殷切。

本周卑詩省政府公布2016年財政預算案，包括多項針對住屋的策略。收集樓房市場數據在初步階段上是有幫助的，但對於處理樓宇炒賣及減少空置房屋方面卻不足夠；省府錯失了讓樓房市場變得更公平的良機。設立新的奢侈銷售稅亦是好的，但任何產生的收入應該用於協助低至中等收入家庭。

省政府項針對住屋的策略更是忽略了在大溫地區接近一萬個仍在輪候社區房屋家庭。溫哥華有總值二億五千萬元、共二十塊屬於市府的土地，準備好與省和聯邦政府合作興建超過三千五百個全新的可負擔房屋單位。這建議已得到聯邦政府的正面回應，我很樂觀他們將與溫哥華攜手合作興建這些新住屋。有超過一半的新建租賃房屋單位都位於溫市。我們正盡我們的本分解決可負擔房屋緊絀的問題。

對於預算案中對溫哥華或整個地區再次欠奉公共交通基建項目令人失望；嘗試解決可負擔問題卻漠視交通只會適得其反。

溫哥華市政府將繼續竭盡所能解決當前的住屋挑戰，並繼續尋求與兩級政府合作，確保溫市居民安居樂業，及致力於繼續保持低稅率，控制支出，以促進經濟增長。

溫哥華市長羅品信

溫市政府已準備好配合聯邦新預算的交通及房屋撥款

聯邦政府剛公布的新預算案，對溫哥華來說意義重大；特別在交通基建和房屋發展的撥款，將有助溫市政府加快落實計劃。

首先，聯邦新預算案對經常使用公共交通的市民來說是好消息。聯邦政府向大溫地區承諾3億7千萬元交通基建撥款，讓我們可立即展開百老匯街地下鐵路等重要基建的設計工作。聯邦政府同時亦將他們在主要基建計劃中所佔的撥款提高至五成。這是一個惠及城鎮納稅人的重大轉變，讓我們可提升現有服務的效率及展開交通擴建工程。

其次是對房屋供應的新承諾。聯邦政府增加了撥款開設新的露宿者庇護中心及租賃房屋，並兌現了創立全國房屋策略(National Housing Strategy)的承諾。這些政策回應了溫哥華及全國各城市一直提出的要求，也是溫市政府多年來努力提倡的成果。要有效處理溫哥華面對的住屋挑戰，我們需要一個積極願意與市政府協商的聯邦政府共同合作。

市政府的下一步計劃，是盡快將撥款化成實際行動。我聯同大溫市長議會與基建廳部長會面及討論如何加快落實城鎮急需的交通計劃。除了百老匯地鐵以外，我們亦需要更多巴士及更頻繁的服務。此外，我們會要求聯邦政府在制定全國房屋策略時與溫市政府共同合作；我們決心要將住屋作為一個基本生活權利來處理，而非一個隨意賣買的商品。

面前仍有許多工作要做，但看到聯邦政府回應溫哥華的優先議題，及願意協助我們達成目標，我感到非常鼓舞。溫市政府已準備好為聯邦撥款作出配合，及履行市府的份內責任。例如，我們規劃了總值2億5千萬元的20個地皮，以便與聯邦政府合作，將之發展為新的可負擔房屋。我們將繼續以創新而務實的方法，改善溫市住屋和交通兩大挑戰，讓溫市持續成為北美其中一個最理想的居住城市。

溫哥華市長羅品信

溫哥華市議會去年與溫市警察局及溫哥華沿岸衛生局諮詢後，於六月通過規管大麻藥房地點及運作的規例。在新規例之下，大麻藥房必須與學校、社區中心或其他與大麻相關的店鋪保持最少三百公尺的距離。此等措施旨在確保兒童更安全及更有效地管理情況。

溫市採取了管理藥用大麻藥房的行動，是因前朝聯邦政府在全國社區留下了一個真空狀況：沒架構、沒規管、沒標準去協助城市處理這些街頭層面的挑戰。溫市議會採取了必須的步驟，確保本市擁有應付對兒童危害及大麻藥房數目日增等情況的架構。

