



BETTER COMMUNITY THROUGH BETTER BUSINESS



# *Relocation Package*



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## Overview of Nanaimo

The City of Nanaimo is a community of 86,000 located on the east side of Vancouver Island, approximately 110 km north of Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, Canada.



## **Nanaimo's History**

Nanaimo was first settled thousands of years ago by the Coast Salish natives who named the area "Sne-ney-mous" which means "meeting place". The great and mighty Coast Salish nations traveled from villages along the Nanaimo River and False Narrows to build longhouses at Departure Bay. Change began with Imperial Spain's explorers charting these coastal waters in 1791. Control over the area passed to the British Empire in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and the first settlers arrived in the early 1800's and set up a trading post, which established Nanaimo as an important hub of commerce. A fort was erected by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1853 and is now a restored landmark. From 1852 until 1952, Nanaimo was primarily a coal town. Coal-burning ships refueled here and coal was exported in large quantities from numerous mines in the area. By 1941 increased demand for lumber and a declining need for coal brought the area's thriving forests to the forefront.

During it all, Nanaimo continued to develop as a centre for the meeting and movement of products and people – a gathering place.

## **Municipal Information**

### **City of Nanaimo**

The City of Nanaimo was first incorporated as a municipality in 1874. Since that time the City has seen significant growth with a population now exceeding 77,000.

### **Nanaimo City Council**

An elected Council comprised of a Mayor and eight Councillors governs the City of Nanaimo.

**Mayor** – Bill McKay

**Councillors** – Bill Bestwick, Diane Brennan, Gordon Fuller, Jerry Hong, Jim Kipp, Wendy Pratt, Ian Thorpe, Bill Yoachim.

## **Public Safety**

Policing services are provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (R.C.M.P.). There are approximately 114 R.C.M.P. officers serving the Nanaimo area.

## **Fire Protection**

Fire protection is provided by the City of Nanaimo Fire Department from seven fire stations located around the city. There are 68 full-time fire-fighters and 80 paid on-call firefighters.

## **Regional District of Nanaimo**

The Regional District of Nanaimo provides regional governance and services in Nanaimo, Lantzville, Parksville, Qualicum Beach, and seven unincorporated Electoral Areas on the east coast of Vancouver Island.

## **Community Leaders**

### **Member Legislative Assembly (MLA)**

Michelle Stilwell – Nanaimo-Parksville  
Leonard Krog – Nanaimo  
Doug Routley – Nanaimo-North Cowichan

### **Member of Parliament (MP)**

Jean Crowder – Nanaimo-Cowichan  
James Lunney – Nanaimo-Alberni

### **Snuneymuxw First Nation**

John Wesley, Chief

### **Vancouver Island University**

Dr. Ralph Nilson, President

### **Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce**

David Littlejohn, Chair

### **Nanaimo Port Authority**

Bob Bennie, Chair

### **School District 68**

John Blain, Superintendent

## **Utilities**

Local levels of government provide water, sewer, landfill, and recycling services, while electricity is provided by BC Hydro, a provincial crown corporation. Natural gas distribution is provided by FortisBC, a private company.

BC Hydro – For detailed rate information, contact BC Hydro's Nanaimo office at 1-800-224-9376 (Customer Service).

Gas – Rates vary with consumption and usage classification. For more information about rates, contact the Nanaimo office of FortisBC at (250) 751-8300.

Garbage Disposal & Recycling – The City of Nanaimo provides weekly residential garbage collection and disposal services, and bi-weekly collection of certain recyclables.

### **Telephone/Telecommunications**

Telus provides telephone communications infrastructure, with a main installation, sales and service group stationed in Nanaimo. Service rates vary on lines and individual equipment needs. For additional information, contact Telus at 1-888-811-2828. Shaw Communications provides digital telephone service, contact them at (250) 760-1999.

### **Internet Access**

Local companies that provide full Internet services, including world-wide web access, email, and web page design are NISA, Shaw Communications, and Telus Communications. They also provide Internet installation and training.

## **Transportation**

Nanaimo has a modern and efficient transportation network, with 2 airports, 2 ferry terminals, a recently enhanced highway system, and a public transit system. The average commute time from the outer boundaries of the city to downtown is 15 minutes.

### **Air**

The Nanaimo Airport, operated by the Nanaimo Airport Commission, is located 15 km south of the city, in Cassidy. For additional information, contact the airport at (250) 245-2157.

The Nanaimo Seaplane Terminal, operated by the Nanaimo Port Authority, provides facilities for seaplane flights from downtown Nanaimo. Regularly scheduled flights to downtown Vancouver and Vancouver International Airport are available through West Coast Air and Harbour Air. Flight time is 20 minutes. Seair Seaplanes offers flights to and from Nanaimo and Vancouver from Departure Bay.

### **Ferries**

Regularly scheduled ferry service is available between Nanaimo and Vancouver. There are two primary ferry terminals in Nanaimo, operated by the British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. The Departure Bay terminal serves the Nanaimo to Horseshoe Bay route, while the Duke Point terminal in the city's south end serves the Nanaimo to Tsawwassen route. Crossing time ranges from 1 hour 35 minutes to 2 hours, depending on the route. For more information, contact BC Ferries at 1-888-BCFERRY (223-3779). Website: [www.bcferrys.com](http://www.bcferrys.com)



### **Public Transit**

Public transit is provided by Nanaimo Transit with service between 6:40 am and 11:00 pm. Buses run every 15 minutes during peak hours, and every half-hour during off-peak times.

## **Driving Distances**

From Nanaimo to:

	<u>Km</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Campbell River	153	95	2 hours, 20 min.
Chemainus	37	23	35 min.
Courtenay/Comox	108	67	1 hour, 40 min.
Duncan	51	31	47 min.
Ladysmith	26	16	25 min.
Parksville	37	23	30 min.
Port Alberni	84	52	1 hour, 20 min.
Qualicum Beach	47	29	43 min.
Sidney	131	80	2 hours.
Tofino	206	128	3 hours, 10 min.
Ucluelet	180	112	2 hours, 46 min.
Victoria	111	69	1 hour, 40 min.

## **Major Financial Institutions**

### **Bank Of Montreal** [www.bmo.com](http://www.bmo.com)

Dickenson Branch  
6908 North Island Hwy.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 390-5086

Terminal Park Branch  
1533 Estevan Rd.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 754-0564

### **Scotiabank** [www.scotiabank.ca](http://www.scotiabank.ca)

Main Branch  
65 Commercial St.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 716-2300

Nanaimo North Town Centre Branch  
166-4750 Rutherford Rd.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 751-7700

Nored Plaza Branch  
101-6750 N. Island Hwy.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 390-5975

### **Canadian Western Bank** [www.cwbank.com](http://www.cwbank.com)

Main Branch  
101-6475 Metral Dr.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 390-0088

### **Canadian Imperial Bank Of Commerce**

[www.cibc.ca](http://www.cibc.ca)  
Port Place Branch  
66-650 Terminal Ave.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 716-2060

North Island Hwy. Branch  
6570 North Island Hwy.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 756-3430

Country Club Branch  
123-3200 North Island Hwy.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 756-3400

### **Royal Bank Of Canada** [www.rbc.com](http://www.rbc.com)

Main Branch  
205 Commercial St.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 741-3500

Brooks Landing Branch  
110-2000 Island Hwy. N.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 758-7381

Woodgrove Centre Branch  
49-6631 North Island Hwy.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 390-4311

### **TD Canada Trust** [www.tdcanadatrust.com](http://www.tdcanadatrust.com)

Beaufort Branch  
1588 Boundary Crescent  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 716-2600

Terminal Park Plaza Branch  
1-1150 Terminal Ave. N.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 754-7731

Longwood Station Branch  
1-5777 Turner Road  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 390-1248

### **Business Development Bank Of Canada**

500-6581 Aulds Rd.  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 754-0250

### **HSBC**

101-6551 Aulds Road  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 390-0668

### **Coastal Community Credit Union**

[www.cccu.ca](http://www.cccu.ca)  
Head Office  
21 - 13 Victoria Cr  
Nanaimo, B.C. (250) 741-3200

Bowen Rd. Branch  
2350 Labieux Rd.  
Nanaimo, BC (250) 758-2711

Harbourfront Plaza  
111-59 Wharf St.  
Nanaimo, BC (250) 754-3111

Hammond Bay Branch  
6365 Hammond Bay  
Nanaimo, BC (250) 390-4312

Southgate Branch  
111-50 Tenth St.  
Nanaimo, BC (250) 741-1233

### **Coast Capital Savings Credit Union**

[www.iscu.com](http://www.iscu.com)  
6581 Aulds Rd.  
Nanaimo, BC (888) 517-7000

### **Island Savings Credit Union**

97-6631 Island Hwy. N.  
Nanaimo, BC (250) 390-7070

## Climate

Nanaimo boasts one of the mildest and sunniest climates in Canada, experiencing close to 1850 hours of sunshine annually. The city is protected from Pacific weather systems by the range of mountains which run the length of Vancouver Island. Nanaimo's climate is also moderated by the Strait of Georgia.

The region's range of moderate precipitation makes it the ideal place for year round recreational pursuits. You can swim, sunbathe, and ski all in a matter of months!

### Average Daily High Temperatures

January	5.8 C (42.5 F)
February	8.4 C (47.0 F)
March	10.7 C (51.3 F)
April	13.8 C (56.9 F)
May	17.7 C (64.0 F)
June	20.9 C (69.9 F)
July	24.0 C (75.2 F)
August	24.2 C (75.6 F)
September	20.6 C (69.0 F)
October	14.7 C (58.5 F)
November	9.1 C (48.4 F)
December	6.1 C (43.0 F)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rain	13.18	18.11	10.8	5.96	4.69	3.94	2.43	3	4.4	10.06	17.95	17.02
Snow	30.5	15	8.2	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0.07	8.6	29.7

(Precipitation In Centimeters)

For current weather conditions visit:

[www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/city/pages/bc-20\\_metric\\_e.html](http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/city/pages/bc-20_metric_e.html)

For more climate statistics visit:

[www.theweathernetwork.com/index.php?product=statistics&pagecontent=C02094](http://www.theweathernetwork.com/index.php?product=statistics&pagecontent=C02094)

## Motor Vehicle Licensing and Insurance

### For New Residents

#### Driver's License

If you are new to British Columbia and drive a vehicle, you need to obtain a BC driver's license within 90 days after moving here. This can be done at the Service BC Government Agents Office located at 460 Selby Street in Nanaimo.

New residents who hold a Canadian, American, Austrian, German, Swiss, Japanese, or South Korean license can usually complete their license exchange the same day, provided they bring all necessary documents.

Visit: <http://www.icbc.com/driver-licensing>

Note to students: If you normally reside out-of-province but are attending a recognized BC educational institution, you can continue using your valid non-BC driver's license.

#### Automobile Insurance

All motorists in BC must carry basic automobile insurance. For residents, it is provided through the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia's (ICBC) Basic Autoplan. For more information:

<http://www.icbc.com/insurance/>

### Address Changes

If your address has changed, your driver's license and insurance policy will both have to be updated. You must let ICBC know within 10 days of moving.

Note that the procedures for changing the address on your driver's license and your insurance policy are not the same.

#### Driver's License

1. Online: <https://www.addresschange.gov.bc.ca/>

2. Phone: 1.866.775.0011

3. In person: Service BC Government Agents Office, 460 Selby Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 2R7, Telephone 250.741.3636

#### Automobile Insurance

You will need to visit an Autoplan broker in person to change your address on your policy.

For a list of Autoplan brokers, visit: <http://www.icbc.com/autoplan/broker>



## **Churches & Other Places of Worship**

### **Church Organizations**

Bethlehem Retreat Centre  
2371 Arbot Rd., Nanaimo (250) 754-3254

Hope Lutheran Church (Elcic)  
2174 Departure Bay Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 758-1232

House of Bread  
2329 Arbot Rd, Nanaimo (250) 753-1763

Nanaimo Chinese Alliance Church  
1609 Meredith Rd., Nanaimo (250) 758-8110

Neighborhood Church  
4951 Rutherford Rd., Nanaimo (250) 758-2242

The Salvation Army  
505-8th St., Nanaimo (250) 753-8834

### **Anglican**

St. James Anglican Church  
2150 Departure Bay Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 758-7911

St. Paul's Anglican Church  
100 Chapel St., Nanaimo (250) 753-2523

St. Philips By The Sea Anglican Church  
7113 Lantzville Rd., Lantzville (250) 390-3641

St. Philip's-Cedar Anglican Church  
1797 Cedar Rd., Nanaimo (250) 722-3455

### **Apostolic**

Harewood Community Church  
8A-501 6<sup>th</sup> St., Nanaimo (250) 753-1656

Nanaimo Full Gospel Assembly  
4900 Hammond Bay Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 758-0134

### **Baptist**

Departure Bay Baptist Church  
3510 Departure Bay Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 758-9334

First Baptist Church  
1650 Waddington Rd., Nanaimo (250) 753-0241

Hammond Bay Baptist Church  
4960 Hammond Bay Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 758-1813

Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church  
486B Franklyn St., Nanaimo (250) 716-7283

### **Catholic**

St. Peter's Roman Catholic  
301 Machleary St., Nanaimo (250) 753-3570

Nanaimo Ecumenical Centre Society  
6234 Spartan St., Nanaimo (250) 390-2442

Our Lady Of Good Council  
4334 Jingle Pot Rd., Nanaimo (250) 758-3430

St. Michaels Parish  
4017 Victoria Ave., Nanaimo (250) 758-4714

### **Christian Church**

Church of Jesus  
617-280 Cypress St., Nanaimo (250) 741-0841

### **Christian & Missionary Alliance**

Alliance Church  
1609 Meredith Ave., Nanaimo (250) 758-7912

### **Christian Reformed Church**

Christ Community Church  
2221 Bowen Rd., Nanaimo (250) 758-1513

### **Christian Science**

Christian Science Society  
20 Chapel St., Nanaimo (250) 753-8036

### **Church of the Nazarene**

Church Of The Nazarene [www.nanaimonazarene.com](http://www.nanaimonazarene.com)  
2150 Departure Bay Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 585-5553

