

## The Best of Richmond



### My Best of Richmond

Sherry Elasoff

#### Best guilty pleasures

Many will gasp when I admit I don't give a hoot about doughnuts. But only in Richmond can you get my two favourite weaknesses—Beard Papa's cream puffs and Yaohan's coconut bread. If I didn't live here, I'd get these couriered to me.

#### Best 'work-arounds'

If you're a true Richmondite you know how to avoid traffic jams by using alternate roads,

will get your shopping done before the end of lunch, use late night store hours early in the week to your advantage, and avoid No. 3 Road like the plague, particularly on the weekend (although during Canada Line construction on other days it can be a ghost town and worth giving a go).

#### Best hidden gem

If you haven't strolled around the little lake in Minoru Park, you're missing the best part of Richmond's largest park. Located between Gateway Theatre and Richmond Centre, its entrances aren't obvious—the easiest path to find is to the left of Minoru Chapel. Watch, but don't feed: bunnies, ducklings, or lawn bowlers.

#### Best robots in our midst

State-of-the-art facilities at Richmond Public Library include particularly cool robotic DVD dispensers. Book your DVDs from their online catalogue, then pick them up for a free three-day loan. Yes, free. Give them back to the robot when you're done.

#### Best reason to get off the couch

You can circumnavigate Richmond on 47.5 km of dyke



*Martin van den Hemel photo*  
**Craig Takiguchi and Minoru Inagaki know their Beard Papa's cream puffs are a guilty pleasure for many.**

trails. Probably not all at once. Whichever part you pick is fantastic for its views. Have

a picnic, go fishing, fly a kite, or walk your cat (I purposefully avoid the "d-" word because

their owners generate so many letters to the editor.)

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# The Best of Richmond

## food

# Readers' Best of Richmond



Mark Patrick photo

Que Pasa: South-of-the-border food in south Richmond.

### Best place to handle a hot tamale

Que Pasa Mexican Foods (12031 No. 5 Rd.). Widely available in supermarkets, Que Pasa tortilla chips and salsa are a party standby. But Mexican food lovers should go to the source and check out Que Pasa's Richmond store and deli. Besides burritos, enchiladas and fajitas, there's a fine selection of tamales, sauces, beans, peppers and many speciality products (though sadly, no *huitlacoche*, which is corn fungus, *gringo*, and delicious). There's also mounds of those tasty white corn tortillas, two types of chipotle, tomatilloes and more. Plus there's a lot of Mexicans on staff who can pass along cooking tips.

#### Loaf of bread

1. Cobs
  2. Steveston Bakery
  3. Romania Country Bread
- Also: "Ian Lai's bread."

#### Bubble Tea

1. Bubble King
2. Pearl Castle
3. Tapioca Express

#### Chinese Food

1. #9 Restaurant (Tie)
1. Danny's (Tie)
2. Kirin

#### Curry

1. Curry Express (tie)
  1. La Tandoor (tie)
  2. Mui Garden
  3. Tandoori Kona (tie)
  3. Thai House (tie)
- Also mentioned: "James's Mom," "John Currie."

#### Dessert

1. Diplomat Bakery
2. Tapenade Bistro
3. Dairy Queen

#### Fine Dining

1. Tapenade Bistro
  2. Papi's Ristorante
  3. Steveston Seafood House
- Also mentioned: "Wendy's."

#### First Date

1. Steveston
2. Tapenade Bistro
3. The Zone Bowling

#### Fish & Chips

1. Pajo's
2. Dave's
3. Pisces

#### Food Court

1. Richmond Centre
2. Lansdowne Centre
3. Aberdeen Centre

#### Greek

1. Mad Greek
2. Kisamos Taverna
3. Felicos Greek Restaurant

#### Italian

1. Papi's
2. Paesano's

#### 3. Italian Tomato

Also mentioned: "Lindsay Civiero."

#### Kid Friendly

1. White Spot
2. McDonalds
3. Old Spaghetti Factory

#### Late Night Munchies

1. Boston Pizza
2. #9 Restaurant
3. McDonald's

#### Place to take out of town guests

1. Steveston
  2. Pajo's
  3. Tapenade Bistro
- Also mentioned: "Quizno's."

#### Pho

1. Pho Hoa
2. Pho Lan
3. Pho Viet

#### Pizza

1. Steveston Pizza
2. Pizza Hut

#### 3. Round Table Pizza

#### Produce

1. Kin's Farm Market
2. Richmond Country Farms
3. Langley Farm Market

#### Pub Grub

1. Flying Beaver
2. Foggy Dew
3. O'Hare's

#### Shrimp Dumpling

1. Sun Shui Wah
2. Shi Art
3. Fisherman's Terrace

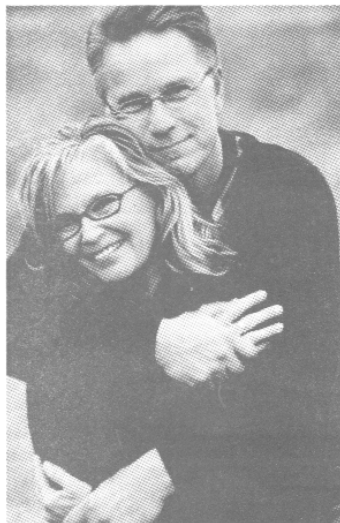
#### South East Asian

1. Tropika
2. Thai House
3. Kona (tie)
3. Kari House (tie)

#### Sushi

1. Richmond Sushi
2. Ichiro
3. Seto Japanese Restaurant

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This program has been made possible through a financial contribution from Health Canada.

## The Best of Richmond

# shopping &

## Readers' Best of Richmond



### Best place to buy knickknacks

1. Daiso
2. Pieces
3. Dollar Store

### Flower shop

1. Super Grocer Steveston
2. Forget-Me-Not
3. Touch of Class

### Women's clothing store

1. Aritzia
2. Flamingo Row
3. Winners

### Men's clothing store

1. Moores
2. American Eagle
3. Boys Co.

### Shoe store

1. Aldo

2. Stepin' Out
3. Payless

### Gardening store

1. Prickly Pear
2. Art Knapp
3. Home Depot

### Home decor store

1. Home Sense
2. IKEA
3. Home Depot

### New car dealer

1. Richmond Subaru
2. Richmond Honda
3. Open Road Toyota

### Auto repair shop

1. Juan's Auto Service
2. Nobby's
3. Craftsman Collision (tie)

3. Second Look Autobody (tie)

3. South Seas Auto Body (tie)

3. Hanna Collision (tie)

### Best mechanic

1. Juan Recavarren
2. Herman at Herman's Auto Repair
3. Al Sakamoto of Nobby's

### Best car salesperson

1. Jamie Tieche
2. Ben Li of Richmond Honda
3. Edward Sie of Open Road Lexus

### Best toy shop

1. Splash
2. Toys R Us

## The Best of Richmond

### Best night of entertainment if you like music

RichCity Idol, the local singing competition among Richmond high school students, is three hours jam-packed with some of the best young voices in the city. Sure, there's the American Idol TV show, but there's no Simon, and aspirations are genuine. Next RichCity Idol is May 29 at Gateway Theatre.



RichCity Idol features top singers from each of Richmond's high schools.

Chung Chow photo

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