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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council"](#)
Date: 5/8/2026 11:00:29 AM
Subject: Update: Guru Nanak Jahaz (Komagata Maru) Panel Refurbishment and Installation

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find below an update on the refurbishment of the [Guru Nanak Jahaz \(Komagata Maru\) Memorial](#) in Harbour Green Park, including the updated content and installation date.

Updated Panel Content:

- The memorial has been updated to include more detailed history in English, Punjabi and Hindi. Improved photo.
- It uses both Guru Nanak Jahaz and Komagata Maru* in reference to this incident.

Completion Date:

- May 11 -15th, aligning with the May 23rd Guru Nanak Jahaz (Komagata Maru) Remembrance Day
- The Remembrance Day reflects on the historical discrimination against 376 Sikh, Hindu and Muslim passengers who travelled aboard the ship from British India in 1914.

Please direct any media inquiries to PB.communications@vancouver.ca. Learn more at: [Guru Nanak Jahaz \(Komagata Maru\) Remembrance Day | City of Vancouver](#)

Supporting Background Information:

- In February of 2011, The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation received a proposal from the Khalsa Diwan Society for a monument commemorating the Komagata Maru Incident.
- Funded through the Historical Recognition Program administered by Citizenship and Immigration Canada.
- The memorial was officially unveiled on July 23, 2012.
- Repeated vandalism in damage. The original image, due to a technical issue, also misrepresented turbans.
- Following consultation with subject matter experts, Park Board staff updated the panel's content and replaced the glass panel with steel to improve durability, safety and reduce long-term costs.
- Targeted community engagement focused on the panel messaging, imagery and translations while engagement with local Nations focused on the memorial messaging, including the land acknowledgement.

*Note on Naming of the Incident:

- The Guru Nanak Steamship Company, established by Baba Gurdit Singh, chartered the vessel commercially known as Komagata Maru.
- The name Guru Nanak Jahaz ("jahaz" meaning ship) was not an officially registered name; however, it was given to the ship by Gurdit Singh and passengers, following an ardaas (prayer service) at the Gurdwara in Hong Kong prior to departure.
- The name reflected the company's name as well as the cultural and spiritual significance of the voyage.
- Although the name does not appear in official shipping records, it is cited in published historical accounts and remains an important community-based reference expressing the strong cultural identity and emotional connection to the incident.
- Both Guru Nanak Jahaz and Komagata Maru are used to refer to this incident.

If you have questions, please contact me directly and I would be pleased to provide a response through the weekly Councillor Q&A.

Thanks,

Margaret

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples