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**Richmond prepares to house the world**

**Entrepreneurs ready to capitalize on accommodation crunch in 2010**

by Matthew Hoekstra  
Staff Reporter

It has four bedrooms, four bathrooms and 2,400 square feet of single-family home in the latter neighbourhood. It comes equipped with a dishwasher, TV, microwave and all the amenities of an average Richmond home.

And getting it during the 2010 Winter Games will cost you \$33,000, plus taxes.

Welcome to Richmond: Home of the Olympic local and entrepreneurs ready to capitalize on the accommodation crunch expected to wash over some cities.

In two years, everyone from Olympic officials to athletes, families to sports enthusiasts from around the world will crowd a city once known mostly for its fishing fleet and cranberry fields. But in 2010, the city and its waterfront park will become the main attraction.

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**Works yard employees cleared**

A long-standing basement case at the city of Richmond has come to a close, with the works yard employees being cleared of harassment allegations.

The Wednesday, March 19, 2008, decision by the Workers' Compensation Board ruled that the allegations of five city works yard employees were "unjustifiable" and "unfounded" by allegations of former co-worker Martin Ferraro.

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**So long Mr. Smith**

Students gathered to salute Bill Smith, who retired after 34 years of teaching—all in the Richmond School District.

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**City needs a memorial park**

City staff are still working on a plan to create a memorial park, two years after a study concluded a need for such a facility.

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**At the Radisson Hotel, Rakash Fiji will be welcoming guests from around the world come 2010.**

Don Patrick photo

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Saturday, February 9, 2008



**The Year of Rat**  
Thursday marked the Chinese New Year and Aberdeen Centre was among the many local places that hosted events. Aberdeen hosted a lion's dance (above), while Mayor Malcolm Brodie and Richmond-Steveston MLA John Yap helped with the ceremonies marking the new year.

Mark Patrick photos

