

**From:** "Mochrie, Paul" <[Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)>  
**To:** ["Direct to Mayor and Council"](#)  
**Date:** 4/10/2025 8:44:27 AM  
**Subject:** Upcoming news release: Vaisakhi Festival and Parade this weekend in Vancouver (April 10, 2025)

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below news release recognizing Vaisakhi and advising the public of traffic impacts related to the Vaisakhi Festival and Parade taking place this Saturday in South Vancouver.

Please keep this info bulletin embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account. Maria will reply to this email with the relevant [vancouver.ca](http://vancouver.ca) link and social media links, once these are live.

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)

City Manager

City of Vancouver

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

**April 10, 2025**

## **Vaisakhi Festival and Parade this weekend in Vancouver**

On Saturday, April 12, thousands of residents and visitors will gather in the heart of South Vancouver to celebrate Vaisakhi, an important religious occasion for the Sikh community.

Vaisakhi celebrates the creation of the Khalsa, a spiritual order founded by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699, a defining moment in Sikh history. Vaisakhi also marks the beginning of the spring harvest in Punjab. The Vancouver Vaisakhi Festival and Parade has been held annually since 1979, with a pause during the pandemic.

"We wish the Sikh community, along with all those joining in the celebrations, a joyful and safe Vaisakhi and Nagar Kirtan," said Mayor Ken Sim. "Vancouver's diversity is the foundation of our strength, vibrancy, and prosperity. This parade encourages all Vancouverites to unite in honouring the rich heritage of the Sikh community and celebrating this inclusive and meaningful event that brings us together."

The festival will take place from 11 am to 4 pm on Saturday, April 12. Be sure to check the [parade route](#) and [learn more about the event](#).

### **Traffic impacts and road closures**

To help with the parade, there will be road closures on Saturday, April 12, from 10 am to 6 pm in the following areas:

- Main St closed from E 49th Ave to SE Marine Dr
- Fraser St closed from E 41st Ave to SE Marine Dr
- Westbound SE Marine Dr closed from Knight St to Main St
- 57th Ave closed from Knight St to Ontario St

Drivers in and around these areas should plan ahead and expect delays. Please pay attention to all parking regulations including "No Parking" signs. Find information on [parking near the event](#).

### **How to help the parade run smoothly**

To make sure the parade goes as smoothly as possible, attendees are encouraged to:

- Walk, bike, roll or take transit if possible.
- Be mindful of road closures and give yourself plenty of time to get where you need to go.
- Put waste in its place: use the nearest garbage bin or take your waste home with you. Extra waste bins will be provided for this event.
- Be respectful of the neighbourhood and keep noise to a minimum.

### **More upcoming special events this spring**

- [Vancouver Sun Run](#), Sunday April 27
- [BMO Marathon and Half Marathon](#), Sunday May 4
- [Italian Day on the Drive](#), Sunday June 8
- [Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival](#), June 20 – 22
- [Vancouver International Jazz Festival](#), June 20 – July 1
- [Vancouver Half Marathon](#), Sunday June 22
- [Greek Day on Broadway](#), Sunday June 22

### **Traffic tips**

- Plan ahead and expect delays.
- Follow all detours and pay attention to all parking regulations including “No Parking” signs.
- Learn more about [road closures](#) across the city.
- Open your map app, follow #VanTraffic or use [traffic cameras](#) to check traffic conditions along your route.
- Visit [translink.ca/alerts](https://translink.ca/alerts) for changes or disruptions to your bus service.

### **Media contact:**

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