

Royal B.C. Museum offers free tickets to low-income members of city program

Times Colonist

The Royal B.C. Museum is rolling out a pilot program that will offer free admission to low-income Victoria residents enrolled in a city program.

The museum will offer one complimentary ticket to the museum to new members of the city's Leisure Involvement for Everyone or LIFE program.

The LIFE program, which has operated in the city for more than 25 years, offers eligible low-income individuals and families a combination of credit and free drop-in visits to recreational programs and services in the city.

The MyMuseum pilot program will operate until the end of 2024.

The museum also offers free admission to Indigenous people and new Canadians, as part of the Canoo Cultural Access Pass program.

"The Royal B.C. Museum's mandate is to be a place for all people of British Columbia," acting CEO Tracey Drake said in a statement. "Launching this essential community program aligns strongly with our mandate and more importantly, creates further accessibility to spark the minds and imaginations of future generations of museum goers."

Victoria Mayor Marianne Alto said the partnership with the RBCM on MyMuseum reflects the city's commitment to fostering inclusivity, "ensuring that everyone in our community has the opportunity to explore and enjoy the rich offerings of the Royal B.C. Museum."

For more information, go to royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/creating-connections-initiative.

For more information on City of Victoria accessibility and inclusion programs, including the LIFE program, go to victoria.ca/parks-recreation/recreation/programs-registration/accessibility-inclusion or write to crystalpool@victoria.ca.

For more information on the Canoo program, go to canoo.ca.

Spirits from near and far star at Victoria whiskey fest



Kevin Titcomb from DEVINE Distillery pours a Spirit of the Deep whiskey in the Fathom Lounge at the Hotel Grand Pacific. The local distillery is one of the participants in the Victoria Whiskey Festival, which runs until Sunday at the Hotel Grand Pacific on Belleville Street. DARREN STONE, TIMES COLONIST

NOTICE OF CHANGES TO PUBLIC NOTICES

Monday, January 22nd at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers at Central Saanich Municipal Hall

PUBLIC NOTICE BYLAW #2169

This is to notify that Council intends to consider a Public Notice Bylaw, which will forgo the requirements for newspaper notices, in alignment with s. 94(2) of the Community Charter. As an alternative, moving forward notices would be published online on the District website and social media accounts as well as posted in the Municipal Hall.

Council and staff may still choose newspaper notices on a discretionary basis. Notices must continue to be reliable, suitable and accessible.

HOW TO PROVIDE INPUT

- Written enquiries and comments submitted by mail or email received by 12:00 pm on January 22nd, 2024, will be included in the revised meeting agenda. All correspondence submitted will form part of the public record and may be published on a meeting agenda. Comments may be submitted by the following:
 - Email comments to municipalhall@csaanich.ca
 - Mail comments to 1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton, BC, V8M 2A9
 - Deliver comments to the Municipal Hall, 1903 Mount Newton Cross Road

Additionally, you may:

- Attend the council meeting in person.
- Attend Virtually: Register to speak via electronic meeting, email municipalhall@csaanich.ca or call 250-652-4444 by noon on the meeting date and you will be sent instructions on how to connect.

WATCH THE MEETING

Live online or view the video the following day at centralsaanich.ca/council-meetings

WATCH THE MEETING

Email: planning@csaanich.ca

Website, including a copy of the Bylaw: CentralSaanich.ca/council-meetings

Woman hurt in collision receives \$1M in damages

ROXANNE EGAN-ELLIOTT
Times Colonist

A Greater Victoria woman who was injured when she was rear-ended by a truck in 2016 has been awarded just over \$1 million in damages.

Alyssa Reaume was 23 and four and a half months pregnant with her first child when her vehicle was struck from behind by a Ford F-550 on Aug. 11, 2016.

Reaume was on her way home from her job as a shift supervisor at Starbucks when she was hit while stopped behind a line of cars. She recalled her vehicle being pushed forward and her knees hitting the dashboard before her body recoiled in the seat, according to a B.C. Supreme Court decision.

Reaume's station wagon was pushed into the car in front of her, which was pushed into the vehicle in front as well, causing a four-car pile-up. Her vehicle sustained about \$16,000 in damage.

Reaume said her first concern was the safety of her fetus. She drove to the side of the road and when she got out of her vehicle, "her legs felt 'like jelly', her knees hurt, and she found it hard to walk," the decision said.

Reaume was taken to Victoria General Hospital in an ambulance. At the hospital, she felt shooting pains in her hips and lower back, a headache and neck pain and her ears were ringing, the decision said.

A fetal ultrasound the following week showed no abnormalities in the fetus.

Reaume said she suffered an injury to her right shoulder, migraines, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression.

She sought damages for past and future loss of income-earning capacity, future care and non-pecuniary damages for intangible losses.

Defendants Andrea Rossetto, who was driving the Ford F-550 truck, and Global Pro Systems Inc. have admitted liability for the collision and admit to the injuries and symptoms Reaume says she sustained, although they don't agree that all of her symptoms are as severe as she says they are.

The defendants agreed to pay \$35,000 for past income earning capacity and \$4,453.39 in special damages, but disagreed on the amount for future earning potential and non-pecuniary damages, awarded to compensate for pain,

suffering, loss of enjoyment of life and loss of amenities.

Justice Andrew Mayer sought to assess the severity of Reaume's injuries and losses as a result of the injuries, including ongoing symptoms and their impacts on her life.

Reaume testified she has persistent pain in her right arm and shoulder, aggravated by repetitive activity, lifting above her head and reaching. The pain induces migraines, which she has about once a month, down from three to four times a week immediately after the collision, she said.

She said the shoulder pain prevents her from carrying her children in a backpack, so she's not able to have the active, outdoors lifestyle she once had, which consisted of surfing, snowboarding, kayaking, hiking, hunting and camping. She is unable to perform many chores that involve repetitive motion, such as folding laundry or deep cleaning, the decision said.

Reaume reduced her work hours at Starbucks because of her pain, the judgment says. At the time of the collision, she had just finished a Visual Arts diploma from Camosun College but an occupational therapist testified she's not well suited to work as an artist due to her pain from repetitive motions.

Reaume argued her earning potential has been reduced by roughly \$1 million, because she can only work part-time hours due to her injuries.

Mayer considered the testimony of two psychiatrists who assessed Reaume and provided expert evidence on the extent of her injuries.

One psychiatrist believed Reaume became depressed following the collision as a result of chronic pain and its impact on her ability to care for her newborn. The doctor also diagnosed Reaume with somatic symptom disorder, a preoccupation with her physical symptoms that created a sense of her life revolving around her pain.

The doctor testified Reaume will likely continue to suffer from anxiety, depression and somatic symptom disorder.

Mayer awarded Reaume \$120,000 for non-pecuniary damages, \$850,000 for loss of future earning capacity and \$12,500 for future care in addition to agreed amounts, for a total of \$1,021,953.

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