



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Finance Select Committee
From: Andrew Nazareth
Director of Finance
Re: 2004 Annual Report

Date: June 6, 2005
File: 03-1200-01/2005-Vol 01

Staff Recommendation

That the Committee approve the 2004 City of Richmond Annual Report.

Andrew Nazareth
Director of Finance
(4365)

Att.

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DW	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GD	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

Pursuant to Section 98 of the Community Charter, before June 30 in each year, a council must

- a) Prepare an annual report
- b) Make the report available for public inspection
- c) Have the report available for public inspection at a Council or other public meeting.

Note: Part c) can only occur after the annual report has been made available for at least 14 days in accordance with part b). Therefore, we will make the report available at the Front of House, on the City's web site from June 10, 2005 and once again, make it available at the Council meeting of June 27, 2005.

In addition, as notice of this must be published in a newspaper for two consecutive weeks, we will run the advertisement on the weekends of June 11-12, 2005 and June 18-19, 2005.

Analysis

The theme for the 2004 annual report is about celebrating Richmond's heritage being the 125th anniversary. As usual the report contains the audited annual financial statements, statistics and achievements.

In addition, as a result of the new Charter requirements, it also contains a report on the City's corporate objectives, success indicators for 2005 and 2006 and a listing of 2004 permissive exemptions granted by Council. From 2005 onwards we will start progress reporting with respect to the objectives and measures laid out here.

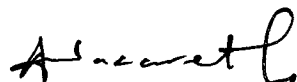
This annual report has been prepared by the Finance and Administration Departments with thanks to the Archives Department for the heritage photographs. The report was also designed, produced and printed by the Production Centre.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

That the Committee approve the 2004 City of Richmond Annual Report.

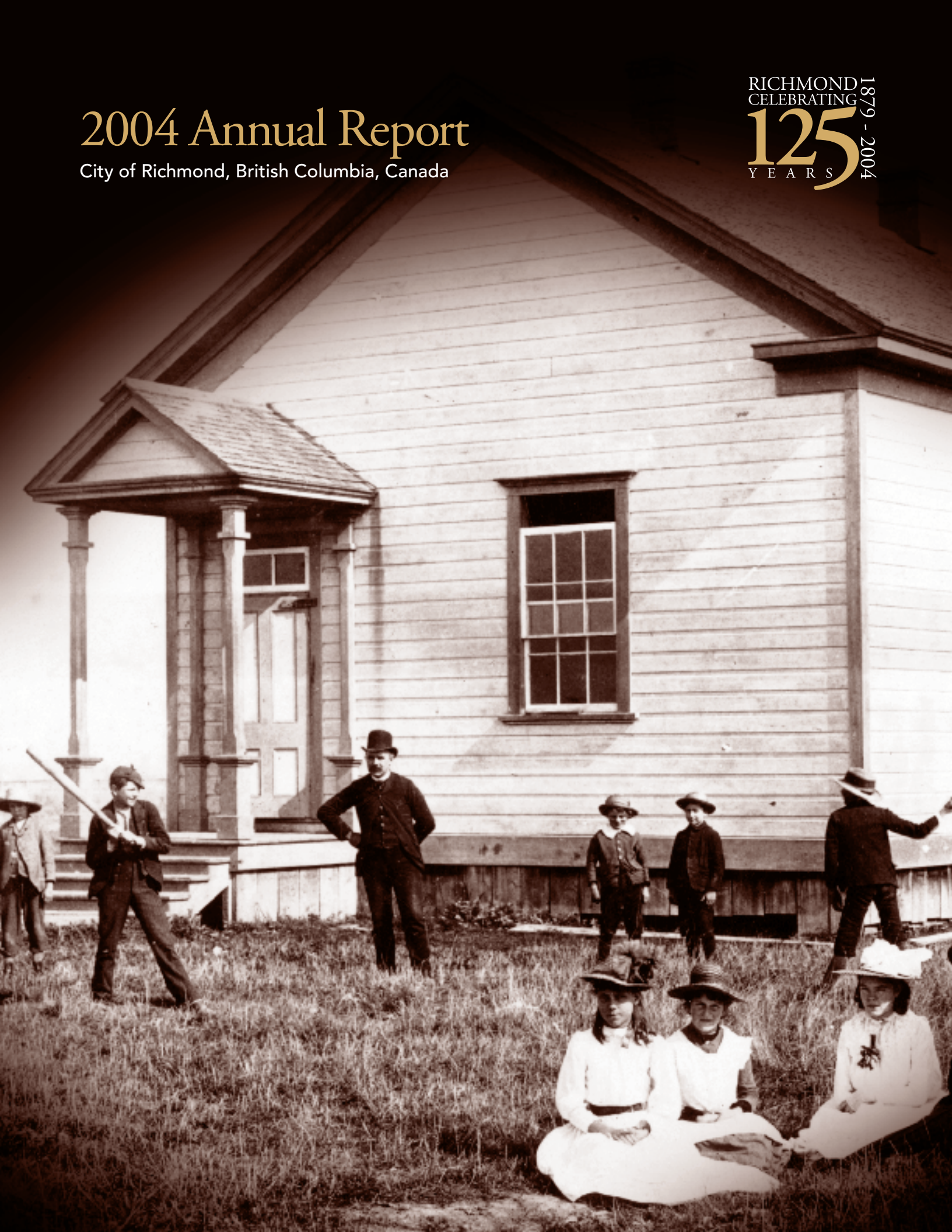


Andrew Nazareth
Director of Finance
(4365)
:naw

2004 Annual Report

City of Richmond, British Columbia, Canada

RICHMOND
CELEBRATING
125
YEARS
1879 - 2004



Vision:

To be the most appealing, livable, and
well-managed community in Canada



City of Richmond

British Columbia, Canada

2004 Annual Report

For the year ended December 31, 2004

Canadian Award for Financial Reporting

Presented to

City of Richmond,
British Columbia

For its Annual
Financial Report
for the Year Ended
December 31, 2003

A Canadian Award for Financial Reporting is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada to municipalities whose annual financial reports achieve the high program standards for Canadian Government accounting and financial reporting.



Nancy L. Zielke
President

Jeffrey L. Esall
Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Canadian Award for Financial Reporting to the City of Richmond for its annual financial report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003. The Canadian Award for Financial Reporting program was established to encourage municipal governments throughout Canada to publish high quality financial reports and to provide peer recognition and technical guidance for officials preparing these reports.

In order to be awarded a Canadian Award for Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized annual financial report, whose contents conform to the program standards. Such reports should go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles and demonstrate an effort to clearly communicate the municipal government's financial picture, enhance an understanding of financial reporting by municipal governments, and address user needs.

A Canadian Award for Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.

Cover Photo:

ca. 1888. The Richmond Community and Agricultural Hall was built in 1880 at the corner of Cambie and River Road. It was a centre for recreation and community events. On the same site was Richmond's first town hall. Both buildings were destroyed by fire in 1912.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1984 17 77.

This report was designed, produced, and printed by the City of Richmond Production Centre.
Prepared by the City of Richmond Finance and Administration Departments, with thanks to the City of Richmond Archives and the Richmond Museum.
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The City of Richmond celebrates 125 years.

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A Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to present the 2004 Annual Report for the City of Richmond, a year in which the City celebrated its 125th anniversary. We were proud to salute the many generations of pioneers who transformed Richmond from a small rural community into a major cosmopolitan centre that has become recognized as one of the best places in the world to live and work.

Council is steadfast in its commitment to financial sustainability through sound fiscal practices and through our strategic planning. We are equally committed to providing excellence in service to our entire community. Richmond City Council will strive to ensure all City services continue to be managed in the most effective and efficient manner possible. The documentation in this annual report provides the City's comprehensive financial account and highlights our major achievements of the past year.

Last year marked a significant turning point for Richmond when we won the bid to build a state-of-the-art Olympic Speed Skating facility to welcome the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Our City was also fortunate to have a rapid transit system approved, which will be built along our main street. Further, we were proud to work towards a Memorandum of Understanding between the Musqueam First Nation and the City for increased cooperation. The magnitude of these projects will change the face of our community, and will provide benefits for those in and outside Richmond. Achieving these milestones moved us toward our vision to be the most appealing, livable and well-managed community in Canada.

Development and construction in Richmond remained strong in 2004 resulting in continued vibrancy and interest, particularly along the Steveston waterfront and in the City Centre area. The City's strong economic diversification and prosperity spurred new business, new jobs and more opportunities in our community.

Our partnership with the RCMP has excelled in the past year, and the community is reaping the benefits of enhanced community safety. In November 2004, Richmond was designated as a "safe community," one of the first two in British Columbia. The City will be using the youth Asset Building model to continue investing in our future. We strive for Richmond to become the best place in North America to raise children and youth.

The City and its partners have built upon our reputation of efficient service delivery as we continue to fulfill our vision. We have seized tremendous opportunities that will deliver legacies for generations to come, providing Richmond's citizens the highest possible quality of life.

I extend a sincere invitation for you to contact me should you wish to talk about our vibrant City. I will be pleased to hear your perspective about our goals, our achievements and the overall services we provide.

Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor

Richmond City Council



Richmond City Council as at January 1, 2004

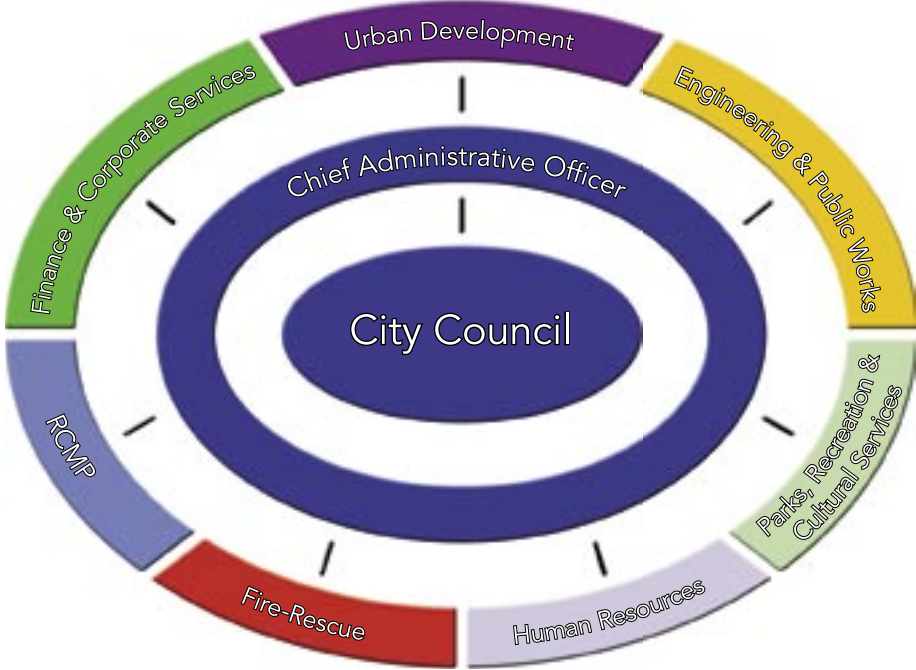
Back row, left to right:

Bill Mulder, Richmond Fire-Rescue, Councillor Harold Steves, Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt, Councillor Kiichi Kumagai, Councillor Rob Howard, Corp. Keith Bramhill, Richmond RCMP

Front row, left to right:

Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt, Councillor Bill McNulty, Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Councillor Linda Barnes, Councillor Derek Dang

City of Richmond Organizational Chart



Civic Officials as at December 31, 2004

Chief Administrative Officer	George Duncan
General Manager, Engineering and Public Works	Jeff Day
General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services	Rod Kray
General Manager, Human Resources	Mike Kirk
General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services	Cathy Volkering Carlile
General Manager, Urban Development	Joe Erceg
City Clerk	Richard McKenna ¹
City Solicitor	Phyllis Carlyle
Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue	Jim Hancock
Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police	Ward Clapham

Banker

Scotiabank

Auditors

KPMG, LLP

¹ Retired April 29, 2005. Devid Weber, Director, City Clerk's Office, effective May 2, 2005.



Message from the Chief Administrative Officer

I am pleased to provide comments from the City of Richmond Administration on the 2004 Annual Report. The City celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2004, which was a commemoration of the achievements of the past and present, and represents a clear promise of continued success for the future. Richmond's ongoing commitment to the community is reflected in this report through continued innovation, teamwork, leadership, and excellence in service delivery.

Several significant projects were approved in 2004, which will support the City's efforts to enhance community vibrancy, livability, and economic sustainability. We are proud to have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for increased cooperation between the City and the Musqueam First Nation, in our efforts to acquire the valuable 136 acre Garden City Lands (Department of Fisheries and Oceans lands) located in the City Centre area for City and Musqueam use. Richmond was also successful in its bid to welcome the world for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games with an Olympic Speed Skating Oval and post-Games multi-purpose facility. Further, a rapid transit system was approved to be built in the downtown core, which will efficiently move people to their destinations and provide a significant benefit in terms of the economic development of the community. These are tremendous opportunities that will change the shape of the city, and will create lasting legacies and further Richmond's presence as one of the most livable cities in the world.

Our organization has been successful in its commitment to continuously enhance the City's strategic direction, with specific goals, desired outcomes, and well-planned actions that support our organizational priorities. City Council provides leadership through the adoption of term goals to which the Corporate Plan is subsequently aligned. Staff across the organization work to achieve the desired results. The City diligently seeks ways of improving our operations and the services we provide, to benefit all who live, work, or play in our community.

The City of Richmond will ensure its long-term financial viability by diversifying revenue sources, by controlling expenditures, and by maximizing the life expectancy of the infrastructure. Through the goals and success measures of our Corporate Plan, the Richmond community will continue to benefit from sound fiscal practices in our commitment to serve the public.

As evidenced by the City's achievements highlighted in this report, and through an unwavering commitment to the new challenges ahead, the City continues to pursue the vision for Richmond to be the most appealing, livable, and well-managed community in Canada.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George Duncan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

George Duncan
Chief Administrative Officer



Celebrating 125 Years

The City of Richmond celebrated its 125th anniversary with festivities, special projects, and community events throughout 2004. Richmond was incorporated as a municipality on November 10, 1879 and designated a City on December 3, 1990. The community's rich past, present, and future were highlighted throughout the year and across the city.

Celebrations were launched during National Heritage Week in February with the opening of *Richmond 125*, an exhibit of local government artefacts at the Richmond Museum. As well, the annual Richmond Heritage Fair offered a special tribute to Richmond's 125th anniversary. Street banners throughout the City, designed by local artists and youth, also sported the Richmond 125 theme.

The historic first meeting of Richmond Council was commemorated at a special Council meeting on November 10th. A Pioneer Tea honoured long-time Richmond residents and a maritime festival celebrated Richmond's fishing and boat building history.

The Richmond Museum created a self-guided tour brochure featuring Richmond's agricultural heritage. The Museum received a donation of three significant heirlooms from the Kidd family: a silver tea set presented to Thomas Kidd by the provincial government, a suit worn by Thomas Kidd, and a dress worn by his daughter Agnes. Thomas Kidd was one of Richmond's most recognized pioneers, a signatory to the 1879 petition to incorporate, and a Richmond councillor and reeve.

In celebration of 125 years, the City was presented with an art piece by David Xui consisting of 21 etched eggshells, each with a portrait of one of the City's Reeves or mayors. Eggshell etching is a Chinese art dating back to 4th century BC.

