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TRUE NORTH HINIRANG EAGLES CLUB MARKS FIRST CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY. *The True North Hinirang Eagles Club (TNHEC) and the True North Hinirang Lady Eagles Club (TNHLEC) successfully celebrated their 1st Chartering Anniversary and 1st Creation Anniversary. Inset photo is President James Mak C. Villamayor.* **P.11**

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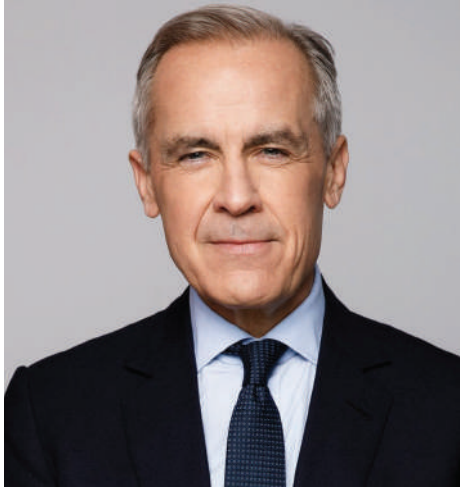
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Statements of PM Carney and Premier EBY on anniversary of Lapu-Lapu Tragedy



Prime Minister Mark Carney

“One year ago, 11 people were killed and dozens were injured in a horrific vehicle attack at the Lapu-Lapu Day festival in Vancouver.

On this solemn day, we remember the victims—children, parents, and friends who were taken by this senseless act of violence. We also commend the quick and compassionate

actions of those who were at the scene and of the first responders.

This tragedy left a profound void in the hearts of families, loved ones, and Filipino communities across Canada and around the world. In the face of unimaginable loss and grief, they have shown strength, solidarity, and compassion. Their sorrow is shared by our entire nation.

Our ability to come together in crisis represents the best of our country – our empathy, our unity, and our compassion for each other. One year ago, Canadians stood with the people of Vancouver as they grieved.

Today, we stand with them once more as they honour the victims, their memories, and the strength of the survivors.” (PM website)



B.C. Premier David Eby

VICTORIA - Premier David Eby has issued the following statement marking the anniversary of the Lapu Lapu Day festival tragedy:

“One year ago, British Columbians were left reeling from an unspeakable and unprecedented tragedy on the streets of Vancouver. What began as a joyful celebration of Filipino culture and history for families and neighbours ended in devastating violence that still resonates in our hearts today.

“The utterly senseless and vicious attack on the Lapu Lapu Day Block Party is as incomprehensible today as it was a year ago. Eleven beloved lives were lost. Dozens of people were badly injured and countless more were left traumatized for life.

“This tragedy should never seem normal. It should always shock and horrify us. And it is impossible to make peace with the scale of the devastation that took place.

“Today, we hold the lives lost that night in honour and in love, and we grieve with the community that still carries the trauma of this event.

“We pause today to remember and mourn. On behalf of all British Columbians, we stand in solidarity with the Filipino community and all whose lives have been forever changed by this tragedy.” (Province of BC press release)



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Lapu-Lapu Day anniversary with memorials across Vancouver

ONE YEAR COMMEMORATION
 April 26, 2025

We remember the lives lost and hold their families close in our hearts, thoughts, and prayers.

In Loving Memory of:

Jennifer Darbellay
 Kira Ganapol Salim
 Vicky Bjarnason
 Glitza Daniela Samper
 Glitza Maria Caicedo-Samper
 Daniel Samper Toro
 Jhendel Sico
 Richard Le
 Katie Le
 Linh Hoang
 Nerissa Pagkanlungan

*Gone but never forgotten.
 Forever in our hearts.*

were held across Vancouver on Sunday to mark this painful anniversary. At Mountain View Cemetery, near the scene of the incident at Fraser and East 41st Ave, an open-air memorial organized by the Philippine Nurses Association of B.C. drew community members throughout the day on April 26.

Rows of placards bearing the names of those killed were placed in the temporary memorial site as many laid flowers while others paused to pray — each marking the day in their own way.

“It comes back how it happened,” said Rose Mary Ranes-Villamayor. Ranes-Villamayor, a member of the non-profit True North Hinirang Eagles Club, said she and others from her group were among the first to help victims on the scene. She said they called 911 and helped people who were injured on the ground until paramedics arrived.

“It still saddens us,” she said. “As Filipinos, in happiness and in sadness, we are all together in this.”

Flags flew at half mast at the B. C. Legislature and at city halls around the Lower Mainland to mark a year since the car ramming overshadowed what was supposed to be a joyful street celebration for the city’s vibrant Filipino diaspora. *(Reyfort Media)*

Communities across Vancouver gathered this weekend to honour the memory of the 11 people killed and dozens injured in last year’s vehicle-ramming attack at the city’s Lapu-Lapu Day festival. Memorials and gatherings

A formal wreath-laying was held at the site around 8 p.m., when local officials and community organizers laid wreaths, marking the time the tragedy unfolded on April 26, 2025. For some, returning to the site has been deeply emotional.

Community members attended events throughout the day, including a memorial mass at St. Mary’s Parish.

For many survivors, the anniversary is a reminder of the pain endured over the past year and the long road to recovery.



FILIPINO COMMUNITY CORNER

Rey Fortaleza, Publisher



Give it back: Maawa po tayo sa mga biktima ng Lapu-Lapu

When people opened their wallets and cheque books after the 2025 Lapu-Lapu tragedy, malinaw yung nasa isip nila: they are donating to help survivors and the families of those who died.

As to why many survivors and families did not receive enough support despite the huge amount raised, that is a question that remains unanswered.

What is clear is that several organizations, including Lapu-Lapu festival organizer Filipino BC, got most of the donations intended for victims.

Based on what we know, at least \$2 million were contributed. About a quarter or nearly \$500,000 went to the Filipino BC. The same group also got \$500,000 in additional funding from the B.C. provincial government.

In addition to its nearly \$500,000 share from the \$2 million coursed through United Way BC's Kapwa Strong Fund, meron pang nakuhang extra \$50,000 ang Filipino BC from the Kapwa Fund.

And the rest, pinaghati-hatian ng iba't-ibang organizations.

Ngayon, nagtatanong si Vancouver-Kensington MLA Mable Elmore: meron bang natirang pondo sa mga nakuha ng mga asosasyon?

Kasi, kung meron, ang sabi ni Mable, ay isauli na lang para ito ay ibigay sa mga survivors at pamilya ng namatayan.

Simple lang naman ang panawagan ni Mable. Hindi naman siguro kalabisan na kung merong natira, ibigay na lang natin sa mga nasalanta ng Lapu-Lapu tragedy.

While Mable's suggestion has been warmly embraced by the community, merong ilan-ilan na nag-iingay and they are attacking Mable. Bakit? Yan ang dapat nating malaman. Ayaw ba nilang tulungan ang mga biktima ng Lapu-Lapu?

Besides, Mable is only asking for the return of whatever remaining funds they have.

If they had spent the monies, then that's that. But if there are leftover funds, why not just give these to victims and families?

Siguro naman ay dapat na hindi na natin pag-debatehan ito. Tumulong na lang po tayo. Sana maawa naman tayo sa mga biktima.

Sa dinami-dami ng news about financial irregularities sa Pilipinas, especially yung sa flood control and proceeds from illegal drugs, sana naman dito sa Canada ay hindi mabahiran ang ating community pag dating sa usapin sa pera, lalo na nga at it involves donations to victims of Lapu-Lapu.

I know that the United Filipino Canadian Associations in BC or UFCABC is among those that received funds from United Way BC's Kapwa Strong Fund. We also know that UFCABC gave everything to victims and survivors and families. Malinaw yan kung saan pumunta ang pera.

To recap from the list provided by Mable, here are the other organizations that received money at sana isauli na lang nila kung merong tiring pera:

- Alliance Philippines Cultural Heritage Association – \$50,000
- Amici Curiae Friendship Society – \$50,000
- Association for Neighbourhood Houses – Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House – \$20,000
- Association for Neighbourhood Houses – South Vancouver Neighbourhood House – \$49,483.12
- Bandits Community Foundation – \$30,000
- Bibak Organization of British Columbia – \$25,000
- British Columbia Bereavement Helpline – \$25,000

Dance West Network – \$25,000

Filipino Canadian Community & Cultural Society of British Columbia (Filipino BC) – \$50,000

• Formative Motion Society – \$25,000

• Gallery Gachet Society – \$3,189.54

• GJ Multicultural Services Society – \$65,000

• H.I.M. Health Initiative for Men's Society – \$25,000

• Himig Kabataan Cultural Society – \$25,000

• Indigenous Wellness Training Society – \$50,000

• Kathara Pilipino Indigenous Arts Collective Society – \$25,000

• KCH Collective Society – \$25,000

• Latincouver Cultural & Business Society – \$55,000

• Mabuhay House Society – \$75,000

• Maple Bamboo Network Society – \$15,000

• Migrante BC – Filipino Society – \$25,000

• Moving Forward Family Services – \$25,000

• Multicultural Helping House Society – \$25,000

• National Pilipino Canadian Cultural Centre Society – \$25,000

• Philippine Cultural Arts Society of BC – \$20,800

• Philippine Nurses Association, British Columbia, Canada – \$25,000

• PNA Philippine Nurses Association – \$50,000

• Pinoy Pride Vancouver Society – \$25,000

• REACH Community Health Centre Association – \$12,370

• Sher Vancouver LGBTQ Friends Society – \$75,000

• St. John Society – \$22,800

• The Landing Youth Centre Foundation – \$49,955.27

• The Little Mountain Neighbourhood House Society – \$50,000

• University of the Philippines Alumni Association in British Columbia – \$10,000

• Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art – \$25,000

• VS. Creative Society – \$25,000

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Expanding free, fast access to family law support in B.C.