任何運作的大麻藥房必須通過犯罪紀錄查核。截止去年十月，135個初部申請因不符合附例要求而被否決，只有14間大麻藥房獲准繼續運作，其餘申請仍在輪候審核中。遭否決的大麻藥房需要搬遷到其他符合市府規定的地點，否則便要在四月二十九日前關閉。市府的上訴委員會(Board of Variance)已在過去幾周聽取了首數宗上訴個案。上訴委員會下一次的會議將在三月三十日舉行，我們預計委員會繼續嚴格執行有關附例。

我也聽過公眾對投訴，每年於溫市藝術館外進行、未經批准的4/20抗議活動，對商戶及交通造成的不便日益增加，亦已超出了該區的負荷，因此市府工程部職員、溫市警、消防及公園局都曾與組織活動的一方商討另覓地點。

抗議活動負責人去年秋天告知市府職員，對於遷往日落公園(Sunset Park)感到興趣，職員當時回應，由於這是公園局管轄範圍，市府無法批出活動許可證。我要特別強調，這並非市府批准的活動，市府亦從沒提出任何建議。

抗議活動中的公眾安全是市府的首要事項，因此市府職員正與公園局、市警及消防部門共同制定一個公眾安全方案，以確保活動得以安全及有序地進行。溫市警察局長Adam Palmer最近向媒體表示，他相信日落海灘需要較少警力，相比對市中心造成的交通阻塞亦較少。

我期望見到新的聯邦標準及明確的大麻規管和管制架構。溫市政府目前正盡其本份以成熟、平衡、及務實的態度處理這個棘手的挑戰，從而將溫哥華市民之公眾安全及公共醫療放在首位。

空置房屋與樓價飆升沒有直接關連

我經常聽到市民說溫哥華樓價太高，難以負擔，我非常同情這些年輕人及年輕家庭的憂慮，他們都希望留在溫哥華安居樂業，為我們城市的多元化發展獻出一分力。因此，在一直缺乏相關房屋數據下，市政府為了解實況率先進行研究，嘗試找到空置房屋對可負擔房屋以及鄰人舍發展的影響，報告三月初已在市議會上公布。

這樣的研究仍屬首次，試圖找到溫市空置房屋的數量，而非房屋為何空置。研究發現房屋空置率自2002年以來一直維持於4.8%。在溫市總共22萬5千個房屋或住屋單位中，有1萬8百個空置了一年以上，當中9成為栢文，獨立屋或孖屋只佔1%，與2002年的水平相約。

近年屋價飆升最嚴重的是獨立屋，栢文的屋價升幅則大致平穩，但研究顯示了樓價與房屋空置率並沒有直接關連。另一方面，當許多年輕人及市內居民面對尋找合適住屋最基本的生活挑戰時，卻有4.8%住屋無人居住，那並不合理。房屋必須是用來居住的，房屋絕對不能當作商品看待。若這些業主將空置單位租出去，將有助減輕目前租賃房屋供應的壓力及紓緩可負擔房屋不足的問題。

在法律上，市府在阻退空置房屋上所能做的很有限，去年夏季我已曾去信要求省長簡惠芝，為市府提供有效工具去追蹤及避免業主將房屋長期空置，但至今仍未回覆。市政府近年透過多個合作計劃，大大增加了市內可負擔房屋的供應量。今個星期市府剛宣佈，將在福溪興建135個可負擔房屋單位，當中6成特別為中至低收入家庭而設。但增加供應量，只是解決問題的一部份。

我期待省府盡快回應市府，也回應市民對住屋問題的訴求。可負擔房屋是市政府的優先議題之一來，市府上周公布的報告為了解溫市住屋問題跨進了一大步，但針對可負擔房屋不足並沒有單一的解決方案，各級政府必須迫切正視及作出配合。