Performing arts events showcased, through song, dance, drama, and music, Richmond's rich and diverse culture and the talents of local performers. The PlayDay family event included historical activities such as archaeological digs, ship building, drumming, scarecrow building, and dirt gardening, in keeping with the Richmond 125 theme.

Other 125th anniversary projects included planting of 125 commemorative trees at McDonald Beach Park, restoration of historic archival records, and two history publications by the Richmond Archives and Friends of the Archives, *Farmers and Milkmaids: A History of Lacrosse in Richmond* and *Richmond Schools – What's in a Name?: 125 Years of Change and Expansion*.

Richmond 125 celebrations were also incorporated into annual civic events and community festivals. Community groups and individuals were also invited to take part in the Richmond 125 Challenge by developing their own events in celebration of the 125th anniversary.

Richmond celebrated its 125 year history and its promising future with festivities, special projects, and community events.

Photo:

1898. Steveston was a bustling town site built around the farming, fishing, and canning industries. This view is looking north along Second Avenue, with its wooden roadway and boardwalks. The sign on the left reads "Auction sale today at 2 p.m. 100 Town Lots. Opera House".

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1984 17 75.



1890

The Fraser River was a major means of transportation in early Richmond. This building on Lulu Island's waterfront served as general store, post office, butcher shop, and boarding house. Kenneth Sweet, on the right, was the store owner.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1978 2



1900

From the early 1880's fishing fleets brought their catches of salmon to be processed at the many canneries along Steveston's riverfront. Pictured here are cannery workers at the Scottish Canadian Cannery.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1987 21 4



1908

As a low-lying island, dykes were needed to protect farms and homes. A dredge carved a wide ditch and formed a dyke with excavated material. The need for dykes was a factor in Richmond seeking status as a municipality in 1879. This is the Beaver No. 2, dyking Steveston.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1978 14 5



1926

Horse racing was a hugely popular pastime in Richmond, drawing spectators from Vancouver and beyond. Lansdowne Park race track was built in 1924 with a mile long oval. It was run in tandem with the Brighthouse race track which opened in 1909. Horse racing was moved to Vancouver in 1960.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1987 92 1



1938

The Vancouver International Airport was opened in 1931, with Sea Island being chosen over sites at Spanish Banks and Burnaby Lake. Depicted here is a new DC-3 on display at the airport.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1997 5 19



1940

Richmond's peat, ideal for cranberry farming, was also harvested for insulation, horticultural, and other uses. During World War II peat was used as an alternative heating fuel. Pictured here is the Western Peat Plant in Richmond.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1978 3 23



1943

Volunteer firefighters served Richmond from 1920 to 1973. The first paid firefighter was hired in 1951. This photo shows volunteer fire brigades with the air raid protection unit, in front of Richmond's second town hall, built in 1919.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1978 40 30



1958

The George Massey Tunnel was the first underwater vehicle tunnel to be built in North America. Six 21,000-foot concrete sections were floated into position, then sunk into a trench, 40 feet below sea level.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1989 3



1960

Fish processing plants produced fish meal, fish oil, and fertilizer from fish and fish offal. These are by-products of salmon canning and the herring fishery. Pictured here is a reduction plant in Steveston.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1985 6 644



1984

Farming has continued to play a key role in Richmond's economy and landscape. This photo shows Art Savage demonstrating the operation of his vintage 1915 Sawyer-Massey Steam Tractor on his Richmond farm.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1984 4 26



1993

The No. 2 Road Bridge from Lulu Island to Sea Island was built in 1993 to improve access to the Vancouver International Airport and to accommodate the growing commuter traffic between Richmond and Vancouver.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1995 17 2



2000

Richmond's newest City Hall was opened in 2000 on the same site as two previous town halls, replacing the one built in 1957. The new City Hall at No. 3 Road and Granville Avenue has won numerous awards for energy efficiency and innovative design.



GULF OF GEORGIA CANNERY.

2004 City of Richmond Overview

Community Profile

The City of Richmond is a vibrant community with a unique blend of urban, rural, and waterfront landscapes. Nestled in the mouth of the Fraser River, Richmond is truly an “Island City by Nature.” This healthy natural environment is complemented by strong economic success and high quality of life.

Richmond’s population of 177,400 actively reflects the City’s vision of community appeal and livability. Richmond has a vibrant culture with a diverse and growing population and a dynamic mix of residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural land uses. The City is advantageously positioned close to both downtown Vancouver and the Canada-U.S. border. Richmond is also home to two major seaports, a prominent rail logistics facility, and the Vancouver International Airport, which is one of the largest single economic generators in the province.

Richmond boasts a superb quality of life with a strong economy and a diversified business and industry base. Richmond’s jobs-to-workers ratio is the highest in the Lower Mainland. Many successful commercial and manufacturing companies have recognized Richmond as a vibrant city in which to conduct and grow their businesses.

Richmond is home to 8 of the top 40 technology companies and 8 of the top 20 software developers in British Columbia. Based on revenues, two of the province’s top five private companies and five of the top ten construction companies are also located in Richmond. As well, Richmond businesses are numbered among the top ten provincially in telecommunications, biotechnology, real estate, and hotels, as reported by *Business in Vancouver Magazine, 2004*.

Agriculture and fishing have deep historic roots in Richmond, and they continue to be integral components of the community and economy. The City places a high value on protecting its farmland and preserving its natural areas. This commitment is reflected in the fact that, even in the face of substantial population growth, half of the city’s land remains arable farmland or other open space. Richmond continues to be home to the largest commercial fishing fleet on the Canadian West Coast and home to a number of historic sites related to the fishing and farming industries. These sites, along with numerous other heritage resources, have been preserved as significant destinations which enrich the sense of community and attract visitors to Richmond.

Richmond boasts a superb quality of life with a strong economy, an active community, and a diversified business and industry base.

Photo:

Richmond is an island city with long standing ties to the fishing industry. The Gulf of Georgia Cannery is a national heritage site, and is a popular destination for Richmond residents and visitors.



Opportunities for community celebration are plentiful in Richmond.



Hérons thrive in Richmond's abundant natural habitat.

The Fraser River Estuary surrounding Richmond is an internationally critical natural habitat with a rich bounty of plant and animal life. It is also a central stopping point on the Pacific Flyway, travelled annually by millions of migrating birds. The City carefully maintains its unique island ecology with an emphasis on preserving the natural environment. The City has implemented numerous programs which encourage environmentally sensitive practices and is focussed on managing its continuous waterfront in an environmentally sustainable yet publicly accessible way. To this end, the City is pursuing some exciting opportunities along the waterfront for the enjoyment and benefit of all.

Over the past several decades, Richmond has enjoyed significant and well-managed growth and change. Richmond continues to attract newcomers from around the world, particularly from Asian countries. As a result, Richmond has the highest proportion of visible minority residents of any city in Canada. Immigration has not only led to an expansion of the city's business and retail sectors, but has also boosted Richmond's cultural diversity. It is this diversity which is celebrated in numerous community festivals and multicultural events.

The City boasts of 1,500 acres of parks and open space and an 80-kilometre network of trails and cycling routes. Richmond also offers a wide range of recreation, cultural, and community programs which are accessible to residents and visitors alike. These opportunities, along with the city's temperate climate and level terrain, encourage Richmond residents to be active outdoors all year round.

A high quality of life is actively pursued by civic leaders and the community alike. Hundreds of community organizations and thousands of volunteers play a vital role in serving the community and providing exciting opportunities for involvement and active living. It is not surprising, then, that Richmond continues to enjoy the longest life expectancy of any community in Canada and ranks among the lowest for major health risks.



Richmond is a dynamic and growing city.

City Vision

As an internationally award-winning City, Richmond is recognized for its outstanding leadership in innovation, service excellence, and local government management. A strong commitment to excellence and to corporate planning has enabled the City to take significant strides towards fulfilling its vision of being the most appealing, livable, and well-managed community in Canada. These accomplishments have been acknowledged in the many accolades the City has received in the past several years, including awards for environmentally-sensitive practices, landscape enhancement, community and business involvement, sustainable development, innovation, promotion of healthy living, heritage management, and many other areas of civic management.

In its efforts to be a more appealing, livable, and well-managed City, Richmond's priorities for 2004 included long-term financial management, economic development, waterfront development, transportation enhancement, community safety, customer service, and sustainable community living. In addition to these priorities are the wide array of ongoing initiatives aimed at enhancing the City's beauty, expanding community opportunities and services, ensuring community safety and environmental sustainability, and fostering community celebration and engagement.

City Governance and Services

The City of Richmond is committed to achieving excellence in customer service by providing efficient and cost effective municipal services. General public services include parks, recreation, cultural and heritage services, libraries, community centres, business services, the City Clerk's office, corporate communications, and archives. Public safety services include police and fire protection, emergency preparedness, environmental protection, building approvals, and bylaw enforcement. Public works and planning services include water, sewer and drainage services, road construction and maintenance, transportation, land use, social planning, waste removal, and recycling. Internal services include strategic management, finance, human resources, information technology, land management, legal services, engineering, and facilities maintenance.



Britannia Heritage Shipyard commemorates an important maritime industry.



Participation in sports and recreation enhances community well-being.



Richmond offers spectacular waterfront trails and vistas.



Appealing

For Richmond, 2004 was a time to look back and reflect on all that makes this city great. Over its 125 year history, people from the world over have been attracted to Richmond as an outstanding place to live, work, and play. Today, Richmond continues to be an appealing city, drawing visitors for distinctive experiences and attracting new businesses and residents by its beauty, its services, and community opportunities.

Richmond offers a unique blend of natural, urban, and rural landscapes encircled by the Fraser River and its estuary marshlands. The City of Richmond celebrates this distinct island character and works diligently to ensure that natural areas are managed and protected. As an example, the new Terra Nova Rural Park will be developed to honour Richmond's rural and agricultural roots, and preserve significant natural habitats, while providing opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy spectacular vistas. A farmers' market, an agricultural fair, and a new community garden in 2004 highlighted Richmond's agricultural character.

One of Richmond's draws is its historic link to the West Coast fishing industry. This maritime history was celebrated this year by tall ship visits, a maritime festival, and restoration work at Britannia Heritage Shipyard and Phoenix net loft.

Creating attractive and livable urban design is a cornerstone to Richmond's development and its appeal to residents. As an example, the West Cambie area planning process engaged residents and business in outlining a preferred land use plan for a vibrant and complete community. In 2004, the City again experienced a boom in residential and commercial development as Richmond continues to be seen as an attractive city in which to live and work. Public art projects throughout the year and a new Arts Strategy also added to the visual appeal of the city and to celebrating and strengthening the contribution of the arts.

As a host community for major special events, Richmond attracts international attention. This year the hugely popular World Junior Badminton Championships drew thousands of visitors and international athletes to Richmond, the first time this event was held in North America. This is but a precursor to the tens of thousands who will be drawn to Richmond in 2010 as the City hosts the long track speed skating events for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Indeed Richmond has achieved and will continue to build on its international appeal as an excellent place to live, work, and play.

Creating attractive and livable urban design is a cornerstone to Richmond's development and its appeal to residents and businesses.

Photo:

Beautiful urban parks create peaceful settings in Richmond's vibrant City centre area.



The Lions sculpture is one of many public art projects in Richmond.



Construction continues to boom in Richmond.



The community arts strategy focuses on enhancing the arts in Richmond.

Achievements

- Richmond was selected as the site for the long track speed skating oval for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The Oval will serve as an international gathering place and centre of excellence for sports and wellness long after the Games.
- A concept plan for the Terra Nova Rural Park was approved. As a significant natural and historical area, this park will feature a heritage district with five heritage homesteads, a farm centre with community gardens, old-field and slough habitats, creative interpretive features, public art, lookout structures, trails, and boardwalks.
- Richmond celebrated its maritime history with the visit of two tall ships. Both the 361 foot Kaiwo Maru from Japan and the 188 foot barquentine, Concordia, are youth sail training vessels. The Kaiwo Maru is the sister ship to the Nippon Maru which took part in the 2002 Richmond Tall Ships Festival. The Concordia offered day sailing programs for youth and both ships offered public tours during their stay in Richmond.
- Complementing the tall ship visits was the inaugural maritime festival at Britannia Heritage Shipyard. Activities included model boat making, fish printing, maritime demonstrations such as net mending, rope making, knot tying, and flag raising by the Sea Dragons Sea Cadets. Approximately 20 boats were on display, including a visit by the Coast Guard hovercraft.
- The City hosted its first PlayDay, designed to bring together children, families, organizations, and businesses in an inventive celebration of play. The day was hugely successful with 11,000 participants and 400 volunteers engaged in a variety of theme-based activities around art, building, gardening, science, the circus, games, and noise making. The event also included historic activities in honour of Richmond's 125th celebration.
- Development applications, including rezonings, development permits, and subdivisions, were up 32% over 2003. This is the highest level in 15 years. Housing construction starts were up 10% over 2003, and have maintained peak activity for the third year in a row. The City has also seen a major increase in the number of high rise projects in the City Centre.
- In 2004, the City of Richmond initiated an area plan review process for the West Cambie neighbourhood. Through a series of open houses and public consultation, a preferred land use option was developed with the goal of creating a distinctive, vibrant neighbourhood as a complete and balanced community with a mix of retail, commercial, and community uses.

- Richmond played host to the 2004 World Junior Badminton Championships featuring more than 400 of the world's top young players, many of whom are preparing to compete in the 2008 Olympic Summer Games in Beijing. This was the first time this tournament was held in North America. The event held at Minoru Arenas attracted 12,500 spectators and was supported by 500 volunteers. Richmond also hosted the 2004 Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championships at the Richmond Winter Club.
- A Richmond Arts Strategy was developed with community input, providing vision and direction for the arts, arts festivals, and cultural industries in Richmond. Key goals of the strategy are to strengthen, support, and enhance the artistic community, increase the variety and diversity of arts experiences, expand public appreciation for the arts, and broaden the economic contribution of the arts.
- New public art projects created this year in partnership with residential developers included "The Lions" and "Bug Gate." The Lions, at Alderbridge Way and Garden City Road, symbolize harmony, happiness, and stability. Other public art works in progress include projects for the Terra Nova Rural Park, for the new fire halls, and for the West Richmond Community Centre.
- As part of the East Richmond Healthy Community Project, students from Cambie Secondary School designed and planned a public art project at King George Park. The project involved painting artworks on the park's gazebo, enhancing the beauty of the neighbourhood and celebrating art and culture.
- Heritage restoration work this year included upgrading of the docks at Britannia Heritage Shipyard and the No. 3 Road Pier, pile stabilization of the Phoenix net loft, and installation of a vinyl room membrane to protect the net loft.
- Land purchased in 2004 as part of the McLennan South Community Park contains a 60 year old ornamental perennial garden that will be maintained and incorporated into the park plan. Development of the park began in 2004. Another park project this year included playground development and tree planting at Birch Park.
- A Farmers' Market and Agricultural Festival were hosted by the City and the East Richmond Community Association in celebration of Richmond's agricultural heritage and in support of the city's thriving farming industry.
- A second community garden was developed at the south end of Gilbert Road, offering expanded opportunities for residents without their own garden plots to enjoy small-scale organic gardening.



A Farmers' Market and Agricultural Festival celebrated Richmond's farming character.



Community gardens bring urban families in touch with the land.