Provincial Court family registries will reduce conflict, help families resolve disputes out of court

Quicker, more affordable family-law solutions are now available to more families throughout British Columbia with the expansion of the early resolution process program to 35 more Provincial Court family registry locations.

“Separations and divorces are stressful enough situations without adding costly, time-consuming court processes to the mix,” said Niki Sharma, Attorney General. “Families navigating these difficult times need all the support they can get, which is why we introduced the early resolution process. With this latest expansion, many more families in B.C. will be able to access to this service, when and where they need it.”

What’s happening

The early resolution process is a free service that applies to family-law matters, such as parenting arrangements, contact, child and spousal support, and companion animals. It is designed to reduce conflict, resolve disputes out of court and develop plans in the best interests of children.

The service began as a pilot project in Victoria in 2019, which was gradually expanded to select Provincial Court family registries in the Lower Mainland. With this latest expansion, the process is now available in all remaining Provincial

Court family registry locations within the Vancouver, Fraser, Vancouver Island and Interior regions. By expanding the program to more communities, more families can resolve disputes without going to court, freeing up court resources for other matters and improving overall court efficiency.

How the early resolution process helps people

Evaluation of the program shows positive outcomes for families, with results of the service in Surrey showing 57% of families resolved their family-law issues without going

to court, and a 61% decline in new family-law cases at the courthouse. Evaluations conducted in Victoria also found that the median time from assessment to completion of consensual dispute resolution was 60 days.

The process also provides an opportunity for an early assessment for family violence in every family law case proceeding to Provincial Court. This includes screening for family violence to ensure that dispute resolution is only recommended when it is safe and appropriate, taking into account power imbalances and patterns of violence. People can also access earlier referrals to legal advice and to victim services and community organizations.

Of the people who identified having safety or family violence concerns, and who participated in consensual dispute resolution, 72% said their concerns were addressed.

The majority of families who were assisted were supportive of the process and indicated that it helped them better understand the options available to them. This allowed them to feel better prepared for the next steps.

“Everyone should have access to affordable options when navigating family law disputes,” said Jennifer Blatherwick, parliamentary secretary for gender equity. “Expanding the early resolution process helps resolve disputes involving parenting arrangements and child support, as well as screening for family violence to identify and help address risks early on.”

How the process works

The early resolution process applies to disputes involving parenting arrangements, including:

- parental responsibilities and parenting time
- child support

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- contact with a child
- guardianship of a child
- spousal support
- companion animals

Before filing or replying to a family-law application in Provincial Court, people participating in the early resolution process must meet with a provincial family justice counsellor to conduct a needs assessment, and might be asked to take a parenting education course or a consensual dispute resolution session.

These steps help identify safety concerns, as well as legal and non-legal needs, before a potentially costly and stressful court appearance is required. People are connected to community supports and are

provided information and legal advice about what options they have to resolve their issues in and out of court. If the dispute persists after these steps are completed, either party can apply to court for any unresolved matters.

“The best interests of children guide everything we do in family law, especially during times of separation and change,” said Suzette Norbonne, managing lawyer, Society for Children and Youth of BC. “When families are supported early, it creates space for healthier outcomes and greater stability for children. The early resolution process helps families move forward with care, while ensuring that children’s perspectives remain central to important decisions.”
(news.gov.bc.ca)



More B.C. families can now resolve conflicts out-of-court



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Snippet of Stories

Joe Larano Jr.

Whisper in the Air

Freddie Samonte and Lizza Reyes grew up in a rural area in Pila, Laguna, where life moved gently and memories settled deep. Afternoons were spent chasing dragonflies, and evenings softened into long talks by the unpaved roadside. In those simple moments, something unseen yet constant began to form between them. It was like a whisper in the air—present, felt, and quietly certain.

Freddie pursued Engineering in Manila, carrying the steady resolve of a simple dreamer. Lizza, focused and disciplined, completed Accountancy. They spoke of the future in simple, grounded ways. A small home, a stable life, a family built not on grand plans but on years of shared understanding. They agreed to wait, before walking down the aisle together.

Freddie rose in his profession, while Lizza found her place in the corporate world. Then came the offer from British Columbia, a chance too significant to ignore. It promised growth, stability, and a possible new life. But it also meant distance. Lizza hesitated. For her, love was something lived daily, in presence and nearness. But Freddie saw a wider horizon. With quiet courage and a heavy heart, she allowed him to go.

The day of departure felt different, as if holding back what neither of them wanted to face. They held on longer than usual. Words were spoken, promises made. And like a whisper carried by the wind, their love stretched across distance. At first, it held strong. Calls were constant. Messages came with warmth. But as days turned into months, distance began to shift its tone. Freddie's work demanded more. The calls

shortened. The silence grew.

Then came Debbie. She was easy to talk to, a presence that filled the quiet spaces of his new life. What began as harmless conversations became something more. Freddie drifted. Like a whisper that changes direction with the wind, he lost hold of what once grounded him.

Until one evening, in the stillness of a foreign city, he heard it again, that quiet whisper he once knew. It was not loud. It did not accuse. It simply reminded. He remembered Lizza. Not just her voice, but the calm in it. Not just her presence, but the meaning of it. What he had with her was never noise or excitement. It was something steady, something that stayed even in silence.

Back home, Lizza had already felt the change. She did not chase after answers. She allowed the silence to speak. And in that silence, Freddie found his clarity. He ended what needed to end. Not out of guilt alone, but from a quiet realization of what truly mattered.

When he finally secured his permanent residency, he returned home. Not with pride, but with humility. Standing before Lizza, he felt everything new. His apology was simple, coming his heart. He did not ask for immediate forgiveness. Only for a chance to listen again to what they once had.

For Lizza, forgiveness, like a whisper, does not come in force. In time, she said yes. Their union was not a return to the past, but a rebuilding of something deeper. Lizza later joined Freddie in Canada, and together they built a home shaped by patience and understanding. Their daughter came first, then their son. Life moved forward, quieter,



steadier. Years passed. Some evenings, Freddie would sit by the window, watching the distant lights. Lizza would sit beside him, both wrapped in a silence that no longer felt empty.

Love is not always in the loud moments. It is not in grand declarations or constant presence. Sometimes, it is like a whisper in the air, gentle, almost unseen, but always

there. It can be lost if taken lightly. But when heard, truly heard, it guides, corrects, and remains.

And in the quiet spaces between them, after all that was tested and restored, Freddie and Lizza found that same whisper again.

(contact: jblarano@gmail.com)

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For many Filipino Canadians, travelling back to the Philippines is about more than just a vacation.

It is about reconnecting with family, celebrating traditions, and maintaining strong cultural ties.

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The benefits of this new route go beyond convenience.

The food options include breakfast meals, snacks, and lunch options. The classics like egg, sausage and potatoes, pork with noodles, sweet and sour

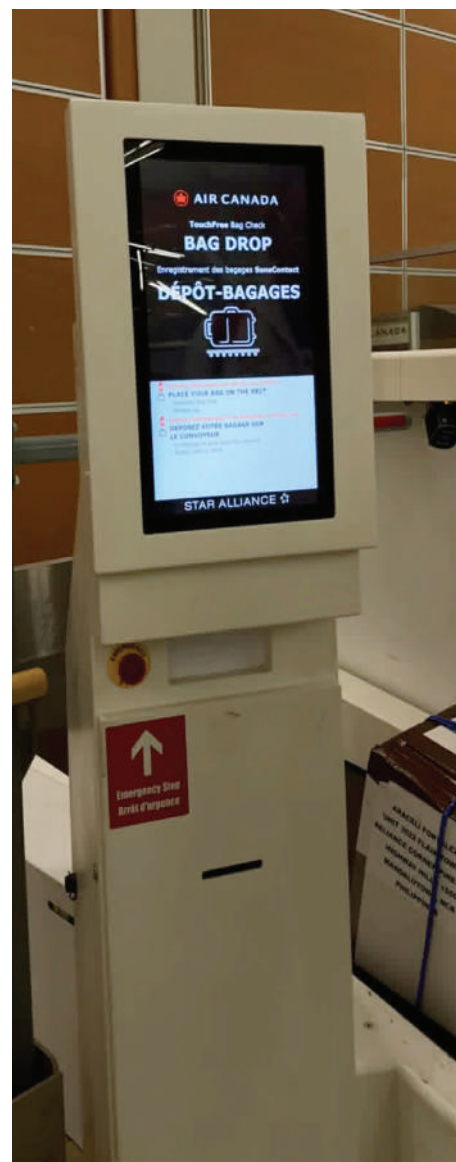
fish with rice, and delicious sides and snacks.