溫哥華市長羅品信

溫市政府向違例藥用大麻店嚴格執法

於四月底的周末，溫市政府巡查員開始向違反市府附例的藥用大麻店進行執法。跟據新的市府附例，因為醫療理由而需要長期使用大麻作為止痛等用途的人士，可繼續獲取他們需要的藥用大麻，但同時市府會將這些藥房設置在遠離兒童及青少年的地點。

針對藥用大麻店的新附例就如規管酒房的規例一樣，目的是為防止及限制未成年人士接觸和使用。市府附例嚴禁所有十九歲以下人士進入任何藥用大麻店，而所有相關藥房的僱員亦必須通過犯罪記錄的審核。與此同時，藥房必須位於學校或社區中心 300 米範圍以外，以及遠離其他在該範圍營業的大麻藥房，避免店鋪集中在同一個區域。

於 2015 年十月，溫市政府接收到 176 個與大麻有關的商業牌照申請，當中 140 個因為店鋪不符合距離上的條件而遭否決。該批店鋪獲得六個月通知，即必須於 4 月 29 日午夜的限期前另覓一個附合市府要求的新地點，否則他們必須終止營業。

自市府實行該新附例以來，業界反應一直相當正面，因此我們相信絕大部份店鋪會奉公守法。市府過去對於每個商業牌照的申請者亦持高度透明，與他們定期溝通，讓他們清楚知道市府的期望。也許當中只有幾間違例藥房拒絕停業，而市府將嚴格執法，包括發出告票甚至為採取相應法律行動蒐集證據，例如向法院申請禁制令。

雖然聯邦政府已宣布引入大麻合法化的法例以控制生產、分銷及銷售任何藥用和康樂用大麻的活動，但預料聯邦的新例需要兩年時間才能落實執行。因此在現階段市政府必須執行附例，以杜絕過去幾年市內大麻店鋪氾濫及過份接近學校和公園的情況再度發生。當聯邦法例正式生效時，市府將作出相應修訂。

溫哥華市政府的優先責任，是讓有醫療需要的人士得到所需的藥用大麻，同時確保所有市民及兒童安全，所有商戶依法經營。

溫哥華市長羅品信

由陶黃彥斌街道至溫市的族裔平等政策

溫哥華有不少移民努力建設本地社區之餘，更不遺餘力地協助其他新移民融入本地生活，令這城市更添活力和人情味。溫市議會極為重視和感激這些人士的無私貢獻，其中一位是中僑互助會前行政總裁陶黃彥斌(Lilian To)。

人稱「陶太」的陶黃彥斌於十一年前不幸離世，溫市議會一直討論如何表揚這位華裔社區的重要領袖。市府職員與中僑諮詢及進行詳細資料搜集後，決定於陶太生前經常進出的華埠中僑總部大樓旁的上海巷(Shanghai Alley)入口處，設立兩個「Lilian To Way」標誌。市政府亦正與中僑合作，在該大樓外豎立中英文紀念碑。

同時，市府轄下的城市資產命名委員會仍在物識適合的新街道或市府物業，以陶太命名。這將會是溫哥華首條以華人名字命名的街道。

而為表揚及記念畢生致力推廣族裔平等的南亞裔商人 Jack Uppal，市府將會把溫市一條街道命名為 Jack Uppal Street，這是溫哥華首條以南亞裔名字命名的街道。對於溫市政府表揚出色的社區領袖及模範，及對少數族裔社群的重視，我引以為傲。

另一個溫市在促進族裔平等包容上的里程碑，是溫哥華成為加西首個不分移民身份而為所有居民提供市府服務的城市。在市議會剛剛通過的 Access without Fear 政策下，不論你是簽證逾期的留學生或在職人士、失業的臨時海外勞工或難民申請被拒的人士，均可享用溫市政府服務而毋須擔心市府會向加拿大邊境服務處通報；這是提升城市包容性重要的第一步。