*Richmond hosted the 2004 World Junior Badminton Championships.
Photo courtesy of the Richmond Review.*



Livable

Richmond is recognized as having an exceptional quality of life, a rich diversity of culture, and a wide array of programs and services which support healthy, active lifestyles. As reported by Statistics Canada, Richmond has the longest life expectancy of any health region in Canada. As well, Richmond residents have the lowest incidence of health risks such as heavy alcohol use and obesity, and is second only to Vancouver in the percentage of people who have never smoked.

Being a truly livable city has required ongoing dedication to community well-being, active living and recreation, public safety, transportation and housing choice, and to fostering community vibrancy and welcome. City initiatives in 2004 focussed on enhancing Richmond's quality of life in these and other areas.

A major gathering place for the community, the Richmond Public Library offers a wide range of literacy and life-long learning opportunities, as well as services to assist recent immigrants. The opening of the Cambie branch library in 2004 significantly expanded these opportunities. Recreation and cultural facilities also offered a myriad of programs and services for youth, seniors, families, and individuals. As well, in 2004 Gateway Theatre celebrated 20 years of offering outstanding theatre and performing arts.

The City's ongoing support for community social service agencies and child care providers again helped foster well-being in many areas of community life. The City also continued to work with the community and developers in 2004 towards expanding affordable housing options and diversity of housing choice.

Enhancing community safety is a collaborative endeavour. Initiatives in 2004 included integrated communication protocols between Fire-Rescue, Ambulance, and Police personnel for all emergencies. As well, community agencies and residents attended town hall meetings on safety issues and took part in the Safe Communities Alliance.

Providing environmentally sustainable transportation choice is essential for maintaining the quality of life in this rapidly growing city. The Richmond-Airport-Vancouver rapid transit line, approved in 2004, will provide a much needed transit link for workers, residents, and travellers. New bike lanes enhanced cycling as a safe and viable transportation option and recreational pursuit. Other transit enhancements and road improvements provide increased access and mobility within and to and from the city.

Richmond's multicultural character adds richly to the city's vibrancy, diversity, and cultural opportunities, making Richmond a model for intercultural relations. Initiatives in 2004 included the creation of an Intercultural Strategic Plan, a forum on intercultural education, and outreach programs. Ongoing initiatives and commitment to a full spectrum of quality of life dimensions ensures that Richmond remains a truly livable community.

Richmond has an ongoing dedication to community well-being, active living, public safety, transportation and housing choice, and community vibrancy.

Photo:

Richmond Public Library opened its Cambie Branch in 2004, expanding library services and programming to the community.



The Richmond Public Library offers multi-media and interactive services to people of all ages.



Richmond special events celebrate cultural diversity and the arts.



Four new fire vehicles were added to the fleet to support community safety.

Achievements

- Richmond Public Library opened the new Cambie branch in 2004, located in the Cambie Shopping Plaza. The branch offers multilingual books, magazines, newspapers, and multi-media resources. Programming focuses on childhood literacy, life long learning, new immigrant orientation, and enhancing English as a second language.
- Adding wireless internet capability at the Richmond Public Library enhanced customer access and convenience. As well, the Library expanded its wide range of community programming this year, including a career and recruitment fair, an ESL book club program, senior's wellness clinic, and new multicultural and intergenerational programs.
- Gateway Theatre celebrated its 20th season in 2004. Marking the milestone was an anniversary gala and the refurbishing of the theatre lobby. This year was one of Gateway's most successful seasons, with 60,000 patrons, a 16% increase in program subscription, a 50% increase in theatre academy classes, and over 500 community and rental uses.
- The Richmond Safe Communities Alliance was formed in 2004 to increase the awareness of safety and injury prevention, to provide a forum for community dialogue on safety and health, and to enhance existing programs and resources. The Alliance has broad representation from government agencies, community service organizations, and businesses. Their combined efforts resulted in Richmond being designated as a Safe Community by the Safe Communities Foundation of Canada.
- Community safety enhancements by the Richmond RCMP included the addition of 16 new auxiliary RCMP constables to help with community policing initiatives. The RCMP also participated in an anti-terrorist training session at the airport and introduced bait cars to help combat auto theft.
- In an effort to provide positive outreach and rapport with South Asian youth, the Indo-Canadian members of the RCMP established the Izzat Team (meaning 'respect' in Punjabi). As well, Richmond was represented on the Lower Mainland's Indo-Canadian/Police Communications Committee involving municipal police forces, the RCMP, and community representatives.
- A series of public town hall meetings were hosted by the RCMP, focussing on local safety issues and involving agencies such as the City of Richmond, Richmond Fire-Rescue, the Richmond Multicultural Concerns Society, Richmond Alcohol and Drug Action Team (RADAT), Canadian Coast Guard, the Insurance Corporation of BC, Steveston Harbour Authority, and others.
- Four new rescue pumper trucks were added to the Fire-Rescue fleet in 2004. As well, Richmond Fire-Rescue personnel expanded their training in managing hazardous material spills.

- Richmond City Council adopted an Intercultural Strategic Plan, which was prepared by the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee. The plan outlines the City's role of working with community cultural organizations to enhance intercultural welcome, inclusion, and harmony. The Committee also hosted a forum for community organizations, businesses, and public on various approaches to intercultural education.
- An outreach program was initiated in East Richmond to provide support, information, and proactive programs for South Asian Canadian youth at risk and their families. This is a multi-agency collaboration under the leadership of the East Richmond Community Association and with the involvement of the City, the Richmond School Board, the RCMP, and other agencies.
- The long awaited Richmond-Airport-Vancouver (RAV) rapid transit line received approval in 2004. The line will be constructed as an elevated system. It will run along No. 3 Road in Richmond, over the Fraser River, and into Vancouver along Cambie Street. The line will include an extension to the Vancouver International Airport on Sea Island. It is expected to be completed by 2009.
- A number of transit enhancements were made in 2004, including the addition of two community shuttles, new service between the Tsawwassen ferry terminal and airport station, new links to Surrey, and to Burnaby during peak hours, increased service to UBC, a night bus service to Richmond from Vancouver, and increased 98 B-line service to Vancouver.
- Cycling enhancements included upgrading the Oak Street Bridge bike access ramp, with funding from the BC Ministry of Transportation. Bike lanes were added to Garden City Road from Bridgeport to River Roads and extended along Westminster Highway. As well, the Westminster Highway off-street bike path was extended between No. 7 and No. 8 Roads.
- City Council appointed a parking advisory committee with representatives from retail centres, merchants, residents, and workers to advise on parking matters in the city.
- Richmond was one of 10 recipients nation-wide of Transport Canada's Intelligent Transportation System partnership funding. The funds will be used for the development of a traffic signal pre-emption system which will allow emergency vehicles, transit buses, and other priority vehicles to activate traffic signal changes.
- Major road enhancements in 2004 included the extension of Garden City Way and Leslie Road to improve City Centre traffic flow and provide access to new developments. As well, numerous traffic calming measures and traffic and pedestrian safety initiatives were implemented.



Gateway Theatre produced *The Secret Garden*, as part of its 20th anniversary season. Photo courtesy of David Cooper.



The City continues to expand its bike routes to support commuter and recreational cycling.



New community shuttles improved transit service within Richmond.



Well-Managed

In striving to be the most well-managed community in Canada, the City of Richmond is committed to providing municipal services in a cost effective, customer friendly, and environmentally sustainable manner.

Financial sustainability is a key consideration for the City and this was reflected in 2004 through numerous cost efficiency measures and initiatives to reduce energy consumption. As well, the City continued to place an emphasis on economic development to ensure the long term economic health of the community. To this end, the City conducted numerous sessions with business leaders to hear first-hand their experience and concerns related to operating a business in Richmond.

Ongoing projects to upgrade the City's roads, sewers, water works, pump stations, dykes, parks, facilities, and other infrastructure are conducted in sustainable and financially responsible ways, ensuring that these systems will continue to effectively meet immediate and long term needs of this growing community.

Providing excellent service to customers is fundamental to how the City conducts business. Customer service initiatives in 2004 included enhanced tracking of building permits, redesign of the City's web site, linking the City's online geographic information system with residential real estate listings, and a redesigned customer service area for the Richmond Museum and Archives.

Community engagement and consultation are hallmarks of Richmond's service delivery. In 2004, a series of public open houses were hosted to provide information and to seek community input into a number of projects and initiatives, including capital works projects, the parks and recreation master planning process, the Richmond Oval project, the RAV project, area planning, and more.

Richmond has been recognized for its environmental leadership and sustainability initiatives. In 2004, some of these initiatives included the introduction of voluntary residential water metering, the testing of an alternate fuel in heavy vehicles, numerous energy savings projects, ongoing recycling programs, and public environmental education and engagement.

The City of Richmond is continually asked to share its experience and best practices with cities and other agencies worldwide. To help facilitate this knowledge sharing and network building, Richmond hosted a unique conference for local government administrative staff in 2004, focussed on providing service that is "Better in Every Way."

The City of Richmond provides municipal services in a cost effective, customer friendly, and environmentally sustainable way.

Photo:

To enhance community safety, the City introduced cycling patrols of Richmond parks.



Upgrading urban infrastructure is a priority for the City.



A new Fire, Police, and Ambulance communications protocol improves emergency response.



The City hosts educational programs to encourage environmental practices.

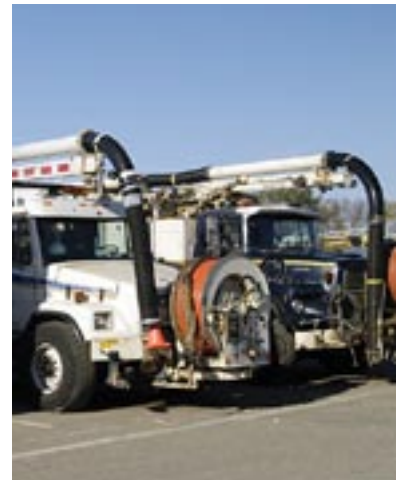
Achievements

- In an effort to enhance emergency response, Richmond initiated an integrated emergency communication pilot project. The first of its kind in North America, this project uses an existing but underutilized E-Comm radio technology to provide a common communication link for all emergencies between the City Fire-Rescue department, the provincial ambulance service, and the federal police force (RCMP). This increases communication and coordination of all responders in an emergency so that the right help arrives in the right way and in the timeliest manner. Other cities around the world are looking to learn from Richmond's example.
- The City and the Vancouver International Airport Authority worked together to develop a policy to guide aircraft noise sensitive development. The policy designates allowable residential and non-residential developments in specific aircraft noise areas, along with noise mitigation measures required.
- In 2004, the City launched its voluntary residential water metering program. Under the program, homeowners pay for water and sewer service based on how much they use, rather than on a flat rate system. Participants in the program also received low-flow shower heads, faucet aerators, and toilet water saving devices. As an additional water conservation initiative, the City offered rainwater barrels to residents at a subsidized rate to collect rainwater for garden and lawn use.
- Richmond joined four other municipalities in testing biodiesel, a cleaner fuel alternative, in its heavy duty vehicles. This fuel is partially made from natural oils, such as vegetable oil, animal fat, and used cooking oil and has significantly fewer pollutants than conventional diesel.
- A number of energy saving projects were initiated this year resulting in a reduction of energy use and accompanying operating cost savings. The City's recycling program, another successful environmental initiative, collected 22,850 tonnes of recyclable materials in 2004 through curb side and drop-off recycling.
- Richmond's ongoing dedication to environmental sustainability was reflected in public sessions on sustainability, in its information program on the environmentally friendly disposal of cooking grease, and the City's use of environmentally friendly cleaning products. To support its commitment to 'green' cleaning, the City undertook a facility audit to evaluate cleaning techniques and products. As well, new interdepartmental procedures were developed for pollution prevention and the management of pollution incidents in the city.
- The City of Richmond and the Musqueam First Nation signed an historic Memorandum of Understanding in 2004, agreeing to work together to achieve a transfer of the federal government's surplus 55-hectare Garden City land parcel to community ownership.

- Richmond enhanced its service related to animal bylaw enforcement by taking over responsibility for dog licensing, animal complaints, and dangerous dogs. As well, to enhance public safety, bylaw bike patrols were introduced in parks and along the dykes for animal control and other bylaw compliance.
- The City and East Richmond Environmental Youth Corps hosted a program to remove invasive plant species from the natural area at No. 7 Road Pier on the north arm of the Fraser River.
- As a salute to the efforts of volunteers in the Partners for Beautification Program and in recognition of the City's 125th anniversary, 125 trees were planted in McDonald Beach Park, accompanied by a recognition ceremony.
- A building permit tracking system was implemented, enabling the City to track an application throughout the approval process to ensure that timelines are met, to streamline the process, and to provide follow-up to the applicant in an efficient manner.
- The City of Richmond hosted a very successful conference for over 100 local government administrative staff from across the province. With the theme, "Better in Every Way" the sold out conference offered professional training opportunities in areas such as performance and productivity, leadership and communication, and wellness and self-improvement.
- The City's web site was redesigned in 2004 with new features including a more user friendly navigation system, a parks data base, emergency preparedness information, and the linking of residential properties for sale with the City's geographic information system.
- The City's earliest bylaws from 1879 to 1914 were cleaned, repaired, and rebound by a conservationist as part of the Richmond Archives' 125 project. This work will ensure the preservation of these important historical records for the future. As well, the Archives and Museum offices were renovated this year to improve community access and service.



The East Richmond Environmental Youth Corps takes on environmental projects.



Richmond tested biodiesel, a cleaner fuel alternative, in its heavy vehicles.



In commemoration of the City's 125th anniversary, 125 trees were planted at the popular McDonald Beach Park.



