

WESTCOAST WEEKEND

TRACY GETS POLE POSITION
SPORTS B2

ORCAS IN THE STREETS
Vancouverites and tourists alike are going wild for whales.
DAILY SPECIAL B2-B3

THE DEATH OF A HUNTER
OBSERVER C1

THE VANCOUVER SUN

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Top court curtails police body searches
BY JAMES TROTTER
A 5-4 majority of the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that police officers cannot search a person's body without a warrant or consent. The ruling is a significant victory for civil liberties groups who have long argued that such searches are a violation of the right to privacy. The court's decision is expected to have a major impact on law enforcement practices across the country.

TASER Can it kill?
BY JAMES TROTTER
A 10-year-old man died after being shocked by a Taser. The incident has reignited the debate over the safety of these non-lethal weapons. While manufacturers claim Tasers are safe, medical experts warn of potential complications, especially for individuals with pre-existing health conditions.

B.C. drafts privacy law to curb U.S. Patriot Act
BY JAMES TROTTER
The British Columbia government has introduced a privacy bill designed to protect citizens from the overreach of the U.S. Patriot Act. The legislation aims to ensure that personal information is not shared with foreign governments without proper safeguards.

Man's death after Taser jolt fuels growing safety debate
BY JAMES TROTTER
A 10-year-old boy died after being shocked by a Taser. The incident has reignited the debate over the safety of these non-lethal weapons. While manufacturers claim Tasers are safe, medical experts warn of potential complications, especially for individuals with pre-existing health conditions.

Tina the elephant dies in Tennessee
BY JAMES TROTTER
A 15-year-old elephant named Tina died after a long illness. Her death has raised questions about the welfare of elephants in captivity and the impact of environmental factors on their health.

How hot is it? Listen to the leaves
BY JAMES TROTTER
Scientists are using a new method to measure temperature by listening to the sounds of leaves. The technique involves recording the rustling of leaves and analyzing the patterns to determine the ambient temperature.

RESIDENTS' VIEW
A column of short, opinionated pieces from local residents on various community issues.

LEARN TO WIN
A section offering tips and strategies for various games and activities.

YOU COULD WIN!
A large promotional banner for a contest or lottery, featuring a large number '1' and the text 'YOU COULD WIN!'.

'Bigger and better' Aberdeen Centre reopens as a multicultural experience

RICHMOND | The rebuilt mall opens Sunday and features retail and restaurant names from around the world

BY PETER WILSON
VANCOUVER SUN

The \$130-million, three-level rebuilt Aberdeen Centre hopes its East-meets-West flair will attract shoppers from across the Lower Mainland when it opens officially Sunday at 1 p.m.

It replaces Richmond's old Aberdeen Centre, built in 1989 as the first truly Asian shopping experience in the Vancouver area.

The reborn mall — with 380,000 square feet of international shopping and dining — is aimed, its operators say, at celebrating multiculturalism with big retail and restaurant names from around the world.

"The target market is everybody in the Lower Mainland," said the centre's promotion director, Wenissa Huen. "When the old building was torn down, we aimed at an East-meets-West urban look.

"It's unique — you can't find anything else like this in the Lower Mainland."

Eighty per cent of the mall's more than 200 stores are leased, and 100 are expected to be operating on opening day. The rest are being renovated for the tenants.

One of the centre's star attractions, said Huen, will be the Japanese dollar-store-equivalent Daiso, offering more than 50,000 household and lifestyle products on two floors.

"When we pick the tenants, we try to hunt for those with a very unique image, and Daiso is a very good example."

Also at the Aberdeen Centre, built by entrepreneur Thomas Fung's Fairchild Group, are a couple of internationally known furniture stores: Flash Living Design from Thailand and the Hanzone Korean department store.

As well, said Huen, there's the fashion store O Zone, which carries such well-known Hong Kong designers as Heroic, Imaroon and Moisselle.

Among the food outlets is the Seventh Heaven Cafe, designed to look like it's right out of 1970s Shanghai, the Tropika Restaurant, which serves Malaysian food, and the Fisherman's Terrace Seafood Restaurant.

Huen said the grand opening — featuring Hawaiian dancers, rock-star imitators, cooking demonstrations and the drumming group Uzume Taiko — is designed as a day of family fun.

Aberdeen Centre is at the southwest corner of Hazelbridge Way and Cambie Road in Richmond.

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The Aberdeen Centre's operators say the mall is aimed at both Asian and western shoppers and that it's one-of-a-kind in the Lower Mainland. Eighty per cent of the mall's more than 200 stores are now leased.



The prominent fountain at Richmond's rebuilt Aberdeen Centre garners attention (above left), as does the ceiling (above right). Also shown are the centre's interior (far left) and the shopping mall's food court (left). Sunday's grand opening features Hawaiian dancers, rock-star imitators, cooking demonstrations and a drumming group.