一直以來溫市府在團結社區上落了不少功夫。像表揚陶太及Jack Uppal等社區領袖、照顧弱勢市民等，都有助整個城市更專注在同一個遠景上，就是締造一個更平等和諧的溫哥華，但前面仍有很遠的路要走。

本地華人及各族裔社區不但為我們的城市注入動力，也是整個城市不可分割及極具影響力的一部分。我們會繼續努力，確保這裏是每個人安居樂業的好地方。

溫哥華市長羅品信

溫市擴大清潔街道計劃 潔淨綠化城市

今天我們得以享受溫哥華的清潔海洋、茂密樹林及生氣盎然的社區，背後其實是溫市職員及數以千計義工多年來身體力行得來的美滿成果。溫市議會於五月中通過擴展2016年街道清潔計劃，批出總共23萬5千元讓不同社區組織將街道清潔運動帶入社區層面，市府職員亦向市議會匯報公共場所的清潔進度。

市議會於2015年通過的新預算，大幅增加了公共清潔的項目，是為正視違例棄置雜物、垃圾箱滿溢及瘀塞持續惡化的問題。市府去年透過311熱線收到有關清潔問題的投訴，較前年上升3成至2萬2千宗，市府職員亦清理了多達7萬件非法棄置的雜物。

2016年，市府加大力度確保街道對居民和旅客都更清潔。我們將專責處理棄置廢物的職員人數增加一倍，並將清潔街道及垃圾箱列入我們的最潔淨城市計劃。我們添置了300個更大容量的垃圾箱，市中心後巷的清潔工作由現時每星期四晚增加至七晚。全市的棄置雜物收集亦由每星期三晚增加至五晚。垃圾收集隊伍亦將由三隊擴充至五隊，以及專注垃圾最快滿溢的問題地點。

溫哥華在違法棄置雜物和垃圾的執法上所加大的力度是前所未有的。我們正考慮在一些經常出現滿溢等問題的商業垃圾箱範圍安裝攝錄機，試辦計劃已成功將三宗違例棄置廢物的涉案者定罪及收集7千多元罰款。同時，我們擴大打擊街道、公園及海灘的棄置煙蒂問題，為市內燈柱裝置了煙蒂循環再造收集箱，現時亦正為百老匯走廊的垃圾箱安裝。

而為了讓街道清潔深入至各社區層面，市府提供撥款讓義工推動**Keep Vancouver Spectacular**計劃。計劃展開21年來，累計義工22萬5千人，去年參與人數更較前年多出3成，達到2萬4千人。五月中於華埠舉行的開幕行動更是空前盛大，超過300名義工熱烈支持，顯示溫市市民對潔淨、綠化城市的重視。

保持街道及公園清潔是市府基本工作的一部分，我們會繼續確保有效運用資源以達至最大回報。感謝所有溫市街道清潔上出力的市府職員及數以千計的義工。大家同心協力，在美化溫哥華上都扮演重要角色！

溫哥華市長羅品信

附上相片一張，圖為市長羅品信（中央穿淺藍色恤衫）與一群年輕義工於華埠**Keep Vancouver Spectacular**的啟動儀式上興高彩烈的跳舞。

龍舟划船中心有助團結社區改善健康

今年是慶祝溫哥華國際龍舟節自86年世博舉行後的三十周年；此龍舟節更是在亞洲以外歷史最悠久、規模最盛大的一個。溫哥華公園局終於在福溪成立了全新的划船中心。

作為加拿大國際龍舟節協及卑詩傷健機會協會的會址，這個划船中心對許多移民家庭來說，是一個分享家鄉文化及強身健體的好機會。中華文化中心負責由香港尋找合適的龍舟、船槳及鑼鼓等設備。早於86年舉行、北美首個「地道」的龍舟競渡，文化中心已協助籌款、招募義工團隊、尋找贊助單位、邀請重要社區領袖等各項細節。