Awards

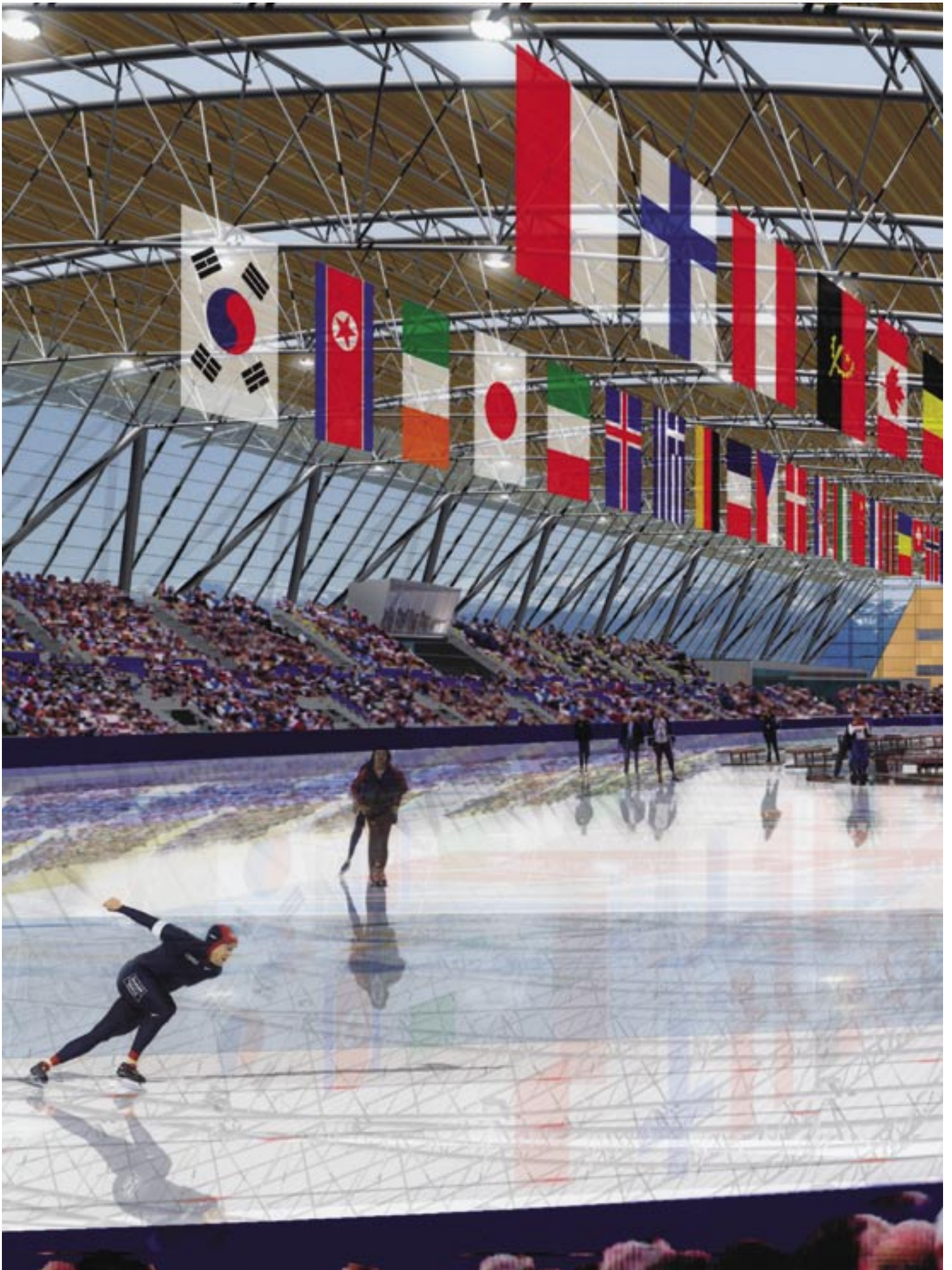
Each year the City of Richmond is the recipient of awards and designations which highlight its role as a leader and innovator in local government administration. In 2004, the City was honoured for accomplishments in financial reporting, use of technology solutions, environmental and safety initiatives, and citizen participation.

- The City of Richmond received the Government Finance Officers Association Canadian Award for Financial Reporting for its 2002 and 2003 Annual Reports. The award recognizes the City's high standards for financial reporting and clear communication of the City's financial story with a spirit of full disclosure.
- The City was honoured as Newsmaker of the Year in the Richmond Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards for its role in winning the bid to construct the Speed Skating Oval for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, and for obtaining final approval for the funding of the Richmond-Airport-Vancouver rapid transit project.
- Richmond was honoured with the VFA Customer Advocate Award for its use of information technology. The City was selected from 250 VFA customers worldwide. The award recognizes Richmond's achievement in implementing and influencing the advancement of strategic capital planning and management processes. The City uses the VFA software and building condition assessment to develop long range plans for optimal management and care of public facilities.
- The Safe Communities Foundation of Canada designated Richmond as a Safe Community for its efforts related to injury prevention at home, work, and play. The designation, one of the first two in B.C., included a grant to further Richmond's injury prevention, safety education, and crime prevention programs.
- Richmond was awarded the status of being named one of Canada's 1-Tonne Challenge Communities for the collaborative efforts of the City, the School District, the Vancouver Airport Authority, and private businesses in energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction activities. As a federal government initiative, this designation comes with an Environment Canada grant and other forms of support over the next two years.
- The City of Richmond was presented with the Volunteer Richmond Information Services Special Award of Recognition acknowledging 125 years of promoting citizen participation in the Richmond community. The award was presented at the *Volunteers Are Stars* Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony.

Awards and designations highlight the City's role as a leader and innovator in local government administration.

Photo:

The City of Richmond was honoured for 125 years of promoting citizen participation. This photo is taken inside Richmond City Hall.



2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

The City of Richmond officially became a member of the Olympic Family on August 17, 2004 when it was awarded the rights to build the long track speed skating oval for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

The Richmond Oval will be a world class multi-use community facility, located on a prominent and naturally stunning waterfront site, along the banks of the Fraser River.

The Oval is scheduled to open in April, 2008 and will primarily be used prior to the Olympics for long track speed skating training and competition, including major international test events. The Oval will then become home to the long track speed skating competition for the Olympic Winter Games in February of 2010 with 8,000 seats surrounding the outstanding skating track.

Post-Games, the multi-use facility will provide an active venue that harmoniously brings together sports and wellness and other community uses in one location. The Oval will also be the centre of a new urban waterfront community built on 29 acres of City-owned land. The Oval will act as a catalyst for Richmond's long-term vision for development of the City Centre and waterfront.

Richmond will play a significant part in helping the region to host the Games and has adopted the slogan "The Games Begin Here" to symbolize the City's important role.

In addition to hosting the speed skating oval, Richmond is home to the Vancouver International Airport, meaning the City will be the primary gateway for many of the athletes, media, spectators, and other members of the Olympic Family arriving for the Games. Many of those arrivals will travel to Olympic venues on board the Richmond-Airport-Vancouver rapid transit line, scheduled for completion in 2009. With Greater Vancouver's second largest hotel room inventory, Richmond will provide accommodation for many members of the Olympic Family and other guests during the Games.

Richmond City Council appointed the Richmond Spirit of BC Community Committee to help develop and implement strategies aimed at maximizing the community benefit from the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. It is anticipated that the Committee will be part of the province-wide Spirit of BC community network working towards welcoming the world to British Columbia.

The vision is to create the Richmond Oval as a dynamic international gathering place and an outstanding centre for sport and wellness, at the heart of an exciting urban waterfront.

Photo:

The City of Richmond won the bid to host the long track speed skating events for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. This is an artist's conception of the Oval which will become a multi-use facility after the Games.

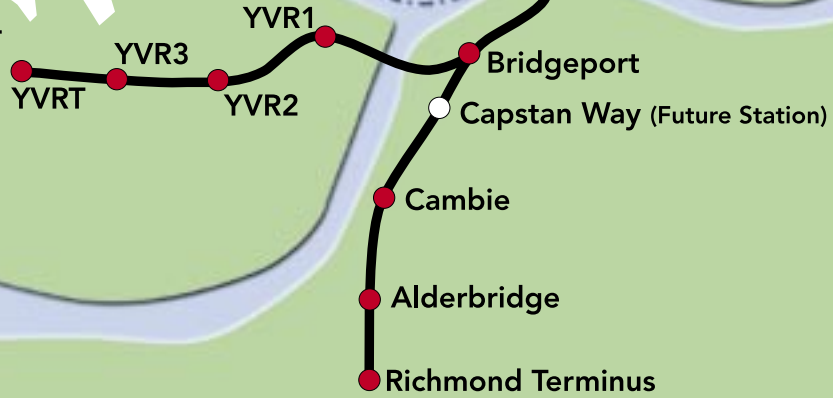
RAV Line Route Map

RAV Route and Stations

- 2010 Stations
- Future Stations
- - - Municipal Boundary

VANCOUVER

VANCOUVER
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT



RICHMOND



Richmond-Airport-Vancouver (RAV) Rapid Transit Project

Approval of the RAV rapid transit project is very significant for the City of Richmond. This public-private partnership will result in a state-of-the-art transportation system for the community and for the region, with direct social and economic benefits for Richmond.

Construction of the RAV line will commence in 2006 and the line is scheduled to be operational by 2009, prior to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Once built, the RAV line is expected to move 100,000 people per day with strong ridership connecting people to Richmond, to the Airport, and to Vancouver. Richmond is one of the region's most important and heavily used transportation corridors. Building this transportation system will accommodate current and future growth, and effectively move people to their destinations.

The route will run along the east side of No. 3 Road from the City Centre to the Bridgeport area, over the Fraser River to Marine Drive and Cambie Street in Vancouver, and along Cambie Street to Waterfront Station.

The RAV rapid transit system will reshape Richmond, spurring residential, commercial, and industrial development that will support the distinct and vibrant regional City Centre. A detailed streetscape study will support Council's vision for the No. 3 Road corridor and will also be utilized to update the City Centre Area Plan. Project elements such as station location and design, public art and green spaces, gateways and beautification, and pedestrian and vehicle mobility will be strategically planned to enhance the vibrant, changing community. Several phases of public consultation will also guide the design and construction process, which is an integral part of the success of this project.

The RAV rapid transit system will support Richmond's role as a cosmopolitan City at the crossroads of the world, further connecting people and places in an efficient way.

The RAV project will bring direct social and economic benefits to Richmond, connecting people to Richmond, to the Airport, and to Vancouver.

Photo:

The Richmond-Airport-Vancouver rapid transit project, to be completed by 2009, will provide efficient transit connections to and from Richmond, Vancouver, and the Vancouver International Airport.



Corporate Plan: Objectives and Success Indicators

As a leader among Canadian cities, Richmond is committed to continuous improvement in the way the City conducts business and delivers services to the public. This pursuit of excellence is detailed in the City of Richmond Corporate Plan, which defines the City's mission, corporate values, and describes the City's vision to be the most appealing, livable, and well-managed community in Canada. The Corporate Plan is updated on a regular basis to reflect the City's emerging and ongoing strategies and objectives.

The new Community Charter requires that all B.C. municipalities include a statement of their annual municipal objectives for the current and future years along with measures to track success towards these objectives. The City of Richmond has outlined the following objectives and success indicators for 2005 and 2006.

Richmond is committed to continuous improvement in the way the City conducts business and delivers services to the community.

Waterfront Strategy Objective

Continue implementation of the Waterfront Strategy to enhance community and economic opportunities.

2005 Success Indicators

- Design of the City Centre Waterfront Park and completion of the site master plan.
- Preliminary land use planning for the Oval precinct as a major destination on the waterfront.
- Design of pedestrian and transportation links between the riverfront and City Centre.
- Community consultation on the site master plan.
- Realignment of River Road.

2006 Success Indicators

- Commencement of construction work on the City Centre Waterfront Park.
- Preliminary land use planning for the Oval precinct as a major destination on the waterfront.
- Progress on developing pedestrian and transportation links between the riverfront and City Centre.

Photo:

A major focus for the City is the development of an urban waterfront park as an integral part of the development of the Richmond Oval and the surrounding area. This is an artist's conception of the waterfront park.



Richmond will host the long track speed skating events for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.



A new waterfront park adjacent to the Oval will be a unique destination for residents and visitors.



Richmond will become home to the UBC Rowing Centre, supporting high performance and community sports.

Richmond Oval Objective

Develop the Richmond Oval in preparation for the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, and as a multi-use centre of excellence for sport and wellness after the Games.

2005 Success Indicators

- Preliminary schematic design of the Richmond Oval.
- Commencement of construction with preloading for the Richmond Oval.
- Development of the programming plan for the Richmond Oval.
- Progress on developing the Richmond Oval business plan.
- Signing of a venue agreement between the City and the Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC).
- Development of an initial communications plan related to the Richmond Oval.
- Establishment of the steering, building, and stakeholder committees for the Richmond Oval.
- Community consultation.

2006 Success Indicators

- Development of a Post-Games programming plan for the Richmond Oval.
- Commencement of construction of the Richmond Oval.
- Progress on securing sponsorships for the Richmond Oval and 2010 events.
- Ongoing work of the steering, building, and stakeholder committees for the Richmond Oval.
- Ongoing community consultation.

2010 Olympic Winter Games Objective

Coordinate community and corporate planning in preparation for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

2005 Success Indicators

- Ongoing work of the Richmond Spirit of BC Community Committee.
- Hosting of milestone events.
- Creation of community engagement opportunities.

2006 Success Indicators

- Ongoing work of the Richmond Spirit of BC Community Committee.
- Hosting of milestone events and celebrations.
- Provision of community engagement opportunities.

Economic Development Objective

Attract new businesses and residents to ensure continued economic development and sustainability.

2005 Success Indicators

- Completion of the Business Retention and Expansion Strategy.
- Implementation of economic development initiatives.
- Positioning of Richmond as a competitive economic player in the region.
- Progress on acquiring federally owned Garden City lands for City and Musqueam First Nation use.

2006 Success Indicators

- Implementation of business retention and expansion initiatives.
- Preparation of an economic benchmark report.
- Positioning of Richmond as a competitive economic player in the region, as indicated in the economic benchmark report.
- Progress on acquiring federally owned Garden City lands for City and Musqueam First Nation use.



City objectives support economic development and business expansion.

Transportation Enhancement Objective

Increase transportation options for residents and businesses within and to and from Richmond.

2005 Success Indicators

- Implementation of new transit connections.
- Progress on the Richmond-Airport-Vancouver transit line urban integration.
- Commencement of design for RAV stations and precincts.
- Enhancement of cycling and pedestrian transportation.
- Completion of Highway 99/Blundell Road interchange study.
- Enhancements to City Centre transportation.

2006 Success Indicators

- Implementation of new transit connections.
- Progress on the Richmond-Airport-Vancouver transit line implementation.
- Design and construction underway for RAV stations and precincts.
- Enhancement of cycling and pedestrian transportation.
- Progress on Highway 99/Blundell Road interchange.
- Enhancements to City Centre transportation.



Upgrading transportation and roads improves mobility and safety.



The City continues to support alternative transportation options.



Creating a beautiful, livable city is a key component of the City's vision.



Richmond offers many unique housing choices.



Two new fire halls will enhance safety. Artist's conception of the future Hamilton Fire Hall.

Livable Urban Environment Objective

Enhance and sustain the urban environment through civic beautification and community livability.

2005 Success Indicators

- Progress on City Centre planning to accommodate RAV, the Oval, and business and residential growth.
- Completion of the West Cambie Area Plan.
- Progress on development of McLennan North Community Park.
- Completion of the Terra Nova Rural Park plan and commencement of implementation.
- Development of new environmental initiatives.
- Upgrading of urban infrastructure.

2006 Success Indicators

- Progress on City Centre planning to accommodate RAV, the Oval, and business and residential growth.
- Progress on creation of the Terra Nova Rural Park.
- Implementation of environmental initiatives.
- Upgrading of urban infrastructure.

Community Safety Objective

Continue to implement community safety initiatives to enhance public safety and education.

2005 Success Indicators

- Commencement of Hamilton Fire Hall construction.
- Initiation of the youth Asset Building program.
- Implementation of community safety initiatives.
- Expansion of public safety education and prevention programs.

2006 Success Indicators

- Construction in progress on replacement of Hamilton and Sea Island Fire Halls.
- Expansion of the youth Asset Building program.
- Implementation of community safety initiatives.
- Implementation of emergency program initiatives.
- Expansion of public safety education and prevention programs.
- Implementation of initiatives from the Substance Abuse Strategy.

Financial Sustainability Objective

Ensure the long term financial viability of the City by diversifying revenue sources, controlling expenditures, and extending the life expectancy of City infrastructure.

2005 Success Indicators

- Cost effective delivery of City services, minimizing the tax burden.
- Development of new revenue sources.
- Implementation of efficiency initiatives.

2006 Success Indicators

- Cost effective delivery of City services, minimizing the tax burden.
- Development of new revenue sources.
- Implementation of efficiency initiatives.
- Development of a land management strategy.
- Development of long term funding plans for infrastructure replacement.

Customer Service Objective

Provide excellent service delivery to the community and businesses in ways which most effectively meet community needs in a cost effective manner.