This destination trip has options for everyone. Their complimentary drink service is also top shelf, as their options include coffee, tea, pop, and complimentary alcoholic drinks like beer and wine several times per flight.

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Whether you are visiting family, celebrating a special occasion, or simply returning to where your story began, Air Canada's new non-stop service helps make every journey feel a little closer to home.

(By Julian-Ray Fortaleza, Reyfort Media)





Ask Computer Dean

Tech help for everyday users





Exclusive Column for Philippine Asian News Today
askcomputerdean@gmail.com

“Top 5 Tech Problems of 2026 (So Far) — And How to Fix Them”

What’s frustrating computer and mobile users most right now... and what you can do about it.

Welcoming May 2026!!! Be sure to connect with us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** and **Like** and/or **Follow** our pages so you won’t miss our **Tip of the Day**.

Send us your questions, we might just make it the main topic of our next issue but if the matter is urgent, text us at (236) 700-6388 starting with the word **HELP**.

1. Slow Computers and Sluggish Performance - Many people assume a slow computer means it’s time to replace it. Not always.

Often the culprit is too many startup programs, low storage, missed updates, or an old spinning hard drive. A system cleanup, removing unused software, and upgrading to an SSD can often breathe years of life back into a machine.

Computer Dean tip: Before replacing a computer, have it assessed first. A tune-up may be all it needs.

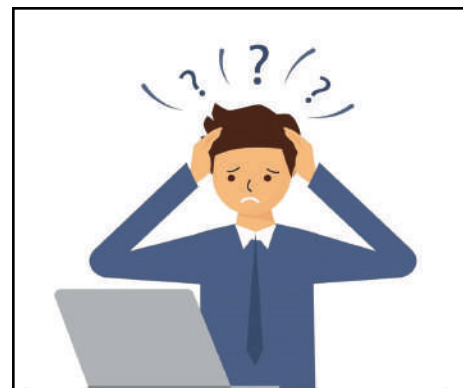
2. Scam Texts, Phishing Emails and AI Fraud - Scams have become frighteningly believable. Fake bank alerts, delivery texts, “tech support” popups, even AI-generated voice scams are fooling smart people every day.

My simple rule: If it creates urgency, fear, or asks for money, passwords, or codes — pause and verify.

Never click first. Check first.

3. Phone Problems: Battery Drain, Full Storage & App Overload - Phones are mini-computers now, and they need maintenance too.

Unused apps, background activity, thousands of photos, and constant notifications can drag a phone down.

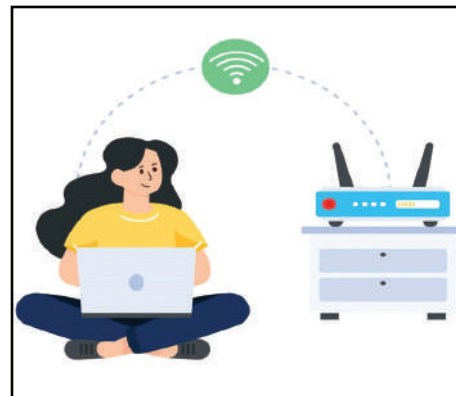


Review apps. Update the phone. Back up photos. Delete digital clutter. Your phone will thank you.

4. Wi-Fi Problems That Aren’t Really Your Computer’s Fault - This one surprises people.

Often the “slow computer” is actually an aging router, poor router placement, or outdated firmware.

Sometimes moving a router out from behind a cabinet improves things dramatically. Small changes can make big



differences.

5. No Backups (Still!) - This one worries me most. People are still assuming their files are “just there.” Until they aren’t. Use cloud backup, external drives, or ideally both. Remember my favorite rule: 3 copies. 2 devices. 1 offsite

backup.

My Takeaway: Most tech problems aren’t disasters — they’re maintenance issues, awareness issues, or problems caught too late. The sooner you deal with them, the easier they usually are to solve.

And here comes my shameless plug...

If your computer, phone, Wi-Fi or backups are giving you grief, don’t struggle alone. Sometimes one conversation can save hours of frustration. **“Technology should make life easier, not more stressful.”** Your friendly tech guide for everyday users.

~ Computer Dean

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- the province or territory has sent you a

Letter of Agreement
 Letter of No Objection

OR
 Letter of No Involvement

After that, you can apply for a permanent resident visa for your child to come to Canada.

- If you're adopting

using the immigration process, you may apply for citizenship for the child after they

- arrive in Canada and
- have permanent resident status

The adoption must be finalized before we can grant citizenship.

Sponsoring your adopted child

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When you apply to sponsor a child for adoption, remember that you're committing yourself to provide the necessary care and support for that child. You're bound to this agreement for 10 years or until the child reaches the age of 25—whichever comes first.

Strictly taken from cic.gc.ca*

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The Tall Order
By Mon Datol

Zaldy Co di naaresto wala na sa Czech Republic; ICC kinumpirma lahat ng kaso vs Duterte, ilalarga na trial; SC kay PBBM: Sagutin petisyon sa kalusugan, drug test; VP Sara Duterte, mister buking sa P6.7B bank account; Chiz Escudero, 'BAGMAN' aawatin sa pag-abroad; 'Kill plot' ni VP Sara kay PBBM planado

Pinaniniwalaang nakatakbo na palayo sa Czech Republic ang puganteng si Zaldy Co matapos ibalita ni PBBM nuong nakaraang 2 Linggo na 'naaresto na' ang dating Bikolano-Kongresman sa border ng Germany. Di naman pala naaresto si Co ah. Hinarang lang sa border dahil umano sa expired na Philippine passport at walang ibang travel dokumentong dala-dala.

Nakngdragon! Sinong nambudol ke PBBM na inaresto si Co?

At bakit nga pala ang DOJ Secretary Frederick Vida nagpunta sa Czech Republic gayung trabaho ng Department of Foreign Affairs ang makipag-ugnayan sa lahat ng bansa na mayruong isyu sa estado ng mga citizens ng mga bansa, tulad ng kaso ni Zaldy Co, na pugante sa Pinas?

Sino 'nag-utos' ke Sec. Vida na 'sunduin' ang anino ni Co?

Paniguradong 'tatamaan' ke ES Ralph Recto ang 'nambudol' ke PBBM na naaresto nga si Zaldy Co sa Czech Republic dahil matinding pamba-bash na naman gagawin ng mga DDS sa Pangulo na...

Pulos sablay ni PBBM inaabangan hindi ang nagagampanan.

E, nasaan na nga kaya ngayon si Zaldy Co kung walang balidong travel document dala-dala itong puganteng naging bilyonario umano dahil sa kinorap na pera ng bayan?

Itanong ke 'La Loca Vida' na baka laam na kung asan si Co.

Kinumpirma na ng Pre-Trial Chamber (PTC) I ng International Criminal Court (ICC) nitong Huwebes, Abril 23 ang lahat ng mga kaso laban kay dating Pangulong

Rodrigo Duterte, kaya uusad na ang pormal na paglilitis.

Mahina ang 6-year trial ke DU30; paglilitis pa lang yon huh!

Sa gagawin trial, haharap si DU30 sa paglilitis para sa mga sumusunod na krimen: Pagpatay sa Davao City noong kanyang termino bilang alkalde mula 2013 hanggang Hunyo 2016; Pagpatay laban sa mga 'high-value target' sa mga lokasyon sabuong Pilipinas noong pangulo siya mula Hulyo 2016 hanggang Hulyo 17, at, pagpatay at tangkang pagpatay sa mga operasyon ng paglilinis ng barangay sa buong Pilipinas noong pangulo siya mula Hulyo 2016 hanggang Setyembre 2018.

Wala ng kawala Tatay Digong ni VP Sara. Subaybayan natin.

Sa panayam nitong Biyernes, sinabi ni ICC Assistant to Counsel Kristina Conti na maaaring magsimula ang paglilitis ng ICC kay Duterte sa pagitan ng Oktubre 2026 at Pebrero 2027, o' baka...

Abutin ng 8 buwan hanggang isang taon bago umpisahan trial.

Naniniwala si NBI Director Melvin Matibag na planado ang 'assassination plot' ni VP Sara Duterte kay Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr., at hindi ito basta 'metaphor' lamang dahil kumontak ito ng assassin. Tasaka, di ba...