中心包括六個存放船隻及划船設備的建築物、六個浮動碼頭、兩個斜坡出入口。來自浮動燈籠所啟發的靈感，划船中心設計簡潔的半透明正方體建築，於晚上由LED環保燈泡照明。以前划船人士使用Creekside社區康樂中心的存放設施，以及鄰近市府所屬前渡輪碼頭、位於福溪東南面的臨時木製碼頭及金屬儲物箱。這個位於福溪全新的非電動划船中心，一直是溫市和公園局長期規劃的目標。

市議會過去幾年與公園局前任主席緊密合作，令划船中心今天得以成為事實。過去二十年龍舟愛好者在該個公園局場地練習了二十年之久，今天划船中心終於可以擁有一個屬於自己的永久會址。

溫市議會於2013年通過撥款，為更大的划船社區尋找永久地點，以滿足當時及長遠的需要。翌年五月，公園局採用Creekside社區中心非電動船隻中心報告中所提及的概念。隨後，市議會通過998 Expo Boulevard的土地規劃申請，協平世博撥出420萬元社區設施款項；這是透過土地規劃，發展商協助發展社區設施的款項。另外，協平世博行政總裁許知仁私人贊助了一百萬元。

此發展商過去曾協助改善公園、碼頭、基建及三公里長海堤等公共空間設施。

划船中心將會發揮團結鄰舍、社區的作用，讓初到溫市的居民認識溫市一部分的歷史。但最重要的是這個帶來正面影響的社區財產，將有助城市繼續向前，而我為到能夠參與這重新發展的計劃引以為傲。

溫哥華代理市長雷建華

住屋是解決無家可歸的綜合性策略

溫哥華的無家可歸人數統計，顯示去年溫市的露宿者增加了6%，這個結果令人感到失望，不竟溫市政府過去八年致力建設社區房屋及庇護中心。因此有人很快得出一個結論，以為溫市政府大力投資社區住屋將全國各地的露宿者都吸引到溫哥華來。

事實上，無家可歸統計反映真實情況並非如此。首先，按照露宿街頭少於一年即為新無家可歸者的定義，去年61%都是「新無家可歸者」，而他們自稱來自本省郊區。這種由偏遠地區遷徙至城市的現象，在維多利亞、楓樹嶺及阿博斯福等城市都正在發生。即使這些城市沒有大力建設社區房屋，在市內群起紮營露宿的情況有上升趨勢。這種由郊區搬遷至城市的流動情況在其他國家亦有出現，像中國有不少人搬至城市尋找工作。可是他們並不了解城市高昂的生活指數，即使有工可做仍無法負荷最終流落街頭。

這一點有明確數證支持，發現亦令人驚訝：最少25%的無家可歸者事實上有固定工作。他們賺取最低時薪但無法負擔租金、食物和交通費。另一方面，許多無家可歸者因頭部受創、癮癮或精神以致失去工作能力。他們領取殘障救濟金，但這金額九年來一直沒有調整過，而租金和食品價格卻持續飆升，迫使他們失去居所。另一項非常可悲的發現是，不少人於接受戒毒和精神病治療後因無法找到可負擔的租金和食物，結果流離失所。

無家可歸者的人數之所以持續上升，是因為各種導致貧窮的成素持續影響低收入以及受精神病和毒癮纏繞的一群，因此解決方案是興建一系列的可負擔房屋。部分房屋應專門提供給這些需要支援的低收入士，直至他們獲得更好的就業培訓和工作，其他則需要接受毒癮及精神病治療，讓他們完全康復後過獨立的生活。這不等於建設廉價住屋，而是向居住其中受貧窮、精神病和癮癮影響的人提供支援。由於涉及的醫療護理如此重要，我們極需要聯邦和省政府的合作。

從經濟角度看，興建住屋讓人居住其中的所需開支，相較讓人露宿街頭低得多；後者引致更高的醫療和社會服務等開支。目前地價高昂，興建支援房屋非常昂貴。這正是溫市市長向聯邦及省政府提供總值2億5千萬元的20塊地皮以興建支援房屋的原因。聯邦政府對這合作計