2005 Success Indicators

- Completion of the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Master Plan.
- Enhancement of customer service and “one-stop shopping” initiatives for provision of City services.
- Expansion of e-business opportunities.
- Expansion of the volunteer water metering program.

2006 Success Indicators

- Implementation of the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Master Plan.
- Enhancement of customer service and “one-stop shopping” initiatives for provision of City services.
- Expansion of the use of technology for improving customer service.



Providing excellent and convenient customer service is a priority for the City.



The City will continue to upgrade its urban infrastructure in cost effective ways.



Recreation and cultural opportunities promote community well-being and involvement.



City of Richmond Financial Section

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

Photo:

ca. 1940. From the early 1880's canneries and fishing boats lined the Steveston waterfront. This photo shows gillnetters and cannery workers at the Imperial Cannery dock. The boats are waiting to unload their catch and have the fish weighed and tallied. Steveston remains an active commercial fishing harbour.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1985 4 14.



Report from the General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services

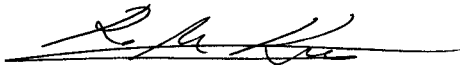
It is my pleasure to submit the City of Richmond's audited annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2004, as required by Section 98 (2) and Section 167 of the Community Charter. The City of Richmond has again provided outstanding and fiscally responsible service delivery to the community, as evidenced by these statements and by the many achievements outlined in this Annual Report.

The City of Richmond places a high priority on providing excellence in government service with responsible and sustainable fiscal practices. A long-term financial management strategy guides the City's decisions and provides for restricted taxation levels, increases in reserves, diversified revenue sources, and a cost containment plan. The City's financial management is aimed at enhancing Richmond's economic well being for present and future generations while maintaining the City's outstanding quality of life, attractiveness, and livability.

The City continued to build on its solid fiscal foundation in 2004. Cash and investments increased to \$314.0 million from \$264.4 million in 2003 and the City ended the year with a consolidated surplus of \$4.8 million. This surplus represents 2.1% of the total budget. Statutory reserves increased by \$27.6 million to \$139.5 million and capital growth amounted to \$29.1 million. Economic forecasts for Richmond and the region remain strong over the next few years, and the City is well positioned to benefit from the anticipated growth.

The financial statements that follow are the responsibility of the City of Richmond's management and have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as established by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. The financial statements have been audited by KPMG LLP, who have expressed their opinion that these statements fairly present the financial position and operational results of the City of Richmond.

For our diligence and transparency in financial reporting, the City was again honoured to receive the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. As we move forward, we will continue to build on Richmond's economic successes, and on our tradition of sound financial management for the long-term benefit of the entire Richmond community.



Rod Kray, CMA
General Manager
Finance and Corporate Services



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Vancouver BC V7Y 1K3

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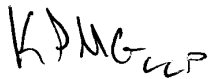
AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Mayor and Council
City of Richmond

We have audited the consolidated statement of financial position of the City of Richmond (the "City") as at December 31, 2004 and the consolidated statements of financial activities and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the City's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City as at December 31, 2004 and the results of its financial activities and its changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.



Chartered Accountants

Vancouver, Canada

April 11, 2005



KPMG LLP, a Canadian limited liability partnership is the Canadian member of KPMG International, a Swiss nonoperating association.

City of Richmond
Consolidated Statements of Financial Position

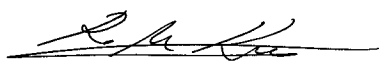
(Expressed in thousands of dollars)

December 31, 2004 and 2003

	2004	2003 (restated - note 2)
Financial Assets		
Cash	\$ -	\$ 4,205
Investments	315,541	260,212
Accrued interest receivable	4,330	5,123
Accounts receivable	12,655	16,448
Taxes receivable	5,172	5,875
Development fees receivable	8,272	7,540
Debt reserve fund - deposits (note 3)	561	620
	346,531	300,023
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 4)	48,032	56,037
Bank indebtedness	1,541	-
Deposits and holdbacks	7,208	6,655
Deferred revenue	14,052	12,539
Development cost levies (note 5)	41,810	37,150
Debt reserve fund - deposits (note 3)	561	620
Obligations under capital leases (note 6)	4,639	4,769
Long-term debt, net of MFA sinking fund deposits (note 7)	34,188	38,751
	152,031	156,521
Net financial assets	194,500	143,502
Capital assets (note 8)	1,006,670	978,743
Inventory of materials and supplies	2,287	2,370
	\$ 1,203,457	\$ 1,124,615
Financial Equity		
Reserves (note 10)	\$ 139,500	\$ 111,860
Appropriated surplus (note 11)	48,155	34,649
Surplus	49,850	45,069
Obligations to be funded from future revenue	(4,178)	(4,556)
	233,327	187,022
Capital equity (note 9)	967,843	935,223
Other equity	2,287	2,370
	\$ 1,203,457	\$ 1,124,615

Commitments and contingencies (note 13)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



General Manager, Finance and Corporate Services

City of Richmond

Consolidated Statements of Financial Activities

(Expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

	Budget 2004	Actual 2004	Actual 2003
	(note 1(c))		(restated - note 2)
Revenue:			
Taxation and levies	\$ 116,677	\$ 115,047	\$ 111,089
Development cost charges	13,214	8,942	11,321
User fees	36,978	37,794	34,403
Sales of services	23,358	26,316	25,126
Provincial and federal grants	4,926	11,592	5,003
Other capital funding sources	6,195	7,270	12,908
Grants-in-lieu of taxes	9,935	10,018	10,494
Other revenue from own sources:			
Licenses and permits	5,700	7,085	6,150
Investment income	10,079	10,000	10,143
Other (note 1(j))	2,795	21,253	11,346
	229,857	255,317	237,983
Expenditures:			
General government	25,247	23,869	23,630
Protective services	55,020	54,263	53,648
Transportation services	18,688	18,166	18,514
Sanitation and recycling services	6,781	6,537	7,020
Environmental development services	2,654	2,768	2,510
Recreational and cultural services	25,342	26,006	24,903
Capital and infrastructure investments	45,380	29,124	48,906
Richmond Public Library	5,891	7,221	6,571
Utilities:			
Water supply and distribution	16,102	14,403	13,152
Sewerage collection and disposal	11,491	13,502	9,729
Debt and finance	8,174	7,491	7,917
Other expenses	827	969	238
	221,597	204,319	216,738
Excess of revenue over expenditures	8,260	50,998	21,245
Repayment of debt and capital lease obligations	(4,540)	(4,693)	(3,958)
Increase in financial equity	3,720	46,305	17,287
Financial equity, beginning of year (note 2)		187,022	169,735
Financial equity, end of year		\$ 233,327	\$ 187,022

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

City of Richmond
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Financial Position

(Expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

	2004	2003 (restated - note 2)
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 50,998	\$ 21,245
Revenue recognized from development cost charges, an item not involving cash	(8,942)	(11,321)
Working capital items:		
Accrued interest receivable	793	11,904
Accounts and taxes receivable	4,496	608
Development fees receivable	(732)	(498)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(8,005)	4,315
Deposits and holdbacks	553	(393)
Deferred revenue	1,513	1,785
	40,674	27,645
Investments:		
Acquisition of short-term investments, net	(55,329)	(32,169)
Financing:		
Increase in bank indebtedness	1,541	-
Development cost levies and interest received (note 5)	13,602	11,181
Repayment of debt and capital lease obligations	(4,693)	(3,958)
	10,450	7,223
Increase (decrease) in cash	(4,205)	2,699
Cash, beginning of year	4,205	1,506
Cash, end of year	\$ -	\$ 4,205

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

1. Significant accounting policies:

(a) Basis of accounting:

The consolidated financial statements of the City of Richmond (the "City") are the representation of management prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants ("CICA"). The consolidated financial statements reflect a combination of the City's General Revenue, General Capital and Loan, Waterworks and Sewerworks and Reserve Funds consolidated with the Richmond Public Library Board. Interfund transactions, fund balances and activities have been eliminated on consolidation.

Management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Significant areas requiring the use of management estimates relate to the determination of accrued sick benefits, the recoverability of accounts receivable and provision for contingencies. The consolidated financial statements have, in management's opinion, been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized below for the following funds:

(i) General Revenue Fund:

This fund is used to account for the current operations of the City as provided for in the Annual Budget, including collection of taxes, administering operations, provision of transportation services, policing, servicing general debt, etc.

(ii) General Capital and Loan Fund:

This fund is used to record the City's capital assets and work-in-progress, including engineering structures such as roads and bridges, and the related long-term debt.

(iii) Waterworks and Sewerworks Funds:

These funds have been established to cover the costs of operating these utilities, with related capital and loan funds to record the related capital assets and long-term debt.

(iv) Reserve Funds:

Certain funds are established by bylaws for specific purposes. They are funded primarily by budgeted contributions from the General Revenue Fund plus interest earned on fund balances.

(b) Revenue:

Revenue is recorded on the accrual basis and recognized when earned. Amounts that have been received in advance of services being rendered are recorded as deferred revenue until the City discharges the obligations that led to the collection of funds.

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(c) Budget information:

Unaudited budget information, presented on a basis consistent with that used for actual results, was included in the City of Richmond's Five Year Financial Plan and was adopted through Bylaw #7726 on May 6, 2004.

(d) Expenditures:

Expenditures are recorded in the period in which the goods or services are acquired and a liability is incurred.

(e) Investments:

Investments are recorded at cost. Investments include term deposits and short-term bonds which generally have their principal guaranteed at maturity. Provisions for losses are recorded when they are considered to be other than temporary. At various times during the term of each individual investment, market value may be less than cost. Such a decline in value is considered temporary as it generally reverses as the investment matures and therefore an adjustment to market value for these market declines is not recorded.

(f) Accounts receivable:

Accounts receivable are net of an allowance for doubtful accounts and therefore represent amounts expected to be collected within the next year.

(g) Inventory:

Inventory is recorded at cost, net of an allowance made for obsolete stock. Cost is determined on a weighted average basis.

(h) Capital assets:

Capital assets purchased or constructed and work in progress are reported as capital expenditures in the period they are acquired. Interest incurred on borrowed funds used during construction is capitalized. Donated assets are recorded at their estimated fair market value at the time they are received. The City does not provide for depreciation or replacement of capital assets in the accounts. Proceeds from disposal of capital assets are credited to the appropriate reserve account.

(i) Development cost levies:

Development cost levies are restricted by legislation to expenditures on capital infrastructure. These amounts are recognized as revenue when the expenditures are incurred in accordance with the restrictions.

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(j) Other revenue:

Other revenue in 2004 includes the proceeds from sale of properties in the amount of \$18,419,680. These proceeds were not budgeted for, and are not expected to recur in future periods. All proceeds were transferred to investment in capital assets and reserves.

(k) Employee future benefits:

The City and its employees make contributions to the Municipal Pension Plan. These contributions are expensed as incurred.

Sick leave and post-employment benefits are also available to the City's employees. The costs of these benefits are actuarially determined based on service and best estimates of retirement ages and expected future salary and wage increases. The liabilities under these benefits plans are accrued based on projected benefits prorated as employees render services necessary to earn the future benefits (see note 2).

(l) Comparative figures:

Comparative figures have been restated to reflect the consolidation of the Richmond Public Library Board.

2. Changes in accounting policy:

Effective January 1, 2004, the City adopted the recommendations as required under Section PS 3255 Post-Employment Benefits of the CICA Public Sector Accounting Handbook. This new policy requires the City to accrue and disclose obligations, using actuarial cost methodologies, for certain post-employment benefits, compensated absences and termination benefits.

This change in accounting policy has been applied retroactively. As a result, accounts payable and accrued liabilities as at December 31, 2003 have increased by \$7.4 million and expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2003 have decreased by \$1.9 million over the amounts previously reported. Expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2004 have decreased by \$1.5 million over the amount that would have been reported under the previous accounting policy.

The impact of this change in accounting policy on the opening balance of financial equity is as follows:

	2004	2003
Balance, beginning of year, as previously reported	\$ 194,443	\$ 179,047
Adjustment to reflect change in accounting for employee future benefits	(7,421)	(9,312)
Balance, beginning of year, as restated	\$ 187,022	\$ 169,735

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

3. Debt reserve fund deposits and demand notes:

The City issues its debt instruments through the Municipal Finance Authority (the "Authority"). As a condition of these borrowings, a portion of the debenture proceeds is withheld by the Authority as a Debt Reserve Fund. The City also executes demand notes in connection with each debenture whereby the City may be required to loan amounts to the Authority. These demand notes are contingent in nature and are not reflected in the accounts. The details of the cash deposits and demand notes at December 31, 2004 are as follows:

	Cash deposits	Demand notes	Total
General Revenue Fund	\$ 546	\$ 2,582	\$ 3,128
Sewerworks Revenue Fund	15	75	90
Total	\$ 561	\$ 2,657	\$ 3,218

4. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

	2004	2003
Trade and other liabilities	\$ 29,749	\$ 36,301
Employee future benefits (note 12)	18,283	19,736
	\$ 48,032	\$ 56,037

5. Development cost levies:

	2004	2003
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 37,150	\$ 37,290
Contributions	12,769	10,174
Interest	833	1,007
Expenditures	(8,942)	(11,321)
Balance, end of year	\$ 41,810	\$ 37,150

6. Obligations under capital leases:

During 2004 the City entered into an agreement for the sale and leaseback of equipment for proceeds of \$1,825,866. The City was required to treat this transaction as a financing arrangement under generally accepted accounting principles and no gain or loss was recognized. The City has an option at the end of the lease to repurchase each respective equipment for \$1 each.

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

6. Obligations under capital leases (continued):

During 2003 the City entered into an agreement for the sale and leaseback of equipment for proceeds of \$5,541,000. The City was required to treat this transaction as a financing arrangement under generally accepted accounting principles and no gain or loss was recognized. The City has an option at the end of the lease to repurchase each respective equipment for \$1 each.

Future minimum lease payments under these capital leases, which expire on various dates ranging from October 1, 2007 and July 1, 2009, are as follows:

Year ending December 31:

2005	\$	1,572
2006		1,572
2007		1,324
2008		410
2009		224
Total future minimum lease payments		5,102
Less amount representing interest (3.88% - 4.61%)		(463)
Present value of capital lease payments		\$ 4,639

7. Long-term debt (net of MFA sinking fund deposits):

	2004	2003
Authority debentures	\$ 34,188	\$ 38,694
Provincial Capital Improvement loan	-	57
	\$ 34,188	\$ 38,751

The rates of interest on the principal amount of the Authority debentures vary between 5.99% and 10.25% per annum. The average rate of interest for the year ended December 31, 2004 approximates 7.5%.

The Provincial Capital Improvement loan bears interest at 9.00%.

The City issues debt instruments through the Authority pursuant to security issuing bylaws under authority of the community Charter to finance certain capital expenditures. Sinking fund balances managed by the Authority are netted against related long-term debt.