'No Joke, No Joke' pa dugtong ni Inday Sara?!?!'

Sinabi pa ni Matibag na patuloy silang naka-high alert dahil sa banta sa buhay ni PBBM at patuloy na pinaghahanap ang umano'y kinontak na assassin ni VP Sara, at talagang ...

Planado banta ke PBBM hindi 'hyperbole' o 'metaphor'.

Pinagkukumento ng SC sa loob ng 10 araw sina PBBM at acting Executive Secretary Ralph Recto kaugnay ng petisyong humihiling na isailalim ang Pangulo sa pisikal at mental na pagsusuri, kabilang ang hair follicle drug test. Kung atas ng Korte Suprema

No problema ani Palasyo, isusumite komento ng Pangulo.

Isiniwalat ng Anti-Money Laundering Council nitong Miyerkoles sa House Committee on Justice na ang mga bank accounts ni VP Sara at mister na si Atty. Manases Carpio, ay paulit-ulit na "suspicious and covered transactions" mula 2006 hanggang 2025 sa kabuuang halagang P6.77 bilyon.

Saan galing P6.77 bilyon ng mag-asawang Duterte-Carpio?

* * * * *

Kinumpirmani AMLC Executive Director Ronel Buenaventura na natukoy ng AMLC ang 313 covered transactions at 17 suspicious transactions sa account ni VP Sara, habang 317 covered transactions at 16 suspicious transactions naman kay Carpio, na may kabuuang P6.77 bilyon ang flagged transactions, na ang P3.77 bilyon ay sa account ni Duterte at P2.99 bilyon naman sa kanyang mister.

Huwaw! Daming pera ng mga Anak ni Digong ah! Sana All.

Hiniling ng Office of the Ombudsman sa Sandiganbayan nitong Sabado na mag-isyu ng precautionary hold departure order laban kay Senador Francis "Chiz" Escudero at sa negosyanteng si Maynard Ngu. Bakit? Iniimbistigahan kasi sina Escudero at Ngu sa umano'y plunder, graft at indirect bribery kaugnay ng flood control scandal.

Baka magtago at di na bumalik ala-Zaldy Co sina Chiz at Ngu.

Aminado si Sen. Robin Padilla na pinayuhan niyang magtago ang kaibigan at kaalyado sa politika na si Sen. Bato dela Rosa dahil sa pangamba na magkagulo kapag inaresto ito sakaling maglabas ng warrant ang ICC.

Nakngdragon! 'Birds of the same feathers, are, the same birds - Erap!'

SHORT ORDER: Happy birthday (April 14) to Cassandra Portugal of Manila & Dr. Kiko Portugal (RIP) Fam of Toronto..Happy birthday (April 17) to former actress Nancy delos Satos of San Leonardo, NE & Toronto..

. Happiest birthday (April 26) to my gorgeous, kind & ever beautiful niece Christine D. Branam of Tampa Bay, Florida, greetings from your Mom, Kuya Michael & from us Datol family in Toronto...

Happy beerday Abay Mel de Belen (April 26) of Jaen, NE, Phil. greetings from our tropapeeps...Happiest birthday wishes to our eldest of 2 wonderful doters Mabel D. Bello (April 28), greetings from ur huwapo hubby Edgar, children Nicole & Kyle, sister Yeng & hubby Lenny Tierra & their 2 doters Iyam & Yumi and esp. from your very kind, beautiful & young-looking Mama Franz...

Happy birthday to our SAA HS classmate Florencia Ferrer-Sison (April 28) of Jaen, NE, from all our 71 SAA batchmate...

Happy birthday to my elementary classmate Dra. Ruby Daquiz-Pazon (April 28) of Jaen, Nueva Ecija. greetings from elem batchmates Eng. Pet Cruz, Rey Mendoza, Gernie Catle-Garcia of Jaen, NE..**God Bless.**

TRUE NORTH HINIRANG EAGLES CLUB MARKS FIRST CHARTERING ANNIVERSARY



The True North Hinirang Eagles Club (TNHEC) and the True North Hinirang Lady Eagles Club (TNHLEC) successfully celebrated their 1st Chartering Anniversary and 1st Creation Anniversary, respectively, on April 18, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

The event highlighted a year of meaningful service, unity, and growth within the Filipino-Canadian community.

Distinguished guests graced the occasion and delivered messages of support and inspiration. Among them were Maria Lourdes Capacio Imus,

Founding Chairperson of the Anahaw Filipino Canadian Performing Arts Society in BC; Rob Nijar, Executive Director of the Sunset on Fraser Business Association; Lita Cabal, Candidate of Record for the Conservative Party of Canada; Noemi Victorino of the Social Equity, Livability and Public Safety Committee; Arcie Jose Lim, President of UFCABC; Paul Vincent Uy, Deputy Consul General of the Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines; and Mable Elmore, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA)

for Vancouver–Kensington.

In his remarks, Eagle James Mark Villamayor, President of TNHEC, together with Lady Eagle Roae Mary Ranes-Villamayor, President of TNHLEC, expressed their sincere appreciation to all members of the organization for their unwavering support and active participation. They emphasized that the success of the celebration reflects the strong bond of brotherhood and sisterhood within the club. The anniversary celebration underscored the organizations'

continuing commitment to community service, cultural unity, and civic engagement. As the clubs move forward, they remain dedicated to uplifting the community and embodying the values of service and solidarity.

Mabuhay ang may Pusong Agila.

*(By JAMES MARK C. VILLAMAYOR
Charter Club President
True North Hinirang Eagles Club
236.867.1285)*



Eagle James Mak C. Villamayor - President of True North Hinirang Eagles Club



Guest Speaker Rob Nijar- Executive Director of Sunset on Fraser Business Association



Keynote Speaker Mable Elmore - Member of Legislative Assembly of Vancouver - Kensington and Honorary Member of True North Hinirang Lady Eagles Club



Guest Speaker Paul Vincent Uy - Deputy Consul General of the Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines



Guest Speaker Maria Lourdes Capacio Imus - Founding Chairperson of Anahaw Filipino Canadian



Guest Speaker Arcie Jose Lim - President of United Filipino Canadian Associations in BC



Guest Speaker Noemi Victorino - Social Equity, Livability and Public Safety Committee, Candidate for Surrey Council



Guest Speaker Lita Cabal - Candidate of Conservative Party of Canada

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Our Latest Listings:



NEWS If not Leni, who will take on Sara in 2028?

By Carlito Pablo

Maria Leonor "Leni" Robredo has ruled out running for president of the Philippines.

The move has raised questions on who may take on Sara Duterte, the frontrunner among potential presidential candidates in the 2028 national election.

A Duterte presidency would usher in the restoration of the Duterte family's dominance in Philippine politics, which was embodied by its patriarch Rodrigo.

Rodrigo Duterte, who served as Philippine president from 2016 to 2022, is currently held in prison in The Hague. He is facing charges of crimes against humanity before the International Criminal Court (ICC).

A recent survey shows that Robredo, a former vice president, has started to narrow the lead of Sara Duterte, an indication that 2028 could be a competitive race.

Analysts have earlier suggested that forming a unified bloc, with the support of current President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and with Robredo as standard bearer, is the only way to defeat Duterte, who is currently Vice President of the country.

Now mayor of the city of Naga, Robredo ran for president in 2022 and was defeated by Marcos. At the time, Marcos and Sara Duterte were allies.

"I am certain about myself that I will no longer run for any national position," Robredo said in a report by the Philippine Daily Inquirer.



Will Leni Robredo change her mind about not running for president?

The Inquirer newspaper was reporting on her interview in the Bicol language with RMN dwNX Naga radio.

"I am aware that some still want me to run... [But] now, it is far from my horizon to return to national politics," Robredo said in the newspaper's report.

Senator Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan ran as Robredo's vice presidential candidate in 2022, but lost to Sara Duterte.

Pangilinan expressed concern that without Robredo, anti-Duterte forces could fragment and lose the 2028 election.

"I hope I am wrong but Leni's refusal to run, may create a leadership vacuum that I am afraid cannot be

will simply seek a second term as Naga city mayor, Chel Dioko, a party-list representative with the Akbayan group in the House of Representatives, said that anti-Duterte forces need to field only one presidential candidate in 2028.

Diokno, however, noted in an interview with DZMM radio that it might still be too early to say how the political landscape may take shape.

Matthew David Ordonez, a political science lecturer at De La Salle University, reflected on the challenge facing anti-Duterte forces in a report by the South China Morning Post newspaper.

"Either they find a figure as unifying as Leni Robredo, or they build a stronger network based on a more cohesive, integrated platform to counter the Duterte faction," Ordonez said.

Winning 2028 may be complex than having a unified standard bearer.

"The opposition will need to go back to the drawing board and find a new unifying ideology. They cannot win on personality politics alone," Ordonez said in the South China Morning Post report.