劃非常感到興趣，而跟據過去與省府的合作經驗，我們有信心這些需求殷切的支援房屋將會落實。當大家願意正視這些導致無家可歸的成因時，我們便邁向終止無家可歸的步伐。

溫哥華市議員鄭文宇

空置房屋稅有助改善可負擔房屋供應

市政府上月宣佈，將向市內空置12個月或以上的住屋，徵收新稅。

無可置疑，溫哥華在住屋問題上面臨嚴竣的挑戰。出租單位空置率幾乎零，與此同時，去年房屋價格飆升高達37%，按揭負債率達到危險的高水平。為了令經濟持續穩健及舒緩尤其家庭和年輕人在尋找可負擔房屋上的壓力，各級政府在管制樓房市場上都有其必須擔當的角色。

首先，溫哥華的房屋應該就是用來居住，而非生財工具，我們需要制定新稅項去鼓勵人善用住屋。面對當前近乎零的房屋空置率及前所未有的住屋壓力，當前急務是協助增加出租單位供應量。目前溫市有最少1萬8百間房屋空置了整整12個月或以上，若當中兩成能夠出租，已超過2015年新建出租單位的數量。

引入空置稅是解決住屋危機正確的第一步。大前題是這針對長期空置房屋的稅項，必須在公平的原則下推行，

而不應影響其他因種種合理原因而將住屋空置的人。例如每年冬季於其他城市暫居的「雪鳥一族」、空置地庫套間，或等候翻新或裝修房屋許可證期間而空置房屋的人。市府職員將於未來數月透過向公眾及相關機構進行諮詢，研究執行空置房屋率的細節。

卑詩省政府可引入新的「空置住宅」物業稅類別，這是最有效的工具協助溫哥華將1萬8百間空置房屋轉為出租物業。過去我已曾要求省府提供迫切的支援，向空置住屋徵稅，但不論市府能否得到其他政府的配合，我們都急需有實際行動。

空置稅是房屋市場邁向公平競爭的第一步，但我們不能停在這裏。我會繼續致力遊說兩級政府正視開徵豪宅稅及投機稅的迫切性；市政府會尋求不同可行辦法，為有困難安身溫哥華的市民，締造一個公平的居住環境。

溫哥華市長羅品信

不值得為康德摩根輸油管擴建計劃冒險

今年五月底，國家能源局向議會總長建議通過康德摩根(Kinder Morgan)的橫山輸油管擴建計劃。站在溫哥華及加拿大的經濟或環境利益看，計劃並不帶來任何好處。聯邦政府應該於年底作出表決時，向建議說「不」。

若擴建橫山輸油管，運輸量將大增七倍，在本地海域航行的船隻將由每月 5 艘增加至 34 艘。一旦發生泄漏，溫哥華沿岸超過 10 公里的海灣將受到污染，破壞史丹利公園、大部分海堤、海灘及其他海濱地區。除了危及數以萬計以海洋及綠色經濟為基礎的工作以外，溫哥華價值 310 億元的可持續、潔淨、綠色「品牌」，亦可能蒙受高達 30 億元的損失。

溫哥華是加國經濟增長最迅速的城市，經濟體系亦最多元化，經濟增長平均為 3%，預計未來五年將持續領先全國。我們的經濟增長由科技、電子技術、互動娛樂，及環保四大工業推動。這些多元化、高技術、知識型及低碳排放的工作正是 21 世紀經濟的基礎。同時，溫市的綠色工作職位增長每年達 6%，不但是全國之冠，更是本省其他行業的 5 倍。