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

7. Long-term debt (net of MFA sinking fund deposits) (continued):

Gross amount for the debt and the amount for the sinking fund assets available to retire the debt are as follows:

	Gross debt	Sinking fund asset	Net debt 2004	Net debt 2003
General Fund	\$ 61,356	\$ 27,972	\$ 33,384	\$ 36,331
Water Fund	3,401	3,401	-	-
Sewer Fund	8,498	7,694	804	2,420
	\$ 73,255	\$ 39,067	\$ 34,188	\$ 38,751

Repayments of long-term debt required in the following five years and thereafter are as follows:

	General	Sewerworks	Total
2005	\$ 7,040	\$ 216	\$ 7,256
2006	7,192	221	7,413
2007	7,351	225	7,576
2008	7,519	229	7,748
2009	7,694	234	7,928
Thereafter	30,717	734	31,451
Principal and interest payments	67,513	1,859	69,372
Amount representing interest	(34,129)	(1,055)	(35,184)
Debt principal repayments	\$ 33,384	\$ 804	\$ 34,188

8. Capital assets:

	2004	2003
General government	\$ 166,932	\$ 134,774
Public works	497,103	486,799
Protection to persons and property	23,277	14,775
Sanitation and waste removal	16,796	14,926
Social welfare	2,981	2,981
Recreation services	126,934	126,611
Community services	92,918	91,033
Assets held under capital lease	7,044	5,827
Miscellaneous	46	46
Work-in-progress	72,639	100,971
	\$ 1,006,670	\$ 978,743

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

9. Equity in capital assets:

	2004	2003
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 935,223	\$ 877,631
Capital additions (net)	27,927	58,403
Repayment of debt	4,563	3,958
Repayment (additions) to capital leases	130	(4,769)
Change in equity in capital assets	32,620	57,592
Balance, end of year	\$ 967,843	\$ 935,223

10. Reserves:

	2003	Change during year	2004
Reserve funds:			
Capital expenditure reserve	\$ 34,642	\$ 15,149	\$ 49,791
Steveston road ends	478	340	818
Equipment reserve	15,150	(1,438)	13,712
Affordable housing reserve	5,476	225	5,701
Steveston off-street parking reserve	80	3	83
Capital building and infrastructure	3,455	4,867	8,322
Neighbourhood improvement reserve	2,850	907	3,757
Waterfront improvement reserve	874	484	1,358
Child care facility	115	(26)	89
Public art	317	143	460
Local improvements reserve	3,415	955	4,370
Special sports reserve	1,034	(410)	624
Water main replacement reserve	23,610	3,346	26,956
Drainage improvement reserve	868	1,257	2,125
Sewer lateral replacement reserve	14,955	(288)	14,667
Leisure facilities reserve	-	129	129
	107,319	25,643	132,962
Reserves:			
Future elections	116	89	205
Appeal board decisions	427	632	1,059
Legal settlements	2,165	123	2,288
Major road networks rehabilitation reserve	1,833	1,153	2,986
	4,541	1,997	6,538
	\$ 111,860	\$ 27,640	\$ 139,500

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

11. Appropriated surplus:

	2004	2003
Appropriated surplus, beginning of the year	\$ 34,649	\$ 26,468
Addition in the year	26,968	30,000
Usage	(13,462)	(21,819)
Appropriated surplus, end of year	\$ 48,155	\$ 34,649

Surplus amounts are appropriated or reserved for certain types of expenditures that may be incurred in the future. Surplus appropriations to December 31, 2004 have been made in the General, Waterworks and Sewerworks Funds. These expenditures would be for such items as unexpected human resource issues, emergency or disaster recovery, debt requirements and future capital maintenance programs.

12. Employee future benefits:

The City provides certain post-employment benefits, compensated absences, and termination benefits to its employees. These benefits include accumulated non-vested sick leave and post-employment benefits.

	2004	2003
Accrued benefit liability:		
Balance, beginning of the year	\$ 19,736	\$ 19,528
Current service cost	1,045	1,002
Interest cost	1,089	1,078
Benefits paid	(3,587)	(1,872)
Balance, end of year	\$ 18,283	\$ 19,736

An actuarial valuation for these benefits was performed to determine the City's accrued benefit obligation as at December 31, 2004. The difference between the actuarially determined accrued benefit obligation of \$18.9 million and the accrued benefit liability of \$18.3 million as at December 31, 2004 is an actuarial loss of \$0.6 million. Starting in 2005, this actuarial loss will be amortized over a period equal to the employees' average remaining service lifetime.

Actuarial assumptions used to determine the City's accrued benefit obligation are as follows:

	2004	2003
Discount rate	5.00%	5.50%
Expected future inflation rate	2.00%	2.00%
Expected wage and salary range increases	3.50%	3.50%

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

13. Commitments and contingencies:

(a) Joint and several liabilities:

As a member of the following districts, the City is jointly and severally liable for each district's applicable portion of the net capital liability:

Greater Vancouver Regional District
 Greater Vancouver Water District
 Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District

(b) Lease payments:

As at December 31, 2004 the City was committed to lease payments for premises and equipment in the following approximate amounts:

2004	\$ 3,736
2005	3,857
2006	3,746
2007	3,787
2008	3,759
Thereafter	74,108

(c) Litigation:

There are several lawsuits pending in which the City is involved. The outcome and amounts that may be payable, if any, under these claims cannot be determined and, accordingly, no amounts have been recorded.

(d) Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia:

The City is a participant in the Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia (the "Association"). Should the Association pay out claims in excess of premiums received it is possible that the City, along with other participants, would be required to contribute towards the deficit.

(e) Pensions:

The City and its employees contribute to the Municipal Pension Plan (the "Plan"), a jointly trustee pension plan governed by the B.C. Public Sector Pension Plans Act. The Plan is a multi-employer contributory defined benefit pension plan with about 130,000 active contributors, including approximately 29,000 contributors from local governments. Basic pension benefits provided are defined. The board of trustees, representing plan members and employees, is fully responsible for overseeing management of the pension plan, including investment of the assets and administration of the benefits. The British Columbia Pension Corporation provides pension benefit administration services and the British Columbia Investment Management Corporation provides investment management services for the Plan.

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

13. Commitments and contingencies (continued):

(e) Pensions (continued):

Every three years an actuarial valuation is performed to assess the financial position of the Plan and the adequacy of Plan funding. The most recent valuation as at December 31, 2003 indicates an unfunded liability of \$789 million for basic pension benefits. The next valuation will be as at December 31, 2006 with results available in 2007. The actuary does not attribute portions of the unfunded liability to individual employers. Each employer expenses contributions to the Plan in the year in which payments are made. Contributions to the Plan by the City totaled approximately \$4,807,167 (2003 - \$5,322,478).

(f) Contractual obligation:

The City has entered into various agreements with contracts for services and construction with periods ranging beyond one year. These commitments are in accordance with budgets passed by Council. Included in these commitments is the commitment to contribute \$95.0 million toward the construction of the facility to house the Olympic Oval.

(g) E-Comm Emergency Communications for Southwest British Columbia ("E-Comm"):

The City is a shareholder and member of E-Comm whose services provided include: regional 9-1-1 call centre for the Greater Vancouver Regional District; Wide Area Radio network; dispatch operations; and records management. The City has 2 Class A shares and 1 Class B share (of a total of 20 Class A and 26 Class B shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2004). Class A shareholders are obligated to share in both funding the ongoing operations and any additional costs relating to capital assets (in accordance with a cost sharing formula) while Class B shareholders are not obligated to share in funding of the ongoing operating costs.

14. Trust funds:

Certain assets have been conveyed or assigned to the City to be administered as directed by agreement or statute. The City holds the assets for the benefit of and stands in fiduciary relationship to the beneficiary. The following trust funds are excluded from the City's financial statements.

	2004	2003
Richmond Community Associations	\$ 1,075	\$ 1,002

City of Richmond

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Tabular amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

15. Collections for other governments:

The City is obligated to collect and transmit certain taxation revenue on behalf of other government bodies. These funds are excluded from the City's financial statements since they are not revenue of the City. Such taxes collected and remitted to the government bodies during the year were as follows:

	2004	2003
Province of British Columbia - Schools	\$ 98,179	\$ 94,370
Regional District and others	18,488	17,760
	\$ 116,667	\$ 112,130

16. Expenditures by object:

	2004	2003
Wages, salaries and benefits	\$ 84,846	\$ 83,412
Contract services	31,311	29,034
Supplies, materials and equipment	80,671	96,375
Debt charges	7,491	7,917
	\$ 204,319	\$ 216,738



City of Richmond 2004 Permissive Property Tax Exemptions

Photo:

1889. Construction of the North Arm Bridge provided a vital link between Richmond and Vancouver. This first bridge, also known as the Marpole Bridge, was retired in 1957 upon completion of the Oak Street Bridge. The photo is looking north from Sea Island, in the same general location as the Arthur Laing Bridge, which was built in 1976.

City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1977 2 1.



2004 Permissive Property Tax Exemptions

In accordance with Section 98 (2)(b) of the Community Charter, we disclose that the following properties were provided permissive property tax exemptions by Richmond City Council in 2004. Permissive tax exemptions are those exemptions granted by bylaw in accordance with Section 224 of the Community Charter.

Property / Organization	Address	2004 Municipal Tax Exempted
Churches and Religious Properties		
B.C. Muslim Association	12300 Blundell Road	\$ 2,034
Bakerview Gospel Chapel	8991 Francis Road	598
Beth Tikvah Congregation	9711 Geal Road	2,710
Bethany Baptist Church	22680 Westminster Highway	3,159
Brighthouse United Church	8151 Bennett Road	1,969
Broadmoor Baptist Church	8140 Saunders Road	1,918
Canadian Martyrs Parish	5771 Granville Avenue	4,164
Christian and Missionary Alliance	3360 Sexmith Road	805
Christian Reformed Church	9280 No. 2 Road	1,992
Church of God	10011 No. 5 Road	1,327
Church of Latter Day Saints	8440 Williams Road	2,305
Church of World Messianity	10380 Odlin Road	878
Cornerstone Evangelical Baptist Church	12011 Blundell Road	1,252
Eitz Chaim Synagogue	8080 Francis Road	2,519
Faith Evangelical Church	11960 Montego Street	741
Fraserview Mennonite Brethren Church	11295 Mellis Drive	1,408
Fujian Evangelical Church	12200 Blundell Road	1,628
Gilmore Park United Church	8060 No. 1 Road	1,485
Immanuel Christian Reformed Church	7600 No. 4 Road	1,695
India Cultural Centre	8600 No. 5 Road	795
International Buddhist Society	9120 Steveston Highway	416
International Buddhist Society	9160 Steveston Highway	1,393
Lansdowne Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses	11014 Westminster Highway	1,451
Larch St. Gospel Meeting Room	8020 No. 5 Road	729
Ling Yen Mountain Temple	10060 No. 5 Road	925
Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple	18691 Westminster Highway	2,279

Churches and Religious Properties continued . . .

North Richmond Alliance Church	9140 Granville Avenue	\$ 832
Our Savior Lutheran Church	6340 No. 4 Road	1,645
Parish of St. Alban's	7260 St. Albans Road	2,700
Patterson Road Assembly	9291 Walford Street	168
Peace Mennonite Church	11571 Daniels Road	5,130
Richmond Alliance Church	11371 No. 3 Road	2,712
Richmond Baptist Church	6640 Blundell Road	1,425
Richmond Baptist Church	6560 Blundell Road	376
Richmond Bethel Mennonite Church	10160 No. 5 Road	7,951
Richmond Chinese Alliance Church	10100 No. 1 Road	1,390
Richmond Chinese Evangelical Free Church	8040 No. 5 Road	809
Richmond Gospel Society	9160 Dixon Avenue	2,441
Richmond Pentecostal Church	9300 Westminster Highway	1,484
Richmond Presbyterian Church	7111 No. 2 Road	1,226
Richmond Sea Island United Church	8711 Cambie Road	2,192
Sakya Tsechen Thubten Ling Association	9471 Beckwith Road	228
Salvation Army Church	8280 Gilbert Road	1,260
Shia Muslim Community	8580 No. 5 Road	2,742
South Arm United Church	11051 No. 3 Road	2,145
St. Anne's Anglican Church	4071 Francis Road	729
St. Edward's Anglican Church	10111 Bird Road	1,045
St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church	13780 Westminster Highway	424
St. Joseph the Worker Roman Catholic Church	4451 Williams Road	8,009
St. Monica's Roman Catholic Church	12011 Woodhead Road	2,617
St. Paul's Roman Catholic Parish	8251 St. Albans Road	5,679
Steveston Buddhist Temple	4360 Garry Street	2,345
Steveston Congregation Jehovah's Witnesses	4260 Williams Road	1,161
Steveston Gospel Chapel	10351 No. 1 Road	1,250
Steveston United Church	3720 Broadway Street	714
Steveston United Church	3760 Broadway Street	355
Steveston United Church	3780 Broadway Street	297

Churches and Religious Properties continued . . .

Subramaniya Swamy Temple	8840 No. 5 Road	\$ 296
The Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centre	4010 Canada Way	1,347
Towers Baptist Church	10311 Albion Road	2,243
Trinity Lutheran Church	7100 Granville Avenue	1,023
Ukrainian Catholic Church	8700 Railway Avenue	655
Vancouver Airport Chaplaincy	3211 Grant McConachie Way	248
Vancouver Gospel Society	7431 Francis Road	338
Vancouver Gospel Society	8851 Heather Street	487
Vancouver Gospel Society	11331 Williams Road	304
Vancouver International Buddhist Progress Society	6690-8181 Cambie Road	2,416
Vedic Cultural Society of B.C.	8200 No. 5 Road	145
West Richmond Gospel Hall	5651 Francis Road	788
World Harvest Church	200-7451 Elmbridge Way	1,391

Recreation, Child Care, and Community Service Properties

Cook Road Children's Centre	8300 Cook Road	\$ 1,785
Kinsmen Club of Richmond	11851 Westminster Highway	2,656
Navy League of Canada	7411 River Road	1,198
Richmond Caring Place	7000 Minoru Boulevard	40,931
Richmond Health Services Society	5411 Moncton Street	2,785
Richmond Lawn Bowling Club	6133 Bowling Green Road	239
Richmond Rod and Gun Club	7760 River Road	8,376
Richmond Tennis Club	6820 Gilbert Road	8,568
Richmond Winter Club	5540 Hollybridge Way	55,570
Riverside Children's Centre	5862 Dover Crescent	1,514
Terra Nova Children's Centre	6011 Blanchard Drive	1,577
Treehouse Learning Centre	5500 Andrews Road	1,826

Private Educational Properties

B.C. Muslim Association	12300 Blundell Road	\$ 13,279
Choice Learning Centre	20451 Westminster Highway	4,298
Cornerstone Christian Academy School	12011 Blundell Road	1,570
Richmond Christian School Association	5240 Woodward Road	17,361
Richmond Jewish Day School	8760 No. 5 Road	14,005
St. Joseph the Worker Church & School	4451 Williams Road	13,330

Senior Citizen Housing

Anavets Senior Citizens Housing	11820 No. 1 Road	\$ 9,282
Richmond Health Services Society	11771 Fentiman Place	19,741
Richmond Kiwanis Senior Citizens Housing	320-8171 Cook Road	28,548
Richmond Legion #5 Senior Citizen Society	7251 Langton Road	18,511

Community Care Facilities

Canadian Mental Health Association	7351 Elmbridge Way	\$ 6,317
Canadian Mental Health Association	8911 Westminster Highway	6,321
Development Disabilities Association	6531 Azure Road	1,127
Development Disabilities Association	7951 Sunnymede Crescent	1,596
Development Disabilities Association	8400 Robinson Road	1,288
Greater Vancouver Community Service	4811 Williams Road	1,479
Pinegrove Place, Mennonite Care Home Society	11331 Mellis Drive	16,201
Richmond Society for Community Living	9580 Pendleton Road	5,324
Richmond Society for Community Living	303-7560 Moffatt Road	639
Richmond Society for Community Living	9-11020 No. 1 Road	890
Richmond Society for Community Living	5635 Steveston Highway	3,968
Richmond Society for Community Living	4433 Francis Road	1,112
Rosewood Manor, Richmond Intermediate Care Society	6260 Blundell Road	26,321



City of Richmond Statistical Section

Photo:

1915. Farming was one of Richmond's prime industries, supplying milk, berries, vegetables, fruit, grains, and beef for the Vancouver and New Westminster markets. This is a photo of the Rose family farm, with its modest homestead. Agriculture continues to play an important role in Richmond's economy and community character.

