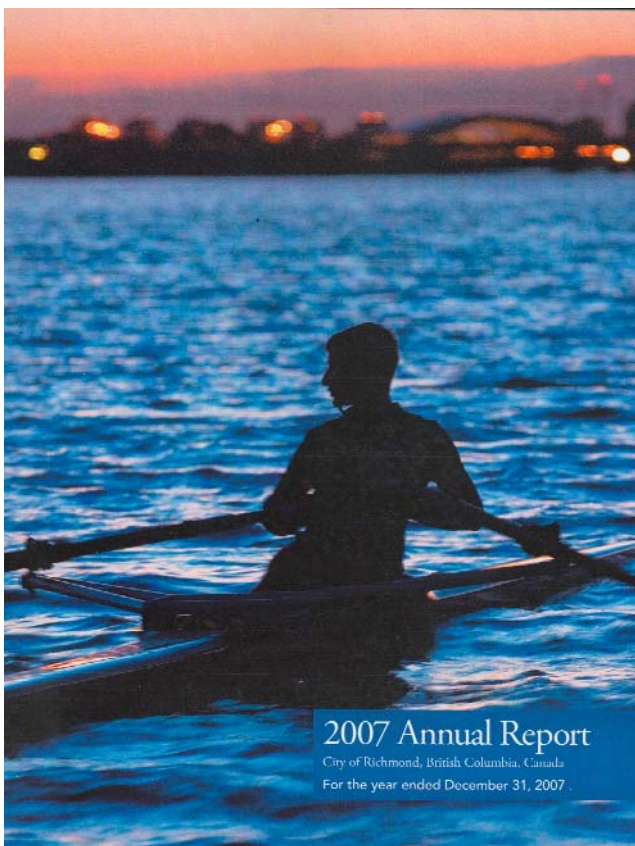


2007 ANNUAL REPORT CITY OF RICHMOND, BC CANADA



Overview



2007 City of Richmond Overview

Purpose of the Annual Report

Fiscal responsibility with transparent financial reporting practices – this is a commitment the City of Richmond does not take lightly. To that end, the 2007 Annual Report contains clear, transparent audited statements on the City's fiscal status to taxpayers, residents and other stakeholders to whom we are accountable.

A statement of Richmond's corporate objectives and success indicators are also included as declared under the Community Charter for British Columbia's local governments.

We are also proud to include a community profile, a summary of Richmond's significant achievements and major projects during the 2007 fiscal year and additional related statistical data.

Overview

Richmond is a community that offers outstanding quality of life whether you are seeking to live, work or play here. A culturally diverse population of 188,100 people has made our city home as it is geographically blessed and favourably located within Metro Vancouver in close proximity to downtown Vancouver and the Canada/US border.

The City of Richmond is made up of 17 islands in the mouth of the Fraser River with the coastal mountain range as a backdrop. Richmond's preserved farming and fishing heritage and lush natural environment are still important components of the city's makeup. However, it has also grown into a highly livable, world renowned urban centre, with Richmond's City Centre being one of the fastest growing neighbourhoods in the region.

Richmond was recently proclaimed "Canada's healthiest city" by Canadian Living magazine (August 2007). This honour is primarily due to Richmond's leading status in a number of major health indicators, including a high quality of life and the influence of Richmond's diverse cultural make-up. And for several years running, world health organizations have identified Richmond as a community where people live longer.

"Richmond has grown into a highly livable, world renowned city, with the City Centre being one of the fastest growing neighbourhoods in the region."

Photo: The Aberdeen Centre Shopping Mall