

Story 1: Canada's first Paralympic gold medal

Aurelie Rivard won Canada's first gold medal at the Paralympic games. "The Summer Paralympic Games are a major international multi-sport event for athletes with disabilities and takes place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from September 7th to September 18th 2016. The 20-year-old from St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec, won the 50-metre freestyle swimming in a world record time of 27.37 seconds on Friday. This is Rivard's second Paralympic Games. Rivard finished ahead of New Zealand's Sophie Pascoe and China's Yi Chen. "I'm not sure I realize it yet." Rivard said. "I don't know whether to laugh, jump or throw up. It's my first event and I've broken the world record and won. I'm in heaven". Officials say 159 nations are taking part in the Paralympic games this year.

Story 2: Vancouver's new bike share program off to a great start!

Vancouver has a new bike share program called Mobi and it is getting more and more popular. Mobi (pronounced "moe-bee") is a bicycle sharing program in Vancouver. The system is owned by the city and is operated by the company CycleHop. With Mobi bicycles, you can hop on a bike and ride to a meeting, have dinner at the beach, or simply check out a new part of town. But what exactly is a bike share program? Bike share programs are like car share companies, but with bicycles. Vancouver now has 1,500 bicycles and 150 stations available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Similar to a car share, you can get a yearly membership and pay for each ride by the amount of time you use the bike. The service area includes downtown Vancouver and is bordered by Arbutus Street, West 16th Avenue, and Main street. They are hoping to expand to Macdonald Street in the west and to Commercial Drive in the east. Free helmets, which are locked to the bikes, are available to riders. Mobi offers a \$7.50 day pass, which gives the user unlimited rides under 30 minutes. Monthly pass options ranging from \$10 - \$20 are also now available.

Story 3 Vancouver Public Library New app to explore city's past and present

The Vancouver Public Library has a new computer app. The new app will give residents and visitors a chance to tour the city of Vancouver with photos and stories. People will tell their stories about what it is like to live in different neighbourhoods of Vancouver. The first tour in the collection is called Chinatown Stories: A Narrative Exploration. The stories tell what it was like to grow up, work and live in one of the city's oldest neighbourhoods. The makers of the app say it is a great way to discover cool, little places to eat in Chinatown now, but also see what it was like to live in Chinatown in the past. It also shows us how Chinatown has changed. The app is free, and users can download the tour that they want to their mobile phone. The clips or short stories first begin with a scene or picture and some

introductory texts and users get information about where to start their tours. From there, users put on headphones and listen to the storytelling as memories unfold of past businesses, landmarks, eateries and other destinations. “You actually get to hear the community voices as you make your way down the street”, said a spokesperson for the new app. “These are memories that are lost when the people pass away or move on.”

The new app is part of a longer-term strategy to collect local community stories, images, audio clips, videos and personal interviews that library staff have been working on over the last three years. It is available for download via Google Play or the iTunes store.

Story 4 BC’s minimum wage set to increase to \$10.85 an hour Sept. 15

B.C.’s minimum wage is set to increase to \$10.85 an hour from \$10.45 an hour on Sept 15th but labour groups say the 40-cent increase is not enough and are calling for a \$15 hourly wage for the lowest-income earners in Canada’s most expensive province. “It’s very hard to understand how they get by,” said Irene Lanzinger, head of the B.C. Federation of Labour. “They are choosing sometimes between rent and food. They’re not doing the things they want to do with their children and many times must work more than one job.

Brady Taylor earned \$8 to \$10 an hour working at three temp agencies for two years. One day, he was sent to a construction site in Port Coquitlam. The next day, a warehouse in North Vancouver. He worked all the jobs he could get because he can’t find a full-time job. “It puts so much strain on you — not having a steady place to go eats away at you, not knowing when or where your next job is, not knowing if you are going to have a day off,” he said. Since then, Taylor, 25, has moved slowly up the labour ladder. He now works as a delivery man for a party and event rental company for \$15 an hour. But he still lives with his 83-year-old grandfather in a one-bedroom apartment in Burnaby. His grandpa pays the \$875 rent from his pension while Taylor pays the bills, including utilities and groceries. He’s also paying off student loans. He’s better off than a lot of people working at or near minimum wage, but sympathizes with them. “I was working underneath \$15 for a very long time. I know exactly what the pain of that is,” he said.

“The minimum wage has not kept pace with the cost of living,” said Horgan, citing rising costs of MSP, hydro and car insurance, among other things. He also pointed out that minimum wage had remained stagnant for close to a decade in B.C. until 2011. “There’s a lot of catching up we have to do,” he said. “After the increase (to \$10.85) it’ll still be low. We’ll still be lagging behind.”

In B.C., an estimated 93,700 people — roughly five per cent of the workforce — currently earn minimum wage. Of those, 43 per cent are above age 25.

Story 5 UBC to provide free overdose kits

UBC will give out free overdose kits without a prescription as a “harm reduction” response to the fentanyl overdose crisis in the province. Harm reduction helps to keep people safe and minimize death, disease and injury from high-risk behaviour.

Fentanyl is a powerful opioid drug which is used as a pain medication. It has been found in street drugs such as cocaine, ecstasy, and even marijuana. Patricia Mirwaldt, director of UBC Student Health Services, says the provincial program began in the spring, but only few students have come in to get a kit.

The B.C. Coroners Service says between Jan. 1 and July 31, 433 people died of drug overdose in B.C. Fentanyl was detected in 62 per cent of cases. In April, B.C.’s provincial health officer declared a public health emergency in response to the rise in drug overdoses and deaths.

The University of B.C. is giving out free opioid antidote kits without a prescription from Student Health Services. Students who ask for the naloxone, the drug that antidotes opioids, don’t need a prescription, but they will be required to state that they are a drug user and have a conversation with a nurse about the ongoing fentanyl crisis in the province. A nurse will also show the student how to use the naloxone. The website for the provincial program ,[Toward the Heart](#) , lists all the harm reduction sites in B.C.