Reporting on the same radio interview by Robredo, GMA News Online cited names mentioned by the former vice president as possible candidates for president.

These include Pangilinan and two other senators: Ana Theresia "Risa" Hontiveros and Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV. Robredo also mentioned Pasig City mayor Vico Sotto and Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte. Now in his

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30's, Sotto in 2028 will not yet be 40 years olds, which means he cannot meet the minimum age set by the Philippine Constitution for presidential candidates.

A 2026 first quarter survey by OCTA Research on preferred presidential candidates in 2028 shows Sara Duterte still in the lead, but with a five-point drop from a previous poll. Meanwhile, Robredo gained 13 percent, coming second place.

Manila City Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso came in third, followed by Senator Rafael "Raffy" Tulfo in fourth and Senator Bam Aquino in fifth.

If Robredo doesn't change her mind, it will be a tough battle for anti-Duterte forces, according to Maria Ela AtiENZA, a political science professor at the University of the Philippines.

"She is the most credible and popular among the anti-Duterte, anti-Marcos, anti-trapo voters compared to other opposition figures," AtiENZA said in the Inquirer

newspaper report.

"They need to get their act together," AtiENZA also said. "It is an uphill battle, but they need to learn the lessons from 2022. Start early, unite, and offer the electorate tangible and practical policy and program alternatives given the problems the country is facing."

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April 26, 2025

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- Daniel Samper Toro
- Jhendel Sico
- Richard Le
- Katie Le
- Linh Hoang
- Nerissa Pagkailungan

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Tinig Migrante

By E. Maestro

Babang Luksâ at St. Mary The Virgin South Hill

Vancouver, April 26, 2026 – At St. Mary the Virgin South Hill Church, Bishop Alex Wandag (ret.) conducted the commemorative mass to mark the first anniversary of the Lapu-Lapu Festival Tragedy in Vancouver.

The **Babang Luksâ** is a Filipino tradition that marks the end of a period of mourning, usually one year after the death of a loved one. It is typically observed with a mass, prayers, lighting of candles, and a gathering of family and friends to remember and honour those who have passed. The **Babang Luksâ** was a joint service of St. Mary the Virgin Church, its Migrant Ministry with Migrante BC, Bayan BC, and Migrante Canada.

The morning memorial service was attended by the parish congregation and joined by members and friends of Migrante BC, Bayan BC, PANCIT Art Collective, Pinoy Pride Vancouver Society, Sulong UBC, Anakbayan BC, Gabriela, Tama Na Alliance, Filipino BC Therapists Association, NPC3, Malaya Canada, and St. Mary's Catholic Migrant Ministry. Among the guests were MLA Mable Elmore, Lina Vargas, Armor Valor Corrales and William Azaroff, both from One City.

MLA Mable Elmore gave her heartfelt thanks to Bishop Wandag for his sermon and for the service at St. Mary the Virgin -- *“it was very touching and healing, thank you for memorializing the lives of the eleven victims that were lost, and offering your thoughts and prayers for those who were injured and impacted by that terrible day ... we recognize your leadership, your thought and your prayers to bring support to the community... to the families and victims as we move forward as a community to heal.”*

The memorial prayers led by Bishop Wandag, the lighting of the candles and offering of flowers at the front altar concluded the service. Veronica Caparas read out the names and the ages of the eleven who died and Noa Sison of Bayan BC read the reflection that touched on healing: *“Healing*

is not only personal, it is communal. It requires truth, accountability and care. Today, we name the importance of mental health – that the sadness, trauma and grief are real and asking for help and support is not weakness, but strength. May we build a community where healing is possible for all, a community where no one is left behind.”

The statement of Migrante BC on the anniversary of the tragedy read: *“One year after the tragedy, the sad truth remains – justice remains elusive, accountability is still a public demand, and support and assistance for the survivors are sadly inadequate or not there. There are people who have been injured from the April 26th tragedy and have only come out recently to say their stories. How many more are out there is a question that needs to be asked because no one should suffer alone, no one should be left behind.”*

Migrante BC reiterated its call for Justice for all victims of the Lapu-Lapu Day Festival tragedy, for full accountability from institutions that failed our community, and immediate, comprehensive, and long-term support for all victims and their families.

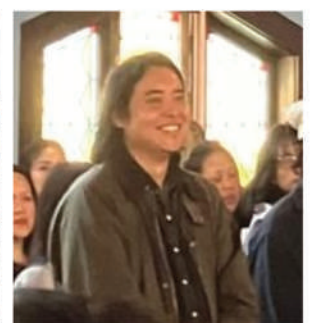
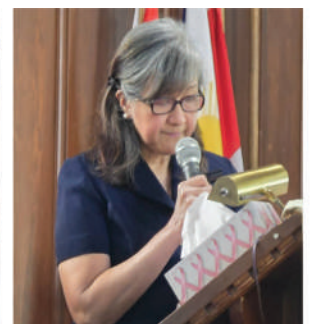
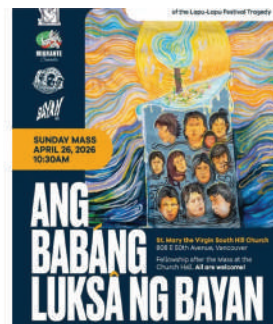
Throughout the service, the names of the eleven were read and remembered: Maria Victoria Bjarnson, Jennifer Darbellay, Richard Le, Linh Hoang, Katie Le, Nerissa Pagkanlungan, Kira Salim, Glitza Daniela Samper, Glitza Maria Caicedo, Daniel Samper, and Jendhel May Sico.

St Mary the Virgin South Hill Church is located at 808 E 50th Avenue in Vancouver.

Photo credits: Veronica Caparas, Teresita Camangeg, Eva Callangan



Top: Bishop Alex Wandag delivering the sermon; Lining up to light memorial candles and flowers;
Bottom: The memorial altar with lit candles and flowers; Grefa and MLA Elmore at the altar; Bishop Alex and MLA Elmore



Top: Poster of the Babang Luksa Mass; Lining up to light candles and offer flowers; Veronica reading the names of the eleven who died
Centre: Nida and Anita, Church choir members; View of the crowd inside the church, Noa Sison of Bayan BC
Bottom: At the fellowship at the hall: Glory (AB), Cecile (PPVS), Chit (St Mary Catholic Migrant Ministry) Darla (PPVS); group photo with Bishop Alex Wandag and MLA Mable, Prof Nora, Grefa, and Emi.

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Filipino Canadians and the Future of Community Sports in Surrey

Surrey has one of the largest Filipino populations in British Columbia—and the community continues to grow rapidly, expand its reach, and deepen its influence across many sectors.

Filipino Canadians are well represented in various fields, but one area that stands out—yet still needs more attention—is sports and recreation. Filipinos have a deep love for sports, from basketball and hockey to baseball and tennis. However, one sport that has been quietly developing in the background is soccer, particularly within the Filipino community in Surrey.

On Sunday, April 12th, **North Surrey Mustangs FC** held their Gala Awards Night.

The event was attended by Surrey Mayor Brenda Locke, Councillor Gordon Hepner and Surrey Council candidate Noemi Victorino who is also a member of the City of Surrey's Social Equity, Livability, and Public Safety Advisory Committee.

North Surrey Mustangs FC was co-founded in 2017 by Filipino Canadian Mark Moran. Today, he serves as Vice President of the club.

What began with just 30 children has grown into a thriving club, now supporting **335 registered youth players and two adult teams**.

Equally inspiring is the work led by Shar Moran and a group of

dedicated mothers, who launched a women's soccer program known as **"Mothers and Sisters."** Held every Friday, this initiative has created a welcoming space for women and high school girls to return to the sport, stay active, and build meaningful connections.

The impact extends to the next generation. Mark and Shar's son and daughter have volunteered with the organization over the past two years, developing coaching skills and mentoring young players.

This summer, alongside two other Filipino youth, they will lead a **free six-week soccer program for Filipino children**—an incredible step toward accessibility and community engagement.

It's inspiring to see how North Surrey Mustangs FC is not only growing the game but also empowering Filipino youth to step into leadership roles as coaches and mentors, while making soccer more accessible to families.

Congratulations to North Surrey Mustangs FC!



Article by Noemi Victorino

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Noemi Victorino
Executive Director



COMMUNITY CORNER

BY CHRISTIAN CUNANAN AND APPLE PLATA

Memorial Mass Marks Lapu-Lapu Day Tragedy Anniversary

18 April 2026, Vancouver, BC
The Philippine Consulate General in Vancouver organized and sponsored a special Memorial Mass at St. Mary's Parish to honor the victims of the Lapu-Lapu Day tragedy, bringing together the community in prayer, unity, and peace.



Gina A. Jamoralin
Consul Genral



Led by Gina A. Jamoralin, the gathering highlighted the resilience of the community and its enduring spirit of solidarity. The Mass, held at 5:00 PM, was presided over by Fr. Mark Hoo, OP and marked one year since the April 2025 incident in South Vancouver that claimed eleven lives and left many others injured.