今年八月中我向加拿大政府委任的橫山輸油管擴建部長討論小組，提出反對該項計劃，理由如下：

- 國家能源局審批康德摩根輸油管的程序存在漏洞及偏見，對於一旦發生嚴重泄漏對海岸環境生態的影響以及溫室氣體排放兩方面的科學數據隻字不提，亦忽略了社區的聲音。
- 沒有擴建康德摩根輸油管的必要。油價回落及對傳統原油需求下降，意味著不久將來，油砂瀝青的生產將到達頂點並會逐步減少。
- 因輸油管擴充而增加 Burrard 內海灣的運輸量，將令漏油風險激增 600%，著實過於冒險，對沿岸經濟和環境可以帶來毀滅性的破壞。
- 除了溫室氣體排放導致的氣候轉變以外，亦影響加國於巴黎氣候峰會承諾的減排目標。擴充康德摩根輸油管意味著製造、提煉、運輸及消耗原油所產生的溫室氣體 (7,100 萬噸)，較鑽油及勘探 (770 萬噸) 高出十倍，這些數據亦應該包含在計劃的氣候評估部份。

擴建康德摩根輸油管的安全問題、環境及公共衛生風險，遠遠超出了經濟效益，因此對公眾毫無好處。我會繼續遊說聯邦政府，於康德摩根輸油管擴建計劃中明確提出反對。

溫哥華市長羅品信

空置房屋稅有助增加租賃房屋供應量

溫哥華市議會於九月中通過空置房屋稅建議，並正準備下一部具體的實施細節。此稅制的首要任務是將租賃房屋帶回市場，我必須強調，絕大部分溫哥華業主將毋須繳交此新稅項。

溫哥華的房屋出租率長期徘徊於接近零的歷史低位，令租客即溫市內過半居民陷於住屋危機之中。我聽到不少租客成為業主濫用卑詩租務條例的漏洞、無理加租迫遷或炒賣樓宇的受害者。看到溫市租賃房屋問題深深影響到不同階層市民的生活，著實令人感到氣餒和沮喪。

與此同時，我們留意到業主不一定打算出租物業，是由於他們對業主權利和責任的資料缺乏了解、不想處理租賃問題，或希望更有彈性處理所投資的物業。

目前溫市有最少 1 萬 800 個空置房屋單位，相信另外還有成千上萬個單位未有充份利用。於緊絀的房屋市場中，其實是可以出租和惠及迫切尋找固定出租房屋的人士。

對此，我們希望你清楚了解空置房屋稅：

- 此稅項針對空置、未有善用或預留作商業用途的物業，而不會影響有「主要居所」(principal residence) 用途的物業 (不論是業主、租客或家庭成員)。
- 此稅項會透過自行申報、審核及投訴機制推行，跟業主自住補助計劃 (Homeowner Grant) 相似，做法亦與加拿大稅務局類同。若進行審核，業主將需要證明物業是他們或租客的主要居所，若業主沒有申報，將要自動繳交空置房屋稅。
- 跟據新稅制，部分房屋若有合理空置理由，將可得到豁免，細節透過今秋的公眾諮詢決定。
- 雖然空置房屋稅的主要目的是將更多租賃房屋帶入市場，而按保守估計，若能成功向已知的 1 萬 800 間空置房屋當中的 5% 徵稅，便可收取 2 百萬元稅款，直接投資市內的可負擔房屋專案項目，協助更多家庭在溫市居住。

空置房屋稅的最後修訂將於十一月在市議會上投票表決，準備於 2017 年之前實施。我鼓勵你瀏覽 Vancouver.ca/emptyhomes 及表達意見，網上資料設有中文、英文及旁遮普語版本。網上調查及公眾諮詢將一直舉行至 10 月 18 日。

空置房屋稅並非解決溫市可負擔房屋問題的靈丹妙藥，卻有助紓緩迫在眉睫的租屋短缺危機。當租賃房屋能回復 3 至 5% 的正常水平，市政府將重新檢討實施稅項的必要。

溫哥華市長羅品信

安全注射屋是步向戒毒的第一步

今年一月至九月期間，卑詩省吸毒致死者達到 555 人，當中溫哥華有 111 人，素里 71 人，不少與吸食海洛英及芬太奴有關。為了減少死亡人數進一步上升，省政府首次宣佈本省進行緊急狀態——召集全省最頂尖的醫生，商議在溫哥華加設兩所新的安全注射屋。