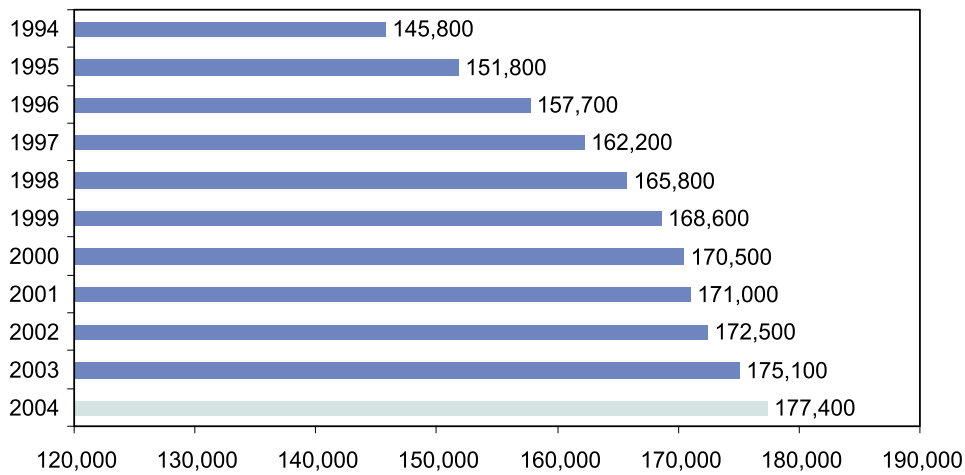
City of Richmond Archives Photograph 1978 31 25.



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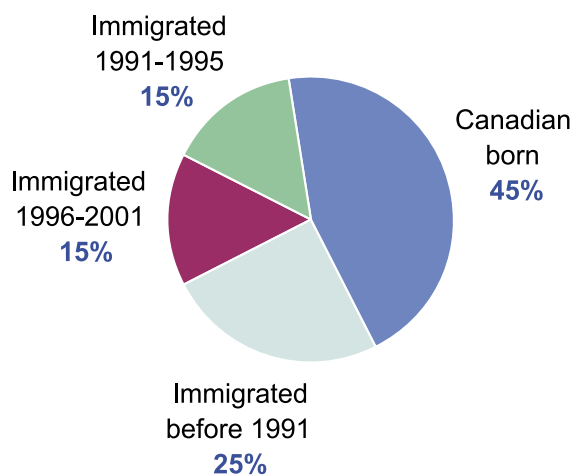
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City of Richmond Population 1994 - 2004



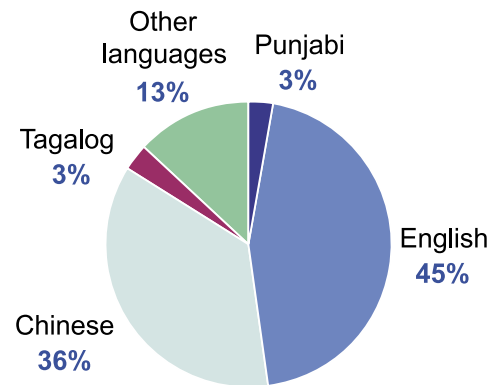
Source: City of Richmond Policy Planning Department.
 Note: Population includes an estimate of Census undercount.

Immigrant Status of Richmond Residents by Period of Immigration



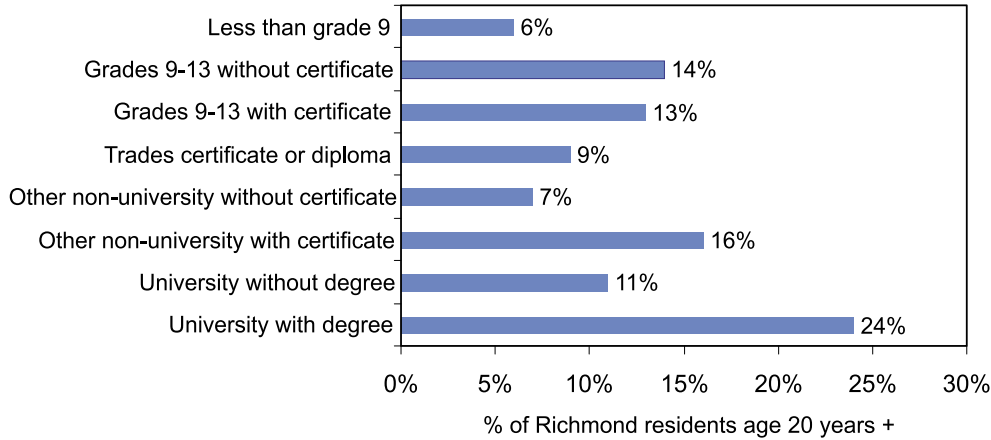
Source: Statistics Canada 2001 Census.

Richmond's Population by Mother Tongue



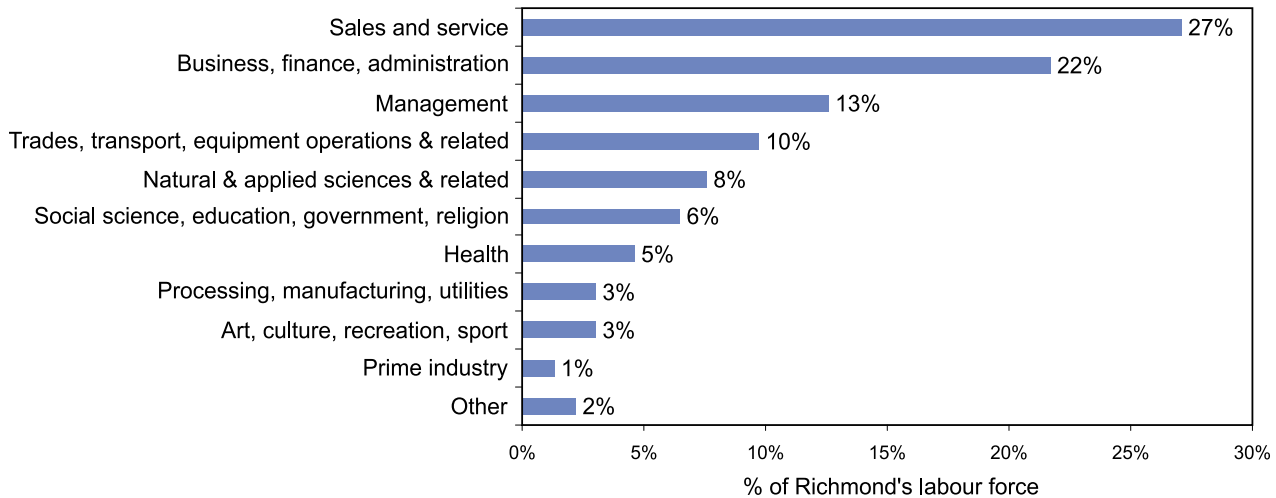
Source: Statistics Canada 2001 Census.

Education Profile of Richmond Residents Age 20 Years and Over



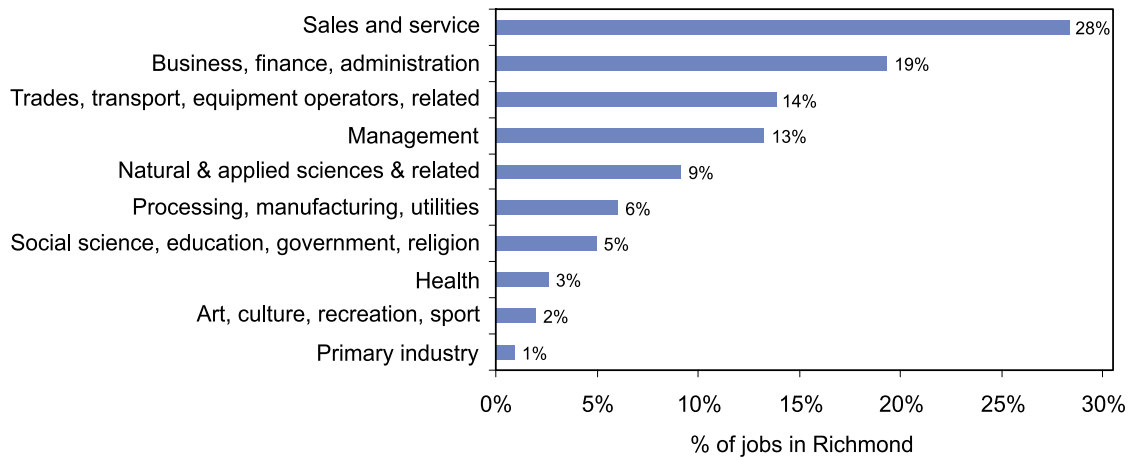
Source: Statistics Canada 2001 Census.

Occupations of Richmond Residents



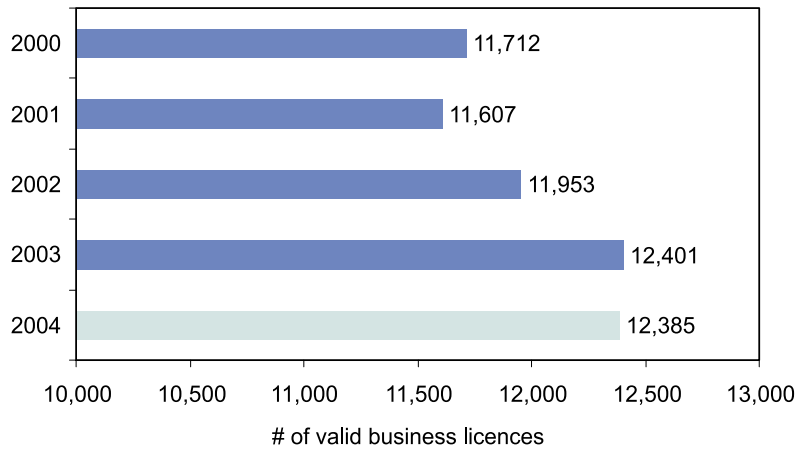
Source: Statistics Canada 2001 Census.

Jobs in Richmond by Occupation



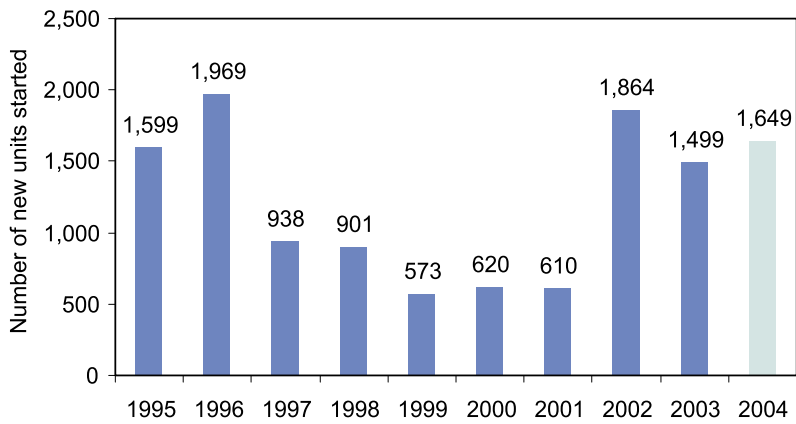
Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, Custom Tabulations.

Richmond Business Licences 2000 - 2004



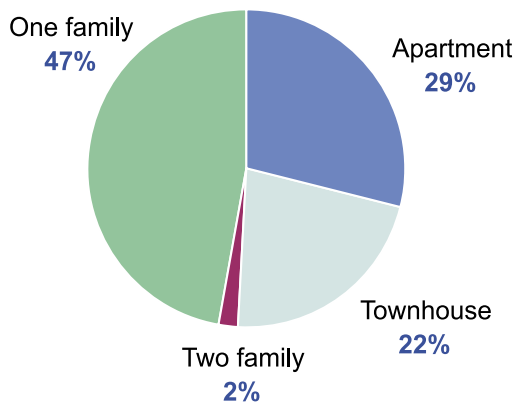
Source: City of Richmond Business Licence System.
Represents valid licences as at December 31.

Housing Starts in Richmond 1995 - 2004



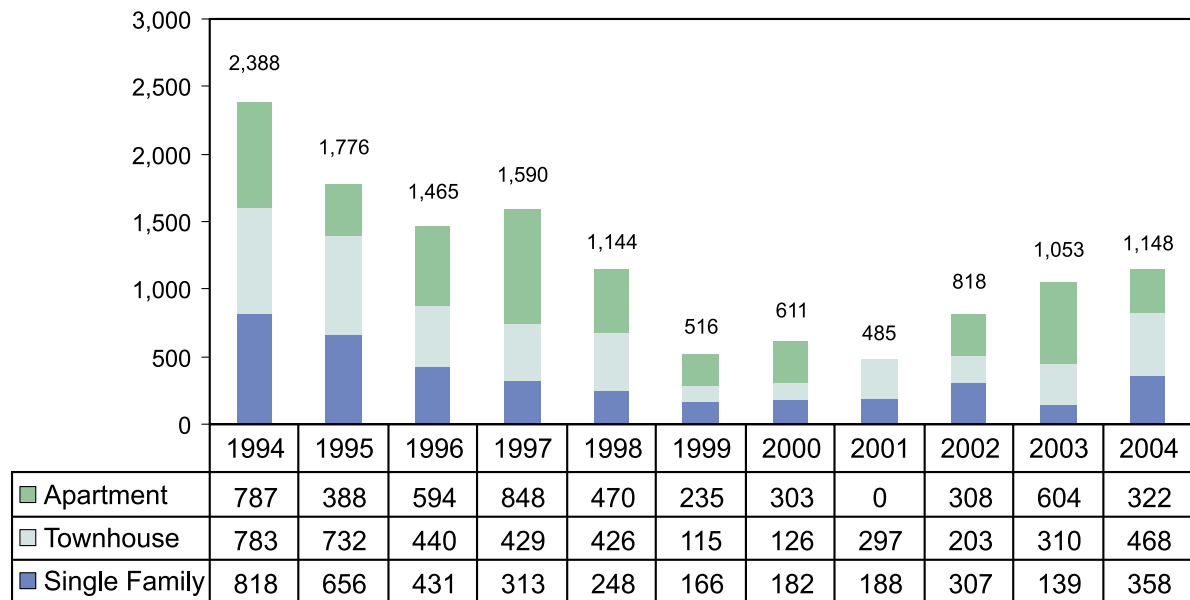
Source: City of Richmond building permit data.