Families, friends, and community members gathered in reflection and remembrance, offering prayers for healing and strength. The service served as a powerful symbol of resilience, as the Vancouver community continues to support one another in the face of loss.

One year later, the memory of those lost remains strong, inspiring a continued commitment to peace and solidarity.

Alliance Philippines Elects New Board of Directors, Strengthens Cultural Roots

25 April 2026, Vancouver, BC
- Alliance Philippines, a Vancouver-based non-profit organization, continues to empower Filipino youth and families through cultural education and community connection. Located at Artopia Studios, the group offers structured Tagalog language classes for students from Kinder to Grade 12. Their six-week Saturday program uses songs, storytelling, and traditions to make learning engaging and meaningful.

lessons, and Salo-Salo gatherings. These initiatives create opportunities for cultural expression, learning, and connection among families and youth.

Alliance Philippines Cultural Heritage Association remains committed to preserving and celebrating Filipino heritage while building pride and identity in the next generation.

A key highlight of the day was the election of the new Board of Directors for April 2026 to March 2027. The elected leaders—Christian Cunanan, Joni Pangilinan Razote, Karl Hipol, and Khristine Carino—will guide future programs and strengthen community impact.

Alliance Philippines continues to host and participate in meaningful activities, including past and upcoming events such as ALAPAAP, Filipino language





UAP-British Columbia Chapter Shines at Architects Annual NATCON

By Joe Larano Jr.

The United Architects of the Philippines – British Columbia Chapter (UAP-BC Chapter), one of three United Architects of the Philippines chapters in Canada, made a strong presence at the recently concluded NATCON 51—the largest annual gathering of Filipino architects—held at the SMX Convention Center Manila from April 16–18, 2026.

The delegation was led by incumbent Chapter President Lyn Bernabe-Ramos, together with former Chapter Presidents Joe Larano Jr. and Guel Climacosa, as well as members currently in the Philippines, including Jasby Barredo and Erich Pablo.

This year’s National Convention, themed “Above and Beyond,” is organized annually by the United Architects of the Philippines. It serves as a vital platform for Filipino architects to connect, exchange knowledge, and explore emerging trends, challenges, and innovations in the field.

During the National Awards Night, the UAP-BC Chapter

garnered three major recognitions: Outstanding Foreign-Based Chapter (Group 2), Outstanding Foreign-Based Member (Group 2) awarded to Paolo Galarrita, and Outstanding Foreign-based Chapter President (Group 2) awarded to Lyn Bernabe Ramos.

At the Emeritus Conferment Ceremony, former UAP-BC Vice President for Operations Caesar Pascual was conferred his Emeritus title. He was represented at the ceremony by UAP-BC past president Joe Larano Jr.

Another highlight for the Chapter was the election of past president Joe Larano Jr. as Regional District Director of District B2, which comprises fourteen (14) UAP chapters located in the southern area of Manila, below the Pasig River. In this role, he becomes one of the 22 District Directors serving on the UAP National Board of Directors.

With these achievements, the UAP-BC Chapter has demonstrated its readiness to lead and contribute meaningfully to programs that elevate the role of Filipino architects—both in the Philippines and on the global stage.



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Saint Louis University Alumni Association of British Columbia (SLUAABC) Celebrates Landmark Launch and General Assembly

BURNABY, BC — The spirit of “Cor Unum et Anima Una” (One Heart, One Soul) was on full display as over 120 Saint Louis University (SLU) alumni, students, faculty, and staff along with family and friends gathered for the official Launch Party and General Assembly of the Saint Louis University Alumni Association of British Columbia (SLUAABC). The event marked a historic milestone for the Louisian community in Canada, filled with fellowship, cultural celebration, and a shared vision for the future.

SLUAABC is a registered non-profit and volunteer-led organization dedicated to fostering a strong, engaged community of SLU alumni, students, faculty, and staff residing in or connected to British Columbia, Canada. Driven by its mission to connect, support, and empower its members, the association serves as a vital bridge to the university, promoting lifelong relationships and successful transitions within the Canadian community.

Through professional development initiatives, social engagement, and mentorship, the SLUAABC provides a supportive network that enables Louisians to thrive in their personal and professional lives while remaining deeply rooted in the values, culture, and traditions of their Alma Mater.

“To our fellow Louisians, family, and supporters: thank you for being part of this historic beginning,” said Bruce Ganase, founding president of SLUAABC. “Our mission is clear, to connect, support, and empower every member of the SLU family here in British Columbia. Whether you are navigating a new career in Canada or looking to reconnect with your roots, this association is your home. We are bound by ‘One Heart and One Soul,’ and together, we will foster a community that thrives on mutual support and the values instilled in us by our Alma Mater.”

The gala was graced by prominent community leaders, including Vice Consul Marco Federico Harder of the Philippine Consulate in Vancouver and



MP Jake Sawatzky, Member of Parliament for New Westminster—Burnaby—Maillardville. Their presence underscored the significance of the SLU diaspora’s contribution to the Canadian social and professional landscape.

The evening’s entertainment reached a high-energy performance by members of the Metamorphosis Dance Company. Composed of SLU Alumni Pamela Manalo-Quilala, Aimee Gail Go-Magat, and Stephanie Grace dela Cruz-Nacu, the group famously beat out 4,000 contenders to claim 1st Place in Pilipinas Got Talent Season 1. The mood was beautifully with music by the Chordillera Band, set as if you are teleported back to Baguio City.

A key highlight of the General Assembly was the formal induction of the inaugural Board



of Directors, presided over by **Maita Santiago**, Councillor for the City of Burnaby. The newly sworn-in leadership team includes:

President: Bruce Ganase
Vice President: Lester de Guzman
Secretary: Grace Aguinalde
Treasurer: Ferdinand Garcia
Chairman of the Board: Lloyd Macli-ing
Board Members: Romeo Quilala, Wilson Addog, Wilson Agpad, and Mark Careon

The SLUAABC invites all who have been touched by the Saint Louis University legacy to become active members. Membership is open to:

- Graduates of SLU Elementary, Boys High School, Girls High School, or Basic Education School.
- Graduates of Undergradu-

ate, Graduate, or Doctorate Degrees from SLU Baguio.

- Anyone who completed at least one year (two semesters) of study at SLU.
- Former faculty and staff who served at the institution for at least one year.

To learn more, register for membership, or get involved, please visit: www.sluaabc.ca

Photo Credit: Upbeat Candid Studio by Renz Magat

About SLUAABC

The Saint Louis University Alumni Association of British Columbia (SLUAABC) is a registered non-profit and volunteer-led organization dedicated to fostering a strong and engaged community of Saint Louis University alumni, students, faculty, and staff residing in or connected to British Columbia, Canada. Visit sluaabc.ca to learn more.

(Submitted by Lester de Guzman)



That's All

Al S. Mendoza



WHO said LeBron James is old fogey?

SPORTS



Hello?

At 41, James does not only have the usual spring in his legs. He also has so much gas still left in his tank. He is short to being labelled Mr. Forever. Proof: he carried the Los Angeles Lakers again to a pulsating 112-108 victory over the Houston Rockets last weekend.

That moved the Lakers to a 3-0 card in their best-of-seven series against the Rockets in the National Basketball Association (NBA) Western Conference playoffs. Just one more win and they advance.

Again, James starred in the win, swiping his third steal in the last 13.6 seconds of the

game to trigger LA's resurrection.

What he did next was next to impossible?

Not to James.

Have you forgotten? He makes difficult things look easy. A habit his bashers love to hate.

And this night was no different.

He fired an improbable three. The ball swishing the net. Overtime.

The five-minute extension was but a mere show of going through the motions as James towed the Lakers to a win never doubted by, yes, James' own

Mom.

And yes, LA's Marcus Smart starred in overtime, scoring eight of his 21 points in that period. By doing that, he preserved his three charities in regulation after he got fouled attempting a trey, slashing Houston's six-point lead to three, 101-98, with mere ticks remaining.

Then, James took over, burying his triple for a 101-all tie that forged overtime.

So, who said it's time for LeBron James to hang up his No. 23 jersey?

Hello, again.

At 41, James does not only have eyes for threes. He can still spot an alley-oop when he sees one.

He did it in the Game Three win, issuing one to his own son, Bronny, who went on to finish with 5 points.

"Just trying to seize the opportunity," said James in describing the feat that made it the first ever father-and-son alley-oop milestone in NBA history. So, quit that crap calling for James to retire.

Last weekend alone, he had 29 points, 13 rebounds, 6 assists,

3 steals, 1 block, a clutch overtime-sending 3-pointer in the last 13.6 seconds of regulation and one incredible alley-oop to his son.

Does LA need Luka Doncic, out with a hamstring strain?