在安全注射屋，吸毒者是在專業醫護人員監察下進行注射，避免吸毒過量致死的情況發生。同時，醫護人員會確保他們使用清潔的針筒，避免感染丙型肝炎或愛滋病。更重要的目的，是有醫護人員在場勸導吸毒者接受治療、戒除毒癮，重獲新生。這是注射屋最重要的功能，過去十年曾幫助過的人數以千計。

公眾必須明白，注射屋並不推廣吸毒；設施是為經已染上毒癮的人而設計的。他們大部分曾經遭受虐待或家庭創傷，試圖借助毒品減輕心靈痛楚。因此要戒除毒癮，我們必須正視導致對毒品依賴的根源，透過輔導及醫療方法。但第一步，是開闢一個渠道去接觸這群癮君子。

一旦癮君子暫停持續已久的吸毒習慣時，毒癮便會發作，難以壓抑，身體出現劇痛。唯一能夠控制痛楚的方法便是增加吸食毒品的劑量，結果卻令毒癮加深，成為惡性循環，無法自拔。

但當吸毒者定期到注射屋及與設施的醫護人員建立了信任後，他們會更願意接受戒毒。本國的研究顯示，強迫性戒毒的成功率極低；沒有安全注射屋，醫護人員幾乎沒可能接觸到這群癮君子，莫遑論要引導他們戒毒。沒有人希望見到他們重回街頭犯案以維持他們的毒癮。

卑詩大學及西門菲沙大學的醫學研究均顯示，注射屋是最有效的方法讓癮君子戒毒，亦不會增加年輕人吸毒的傾向。事實上，當年輕人看到注射屋內的情況，反而提高了他們的警覺性從而遠離毒品。

因此溫市政府支持本省醫生在溫市加設兩間注射屋的建議。我們將會與省府及頂尖的醫生緊密合作，確保注射屋不但能挽救生命，協助更多人戒毒，從而減少市內吸毒的人數。

溫哥華市議員鄭文宇

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在安全注射屋，吸毒者是在專業醫護人員監察下進行注射，避免吸毒過量致死的情況發生。同時，醫護人員會確保他們使用清潔的針筒，避免感染丙型肝炎或愛滋病。更重要的目的，是有醫護人員在場勸導吸毒者接受治療、戒除毒癮，重獲新生。這是注射屋最重要的功能，過去十年曾幫助過的人數以千計。

公眾必須明白，注射屋並不推廣吸毒；設施是為經已染上毒癮的人而設計的。他們大部分曾經遭受虐待或家庭創傷，試圖借助毒品減輕心靈痛楚。因此要戒除毒癮，我們必須正視導致對毒品依賴的根源，透過輔導及醫療方法。但第一步，是開闢一個渠道去接觸這群癮君子。

一旦癮君子暫停持續已久的吸毒習慣時，毒癮便會發作，難以壓抑，身體出現劇痛。唯一能夠控制痛楚的方法便是增加吸食毒品的劑量，結果卻令毒癮加深，成為惡性循環，無法自拔。

但當吸毒者定期到注射屋及與設施的醫護人員建立了信任後，他們會更願意接受戒毒。本國的研究顯示，強迫性戒毒的成功率極低；沒有安全注射屋，醫護人員幾乎沒可能接觸到這群癮君子，莫遑論要引導他們戒毒。沒有人希望見到他們重回街頭犯案以維持他們的毒癮。

卑詩大學及西門菲沙大學的醫學研究均顯示，注射屋是最有效的方法讓癮君子戒毒，亦不會增加年輕人吸毒的傾向。事實上，當年輕人看到注射屋內的情況，反而提高了他們的警覺性從而遠離毒品。

因此溫市政府支持本省醫生在溫市加設兩間注射屋的建議。我們將會與省府及頂尖的醫生緊密合作，確保注射屋不但能挽救生命，協助更多人戒毒，從而減少市內吸毒的人數。

溫哥華市議員鄭文宇