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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2008

Richmond News

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Hair today, gone tomorrow
Julie Chen, 7, holds up her hair, which was cut by Maria Kourouni at Homeaway Salon at Richmond Centre. Julie and her sister, Cassidy, had a haircut with a difference: the other day when they stepped into the salon. Instead of having their cut hair swept away, the two on stylists kept it and it will be sent away to Wig for Kids to make wigs for children with cancer. Their sister, Sharon, who lives in the Terra Nova area, told how the girls grew their hair for the last year specifically for the cause. "They're both very socially aware and wanted to help other kids."

AGRICULTURE

ALC to hear city's case on Garden City lands Aug. 14

By Nelson Bennett
nbennet@richmond-news.com

Meeting is not a public hearing, but is open to members of the public to attend

The Agricultural Land Commission has scheduled a special meeting to hear an application to exclude the Garden City lands from the Agricultural Land Reserve. A special six-member South Coast Panel — which is twice as large as what would typically be convened — will be in Richmond Aug. 14 to hear the city's application.

That's about a month earlier than the ALC had normally expected to schedule a meeting.

A typical ALC application would normally be heard by a three-member panel. But the Garden City lands proposed to be given special consideration.

South Coast Panel members John

Terminson, Sylvia Pranger and Michael Bose will be joined by ALC chairman Erik Karlson, David Curran of the Vancouver Island Panel, and Roger Meyer of the Okanagan Panel in hearing the application.

"We've approved a larger panel because of the magnitude of the proper and the volume of the information to go through," said ALC executive director Colin Fry.

He referred to the thousands of pages of written and oral submissions made to the city — and passed on to the ALC — during a marathon six-day long public hearing in March.

The six panel members will first tour the 55-hectare property and then con-

vene a panel meeting at the Four Points Sheraton Airport Hotel at 8368 Alcananda Road at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting is open to the public, but is not a public hearing.

"This is not a public information meeting, but the public, should they wish to be informed, they can attend," Fry said.

The City of Richmond will be asked to make its case, and that may be aided by the panel.

Fry said it's not likely the panel will make any decisions on Aug. 14. More likely the panel will convene a meeting later to announce its decision.

Removing the Garden City lands from the ALC is a precondition for a joint

development proposal by the city, Canada Lands Company and Missquam First Nation.

In addition to the large volume of information stemming from the March public hearing, the ALC has continued to receive a number of written submissions from all over B.C.

They include letters of support for the exclusion from former Richmond Mayor Neil A. Gifford and Bill Jensen, a retired Richmond farmer who assess the land is not viable for farming, despite attention to the contrary by a number of agriculturalists, including the ALC's.

see ALC page 5

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City of Richmond declares Beijing 8.8.08 Day

BY SARA NEWHAM
Special to the News

In case anyone feels left out of the Beijing Olympic experience, the City of Richmond has come up with a remedy.

On Thursday, Mayor Malcolm Brodie was expected to sign a proclamation declaring August 8, 2008 as Beijing 8.8.08 Day in Richmond to coincide with the opening of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing that same day.

The proclamation will be signed a week in advance of a major event

held at Richmond's Aberdeen Centre when the community is invited for a free pancake breakfast, entertainment, and an opportunity to watch the opening ceremonies of the Beijing Games on a giant screen beginning — if you can set the alarm early enough — it begins at 5 a.m. The event is a result of a partnership between the Richmond Spirit of B.C. Committee, Legacies Now, Aberdeen Centre, the city and other businesses including the *Richmond News*.

According to city spokesperson Ted Townsend, the proclamation

is a result of a number of connections between Richmond and China. Among them, Richmond and Beijing are venue cities in consecutive Olympic Games as is Qingdao, one of Richmond's newest Chinese friendship cities.

"Of course there's a lot of cultural and economic ties between Richmond and China," said Townsend. "And so for all of those reasons, we are joining in supporting the celebration that will coincide with the opening of the games and looking forward to 2010 when we will be in the spotlight as an official

venue city."

According to a draft of the document, the proclamation is also in recognition that the community is committed to building its extensive and fruitful connections with Chinese peoples around the world and with fellow members of the Olympic family.

Accompanied by representatives from Aberdeen Centre, the Richmond Spirit of B.C. Committee, Legacies Now, and the Vice Consul of China, Brodie will sign the proclamation at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday in the atrium at City Hall.