Does LA need offensive gunner Austin Reaves, down with an oblique injury?

Oh, well, you can say Houston lost because it played without its No. 1 weapon, Kevin Durant, out with a sprained ankle. But Alperen Sengun more than made up for Durant's absence, collecting 33 points and 16 rebounds.

And Houston even led by 15 points, 6 in the last 30 seconds of regulation.

Oh, well, by the way, the Rockets defeated the Lakers in Game 4, 115-96, in Houston on Monday to stay alive.

Still, with their 3-1 lead, the Lakers remain poised to clinch the series in two days' time or so in LA.

Obviously, they want their coronation done at home?

Makes sense.

THAT'S IT Birthday greetings to brothers Mayo and Migel Mendoza. Mayo on May 2 and Migel on May 12. Cheers! (Reprinted from Business Mirror/photos from AOL)

OTHER NEWS

Senate 'financially able and ready' to hold VP Duterte impeachment trial

The Senate is financially capable to hold the possible impeachment trial of Vice President Sara Duterte should it be transmitted finally to the Upper Chamber, Senate President Pro Tempore Panfilo "Ping" Lacson said.

According to Lacson, only P500,000 had been spent out of a P27-million allocation under the 2025 General Appropriations Act (GAA) when the House transmitted the Articles of Impeachment to the Senate at the time.

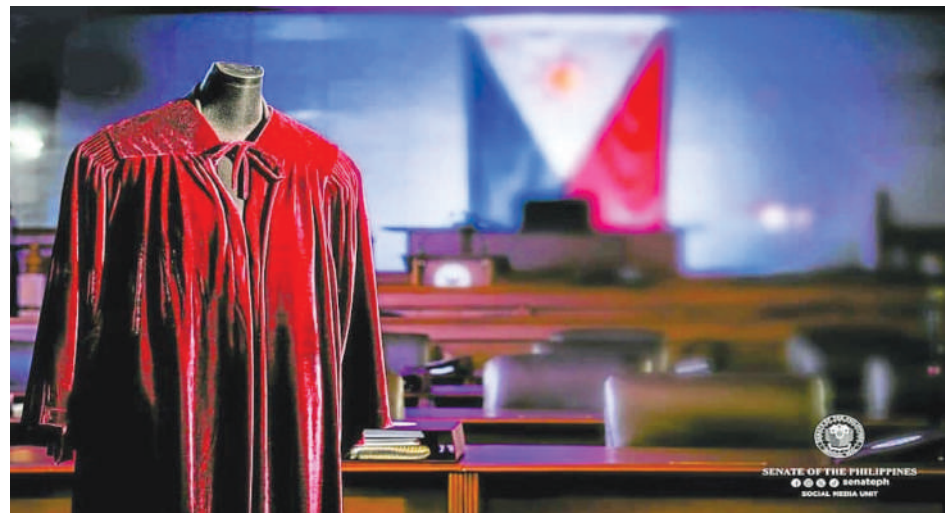
"There's at least P27 million under the 2025 GAA, from which around P500,000 was spent when last year's Articles of Impeachment against VP Duterte

was transmitted to the Senate," Lacson said.

'Since the fund is good for two years under 'continuing appropriations,' the Senate is financially able and ready to conduct the trial if and when the Articles of Impeachment are transmitted," he added.

Earlier, Lacson said he and his fellow senators, including Senate President Vicente Sotto III, have been preparing for a possible impeachment trial this year should the House of Representatives transmit the Articles of Impeachment to the Senate.

Sotto for his part said he finds



it unnecessary for the Senate to procure new robes for the new set of senator-judges.

"The ones they had last year will do," Sotto said. Lacson, in an interview over

Radio DZBB last Sunday, reminded his peers to observe proper conduct as potential senator-judges should the impeachment case of the vice president reaches the Senate. (H. Torragoza/mb.com.ph)



Healing Colours, Colours of Renewal Ang Babáng Luksâ ng Bayan

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2025 Lapu Lapu Festival tragedy.



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Healing Colours, Colours of Renewal: Ang Babáng Luksâ ng Bayan Sunset Community Centre | Vancouver, British Columbia
Philippine Artists Network for Community Integrative Transformation (PANCIT) Opens on April 30, 2026

A particular kind of grief belongs to diaspora. It arrives already carrying other griefs – distance, displacement, longing, belonging to two worlds without feeling secured in either. When violence struck the Lapu-Lapu Day Festival on 26 April 2025, it did not land on strangers in an abstract place. It landed on 43rd Avenue and Fraser Street, Vancouver, where many of us walk, shop, visit, celebrate with neighbours, elders, children, and friends. Eleven people did not go home that night.

On their one-year death anniversary, in the Filipino practice of Babáng Luksâ, we produced art that led to this exhibition.

The eleven people who died are not defined by the manner of their death. They are defined by everything they had -- their laughter, joys, labour, the meals they cooked, the songs they

knew, the people who loved them, their dreams that continue to live in the hearts of the people who love them. To remember them only as victims is to reduce them. The artists refuse that reduction.

To the families of the eleven lives lost: this exhibition thought of you. To the survivors who carry invisible wounds: you are seen here. To the immigrant communities who lost loved ones and suffered: your grief has always been legitimate, your demands have always been just, your strength has never been taken for granted.

For more information:
Mylene Maranoc - 604-716-0573
Erie Maestro - 604-366-7218
PANCIT Arts Collective - mi-grante.bc@gmail.com

Filipino Seniors Club of BC ousts Mar Alparaque

On December 13, 2025, the board of directors of the Filipino Seniors Club of BC voted to expel Mar Alparaque.

Voting to oust Alparaque as member and vice president of the organization were: Angelita Helen dela Rosa, chairperson of the board; Bert

Morelos, communications director; and board members Nelia Asutilla, Fernando Tan, Violeta Aquino, Natividad Balangue, Teresa Parilla, Francisco Medriano, and Revelina Tan Yee Sing.

Following the vote, the Filipino Seniors Club of BC issued an official announcement.



www.fsc-bc.org
Filipino Seniors Club of BC
SENIORS ON THE GO
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Official Announcement

December 13, 2025

TO: ALL MEMBERS
Filipino Seniors Club of BC

FROM: Angelita Helen Dela Rosa
Chairman of the Board

GREETINGS:

The Board of Directors of the Filipino Seniors Club of BC wishes to inform all members and the wider community that **Mr. Marius Alparaque has been removed from his position as Vice President and a board member of the Society.**

Despite being given multiple notices and opportunities to present himself before the Board, Mr. Alparaque has failed to respond. These are serious matters, and the Society cannot wait indefinitely for resolution.

Effective immediately:

- Mr. Alparaque is **no longer associated with the Filipino Seniors Club of BC.**
- He is **not authorized to represent the Society** in any capacity or at any community events.

The Society remains committed to transparency, accountability, and the protection of our members' trust. We thank you for your continued support and understanding as we uphold the integrity of our organization.

We appreciate Mr. Alparaque's contributions to our society and extend our best wishes to him.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Filipino Seniors Club of BC

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Wisdom from the Word

Ben Berto



REJOICE! JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!

14 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many [a]mansions; if it were not so, [b]I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14: 1-3, NKJV

The Cross was looming on the horizon as Jesus was giving His instructions to the disciples. Judas Iscariot had already made a deal with the clergy, headed by the high priest, to betray his master and was only waiting for the opportune time to carry out his plan for just 30 pieces of silver. (Matthew 26:15).

When Jesus was cru-

cified, His followers forgot the promise of His return. To them, all hope was lost. They forgot what He told them that He would die but would rise again on the third day because He was the Resurrection and the Life. This month, Easter was celebrated, but the one who got the most spotlight was Mary, the Lord's human mother.

When the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples, John and all the disciples remembered all the words that Jesus had spoken since they were called as disciples. He remembered this specific promise of Jesus second coming found in John 14: 1-3. **14 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many [a]mansions; if it**

were not so, [b]I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14: 1-3, NKJV Some versions say, "in my Father's house are many rooms" but I prefer the "mansions" which are more splendid than just rooms.

In the *Fundamental Beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist church #24 is this statement. "The Second Coming of Christ is the blessed Hope of the Church, the grand climax of the gospel. The Saviour's coming will be literal, personal, visible, and worldwide. When He returns, the righteous dead will be resurrected, and together with the*

righteous living will be glorified and taken to heaven, but the unrighteous will die. The almost complete fulfilment of most lines of prophecy, together with the present condition of the world, indicates that Christ's coming is imminent. The time of that event has not been revealed, and we are therefore exhorted to be ready at all times."

(See 1 Corinthians 15: 51-57, and 1 Thessalonians 4: 14-18 for the description of Christ's coming.)

To contact us: Our website is www.abundantlifeadventist.ca. Worship with us every Saturday Sabbath, the seventh day of the week. Genesis 2: 2, 3, Exodus 20: 8-10, Isaiah 58: 13, 14; Isaiah 66: 22, 23; Matthew 5: 17-19; Revelation 22: 14 John 14: 1-3

Moments

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD



Give us good leaders, Lord!