Richmond Housing Units by Type 2004



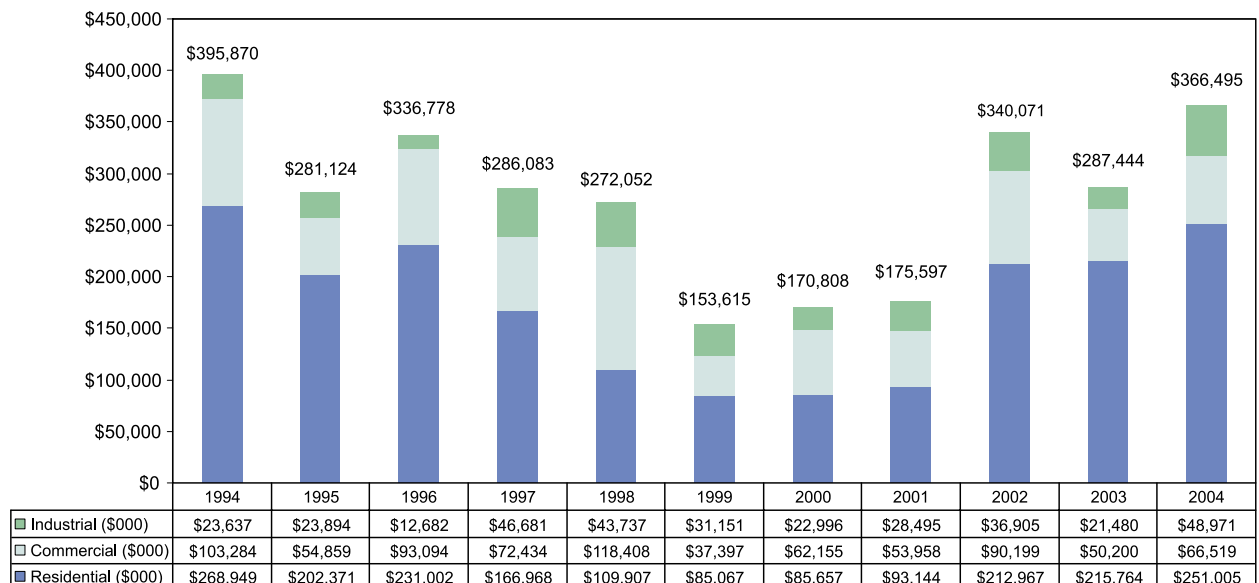
Source: City of Richmond tax and permit data.

New Dwelling Units Constructed 1994 - 2004



Source: City of Richmond, building permits records. Includes projects receiving final permits.

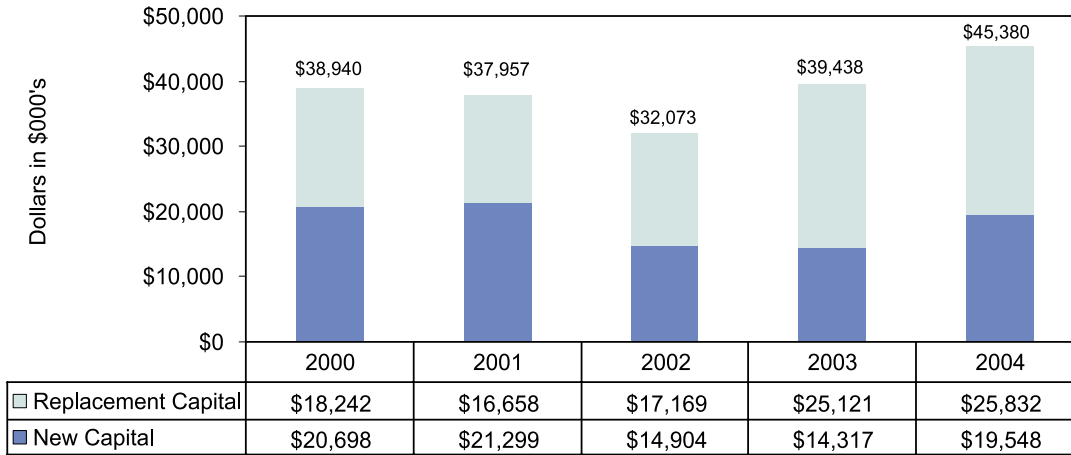
Construction Value of Building Permits Issued 1994 - 2004 (in \$000's)



Source: City of Richmond building permit data.

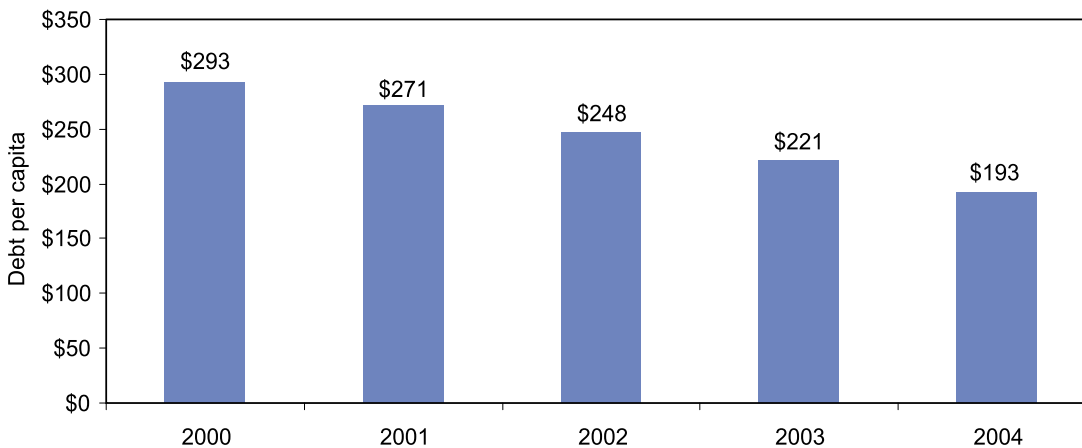
Note: Includes all projects - new, additions, alterations. Hotels and farm buildings are included in residential; assembly permits are included in commercial. Institutional, government, and miscellaneous permits not included in totals.

City of Richmond Budgeted Capital Construction Costs 2000 - 2004 (in \$000's)



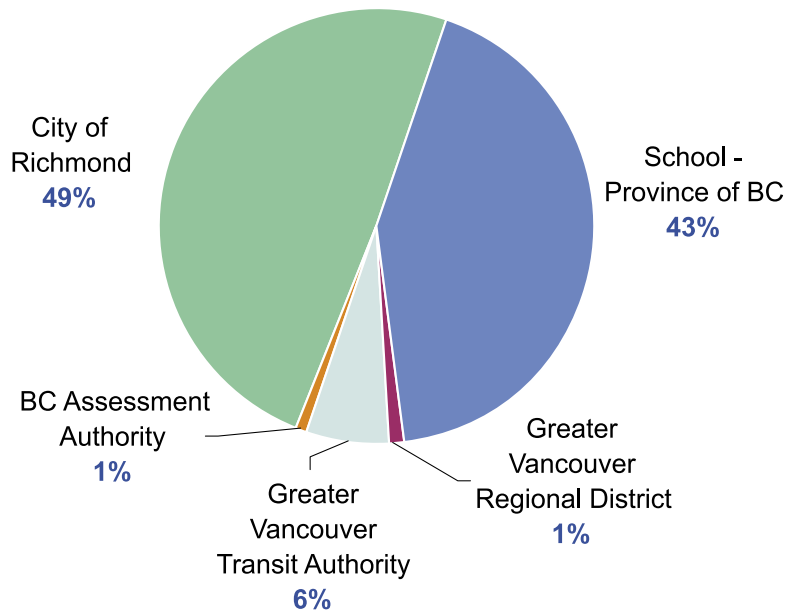
Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

City of Richmond Debt Per Capita 2000 - 2004



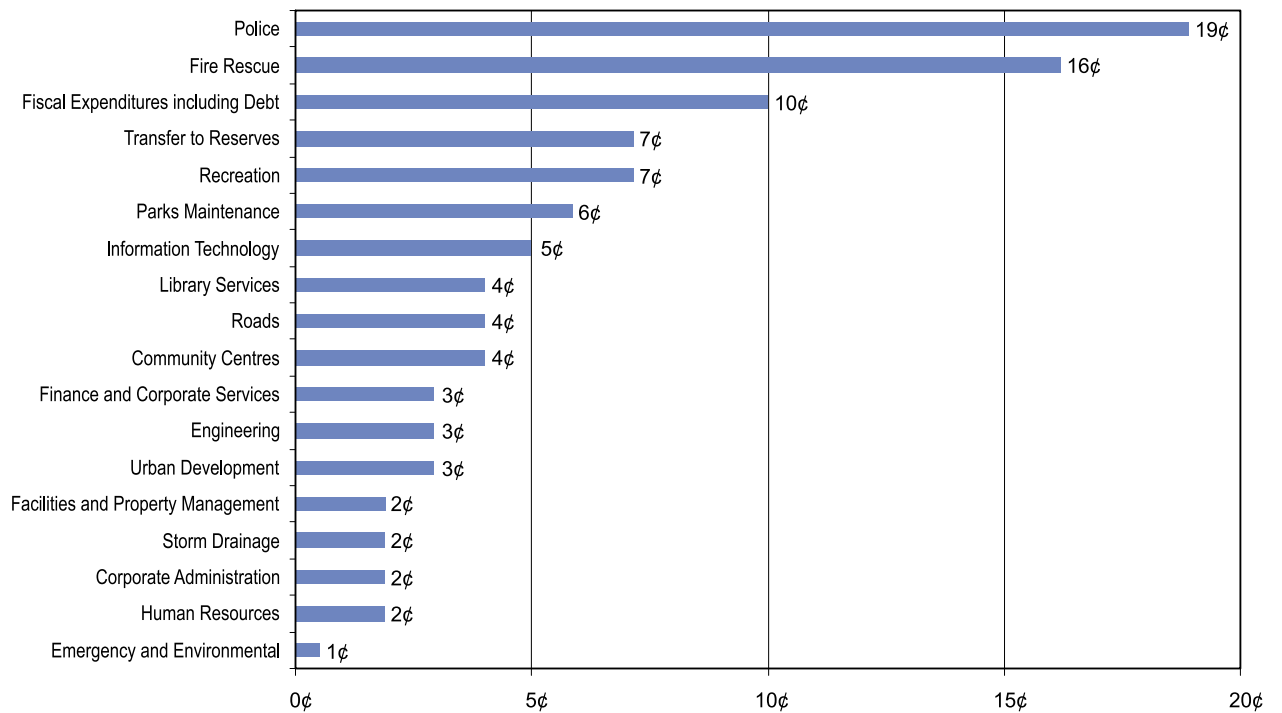
Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

Breakdown of Residential Property Tax Bill 2004



Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

Breakdown of \$1 of Municipal Tax 2004



Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

2004 Tax Rates

	City of Richmond	School - Province of BC	Greater Vancouver Regional District	BC Assessment Authority	Municipal Finance Authority	Greater Vancouver Transit Authority
Residential	3.46533	3.03850	0.09727	0.10570	0.00030	0.27520
Business	11.30386	9.90000	0.23829	0.29590	0.00010	1.63600
Light Industrial	14.08157	9.90000	0.33069	0.29590	0.00050	2.27250
Seasonal	1.45044	4.50000	0.09726	0.10570	0.00020	0.27520
Major Industrial	11.19138	12.50000	0.33069	0.54240	0.00050	2.27250
Farm	8.03856	6.80000	0.09726	0.10570	0.00020	0.27520
Utilities	40.00000	15.00000	0.34042	0.54240	0.00050	2.33770

Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

2004 General Revenue Fund Assessment and Taxation by Property Class (in \$000's)

	Assessment	% of Assessment by Class	Taxation	% of Taxation by Class
Residential	\$ 16,138,321	76.9%	\$ 55,922	50.4%
Business	4,332,144	20.6%	48,965	44.2%
Light Industrial	313,809	1.5%	4,419	4.0%
Seasonal	91,887	0.4%	133	0.1%
Major Industrial	74,294	0.4%	831	0.7%
Farm	25,721	0.1%	207	0.2%
Utilities	10,590	0.1%	424	0.4%
Total	\$ 20,986,766	100.0%	\$ 110,901	100.0%

Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

Taxes Collected on Behalf of Taxing Authorities (in \$000's)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
City of Richmond	\$ 89,538	\$ 95,345	\$ 100,520	\$ 105,588	\$ 110,901
School - Province of BC	89,972	90,855	91,733	94,370	98,179
GVRD	2,693	2,678	2,693	2,503	2,764
BC Assessment Authority	3,460	3,269	3,252	3,209	3,174
GVTA	9,595	9,673	11,593	12,048	12,550
Other	5,223	5,223	5,238	5,757	5,513
Total Taxes	\$ 200,481	\$ 207,043	\$ 215,029	\$ 223,475	\$ 233,081

Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

Long Term Debt Repayments Relative to Expenditures (in \$000's)

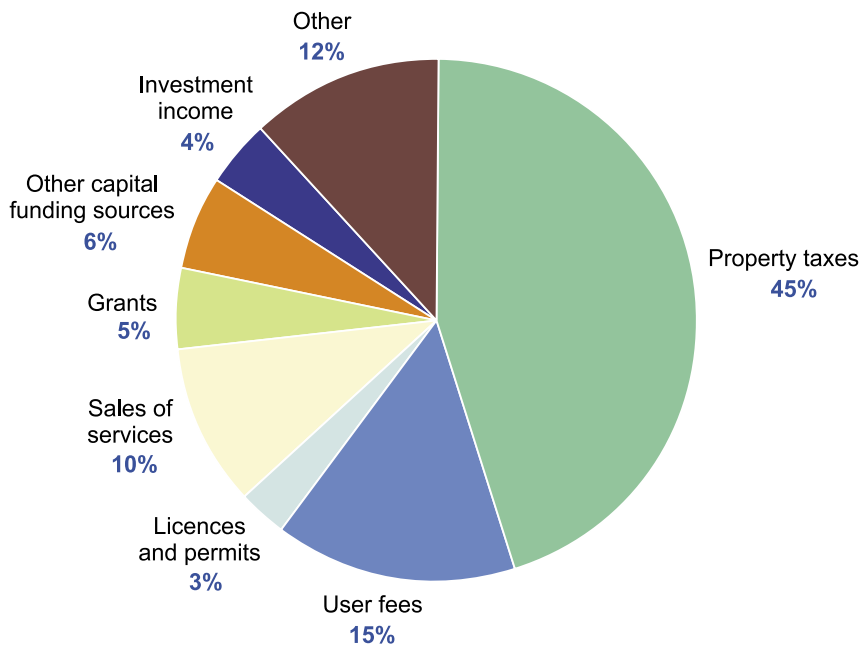
General Revenue Fund	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Long Term Debt Repayments	\$ 5,341	\$ 4,570	\$ 4,491	\$ 4,927	\$ 6,149
General Expenditures	\$ 133,534	\$ 141,916	\$ 136,716	\$ 143,231	\$ 141,483
Repayments as % of Expenditures	4.0%	3.2%	3.3%	3.4%	4.4%

Waterworks Revenue Fund	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Long Term Debt Repayments	\$ 488	\$ 218	\$ 215	\$ 193	\$ 0
Water Expenditures	\$ 16,752	\$ 17,072	\$ 19,813	\$ 13,345	\$ 14,402
Repayments as % of Expenditures	2.9%	1.3%	1.1%	1.5%	0.0%

Sewerworks Revenue Fund	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Long Term Debt Repayments	\$ 7,282	\$ 6,681	\$ 8,073	\$ 6,756	\$ 6,036
Sewer Expenditures	\$ 18,710	\$ 17,632	\$ 18,756	\$ 16,485	\$ 17,620
Repayments as % of Expenditures	38.9%	37.9%	43.0%	41.0%	34.3%

Note: Expenditures do not include capital and infrastructure investments.
 Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.

2004 Consolidated Revenues by Source



Source: City of Richmond Finance Department.



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