The story is told about a Japanese on board a cruise ship who, after using his mobile phone, threw it into the sea. When asked why, he said: "Oh, we have plenty of those in Japan." Likewise, an American threw his laptop into the sea after using it, and said: "We have plenty of those in America." Just then a Filipino pushed a Filipino politician overboard. When asked why, his response was: "Oh, we have plenty of those in the Philippines."

In today's Gospel (John 10:1-10), Jesus notes the difference between good and hired shepherds. The former are for the service; the latter are for the money. Likewise, we note the difference between statesmen and politicians. The former work for the good of the nation, while the latter work for the next elections. The former are few, the latter are aplenty.

There is only one Good Shepherd—Jesus Christ our Lord. The rest of us who

claim to be shepherds are in reality not so good. Most of us are "not-so-good" or "trying-to-be-good" shepherds who keep on trying to be good anyway. In humility. We ask the Good Shepherd to help us not only to talk good but to be truly good.

To be a good shepherd, i.e. religious or civic leader, one must have gone through or must continue to undergo conversion or metanoia. A leader who has no vision and who has no sense of mission is what Jesus calls today a hireling, a thief, and a robber, who has no concern for the sheep. Such a shepherd leaves the sheep and runs away, and abandons the sheep.

Another mark of a good shepherd is the presence of the spirit of service or diakonia in his/her life. And so it is that we have shepherds who enjoy the perks and privileges of their office, but so wanting when it comes to the service that goes along

with their office. They lead only by words, but they do not really go out of their way to serve.

One other mark of a good shepherd is communion or koinonia. A leader must be present to his/her flock. He/she must listen and must be in touch with the needs, aspirations, hopes, and dreams of those he/she leads. To be just that, a leader must have deep communion with God, for he/she who truly listens to God will truly love his/her flock. A shepherd who does not pray, will go astray.

One final mark of a good shepherd is that of proclamation or kerygma. Neither fear nor favor should stop him/her from proclaiming Gospel values. A leader is a prophet and must not be focused on personal profit. A leader must by his/her very life and person, more than by his/her words, be a constant source of strength and inspiration to the flock. If we do not inspire, why don't

we just retire? If we can no longer lead, why don't we indeed just leave?

Here is one text message I received which I think is a beautiful reminder for shepherds: "To be tender with the young; to be compassionate with the aged; to be sympathetic with the striving; to be patient with the weak; and to be forgiving of sinners ... for in our lifetime, we were, and will be any of all of these."

Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Let us pray that God will send more men and women to work in His vineyard. Yes, the harvest is plenty, but the laborers are few. Men and women who are interested in the priestly and religious life, the Lord is calling you, and the world is waiting for you.

All of us are called! All of us are called to be good. All of

MOMENTS TO PAGE 22 ...



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FR ORBOS from PAGE 21....

us are called for a mission. All of us are called to God's heart, and all of us are called to go home to heaven at the end of our earthly sojourn. Stop being cold, because you are called!

Allow me to share with you my ordination prayer, which I made some 46 years ago: "You have called me, Oh Lord, not so much because of me, but in spite of me; not so much to become a somebody but to be a someone

to you and to your people; keep me, Oh Lord, ever in your love. Amen."

Question: Why SHEpherd, and not HEpherd? Is it because women are better than men leaders? Just asking...

Moment with the Lord: Lord, remind us that we cannot truly lead others, if we are not led by You. Amen.

*momentswithfrjerry@gmail.com
(Reprinted from inquirer.net)*

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MOVIE REVIEW

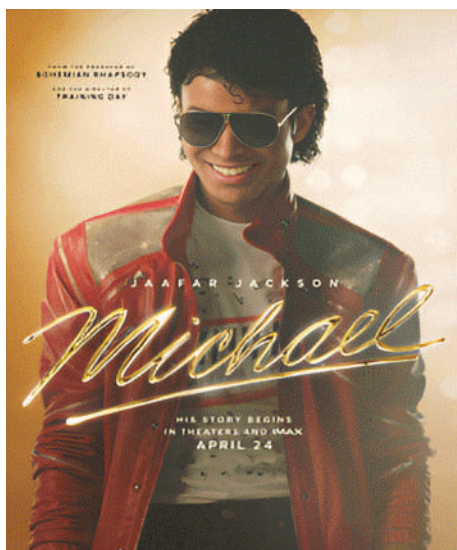
MICHAEL JACKSON BIOPIC BREAKS BOX OFFICE RECORDS

FIRST DAY AT THEATRES:

An Emotional, Electrifying Tribute to the King of Pop

By Janice Lozano

Michael Jackson's biopic opening day at theatres breaking box office records feels absolutely deserved. This film is more than just a movie, it's an experience. From the very first scene to the closing moments, it takes you on a powerful emotional journey. One moment you're in tears, the next you're smiling, then suddenly feeling inspired, energized, and reminded of the greatness that Michael Jackson brought to the world.



Watching it brings back so much nostalgia. It makes you reminisce about growing up with his music playing everywhere, at home, in the car, at parties, on the radio. It reminds you that Michael Jackson wasn't just an artist; he was the soundtrack to so many people's lives. His music crossed generations, cultures, and borders in a way very few ever have.

What makes this movie even more special is the performance by Jaafar Jackson. Being the son of Jermaine Jackson, he carried the family legacy with incredible pride and talent. He portrayed his uncle so brilliantly, with passion, precision, authenticity, and respect. The mannerisms, the movement, the voice, the presence, it was all done at such a high level that there were moments in the movie when I closed my eyes and honestly felt like it was the actual Michael Jackson talking. Watching him on screen like that gave me chills. Jaafar truly played his uncle so well that it felt like witnessing greatness come alive again. That kind of performance is rare and unforgettable.

What made it even more inspiring was seeing how Michael grew up, the dedication, the discipline, the sacrifices, the hardships, and the relentless drive it took for him to become the ultimate performer. It shows that greatness was not handed to him; he built it through work ethic, passion, and an obsession with excellence. Watching that journey was powerful and motivating.

Then hearing all of his back-to-back-to-back number one hits

throughout the film reminds you exactly why he reached the status he did. Song after song, era after era, hit after hit, it becomes clear that the level he reached was truly unmatched. His catalogue alone is legendary.

For all of us singers, performers, and musicians who looked up to Michael Jackson, this movie hits even deeper. Michael wasn't just a superstar, he was the blueprint, the gold standard, the artist so many aspired to become. Countless people realized they wanted to sing, dance, perform, or become musicians because they saw Michael Jackson on stage doing what seemed impossible. He inspired dreams, unlocked passion, and made people believe greatness was possible through talent and hard work.

And if you grew up in the 80s and wanted to become a singer... you already know lol. Michael Jackson was that guy. He was the one so many people studied, copied, admired, and dreamed of being like. For an entire generation, he set the standard of what being a performer looked like.

He was one of the rarest entertainers in history who could move everyone emotionally. He could make both men and women cry just by stepping on stage and doing what he does. That level of connection, power, and presence is something almost no one else has ever been able to create. Michael didn't just perform, he made people feel something unforgettable.

The movie captures not only the superstardom and iconic



performances, but also the heart, humanity, struggles, dedication, and genius behind the legend. It reminds audiences that greatness doesn't happen by accident, it comes from sacrifice, discipline, and an unmatched drive to be extraordinary.

This film is inspirational, moving, emotional, and absolutely electrifying. It's the kind of movie that leaves a lasting impact long after the credits roll. This is a movie I would gladly see three, four, even five times because every viewing would

bring a new level of appreciation. Honestly, one film almost doesn't feel like enough to capture a legacy this massive. There is so much story, so much music, and so much impact that it leaves you hoping for a part two.

The legend.
The icon.
The greatest of all time.

All I can say is... wow. Definitely a must-watch. If you haven't seen it yet, go watch it. You'll laugh, cry, smile, reflect, and leave inspired.



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M.Y.SAN SKYFLAKES CRACKERS TUB 800G



5⁴⁸ EA

TRUNG NGUYEN HOUSE BLEND COFFEE 500G



7⁶⁸ EA

BAMBOO TREE RICE VERMICELLI BUN TUOI 908G



2/8⁰⁰

SAN MIGUEL PUREFOODS CORNED BEEF/BOEUF SALE BEEF 340G



6¹⁸ EA

KOPIKO COFFEE MIX ASSORTED 30'S



7⁹⁸ EA

FIVE CRABS FISH SAUCE 682ML



9⁹⁸ EA

ANGEL JASMINE RICE 40LB



49⁹⁸ EA

HAPPY TUESDAY

Every Tuesday, all year round, shop and you'll be rewarded, instantly!



HAPPY TUESDAY
3X Reward Points

\$1 = 3 POINTS
SPENT REWARDED