### **Foursquare Gospel Church**

Maranatha Four Square Gospel  
6553 Portsmouth Rd., Nanaimo (250) 390-2152

### **Gospel**

Wakesiah Road Gospel Chapel  
170 Wakesiah Ave., Nanaimo (250) 753-4641

**Jehovah's Witnesses**

Jehovah's Witnesses Assembly Hall  
1724 Vowels Rd. (250) 245-7681

Oceanside & Pleasant Valley Kingdom Hall  
6011 Doumont Rd. (250) 390-2555

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses  
2114 Meredith Rd., Nanaimo (250) 729-9066

**Lutheran**

Hope Lutheran Church  
2174 Departure Bay Rd, Nanaimo  
(250) 758-1232

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
394 Shepherd Ave., Nanaimo (250) 754-9082

**Mennonite Brethren**

Neighborhood Church  
4951 Rutherford Rd., Nanaimo (250) 758-2242

**Non-Denominational**

Church Of Christ  
1720 Meredith Ave., Nanaimo (250) 758-9412

Gabriola Fellowship Church  
775 North Rd., Gabriola Island (250) 247-9181

Jubilee Christian Centre  
8A-6421 Applecross Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 716-0330

**Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada**

Evangelistic Tabernacle Pentecostal Assemblies  
Of Canada  
1300 Princess Royal, Nanaimo (250) 753-0258

Native Victory Chapel  
471 Irwin St., Nanaimo (250) 754-7866

**Presbyterian Church In Canada**

St. Andrew's Presbyterian  
4235 Departure Bay Rd., Nanaimo  
(250) 758-2676

**Seventh-Day Adventist**

Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
2400 Highland Blvd., Nanaimo (250) 758-1334

**Sikh**

Gurdwara Sahib Miri Piri Darbar  
305 Prideaux St., Nanaimo (250) 716-1313

Sikh Temple  
328 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Nanaimo (250) 754-5516

**Unitarian**

Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo  
1-595 Townsite Rd., Nanaimo (250) 755-1215

**United Church of Canada**

Brechin United Church  
1998 Estevan Rd., Nanaimo (250) 754-9212

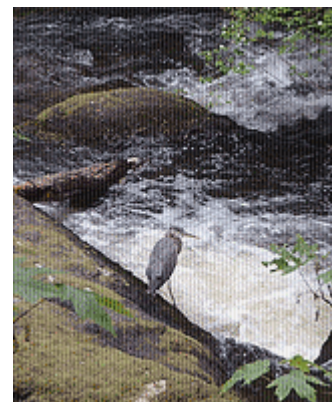
Gabriola United Church  
2600 South Rd., Gabriola Island  
(250) 247-8633

St. Andrews United Church  
311 Fitzwilliam St., Nanaimo (250) 753-1924

Trinity United Church  
6234 Spartan Rd., Nanaimo (250) 390-2513

**United Pentecostal**

World of Pentecost Church  
3606 Allsop Rd., Nanaimo (250) 756-7926



## Education

### **Schools (District #68) [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca)**

**School Board Office** (250) 754-5521 395 Wakesiah Ave.

<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Address</b>
Cedar Community Secondary	(250) 722-2414	1640 MacMillan Rd.
Dover Bay Secondary	(250) 756-4595	6135 McGirr Rd.
John Barsby Secondary	(250) 753-8211	550 7th St.
Ladysmith Secondary	(250) 245-3043	710 - 6th Ave. Ladysmith, BC
*Nanaimo District Secondary	(250) 740-2000	355 Wakesiah Ave.
Wellington Secondary	(250) 758-9191	3135 Mexicana Rd.
Woodlands Secondary	(250) 753-2271	1270 Strathmore St.

<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Address</b>
Bayview School	(250) 754-3231	140 View St.
Brechin School	(250) 754-7523	510 Millstone Ave.
Chase River School	(250) 754-6983	1503 Cranberry Ave.
Cilaire School	(250) 758-7941	25 Cilaire Dr.
Cinnabar Valley	(250) 716-1030	1800 Richardson Rd.
Coal Tye	(250) 729-0450	2280 Sun Valley Dr.
*Ecole Davis Rd. School	(250) 245-7187	444 Parkhill Terr., Ladysmith, BC
Departure Bay School	(250) 758-6541	3004 Departure Bay Rd.
Fairview School	(250) 753-3418	205 Howard St.
Forest Park School	(250) 758-6892	2050 Latimer Rd.
Frank J Ney School	(250) 729-8045	5301 Williamson Rd.
Gabriola Elem. School	(250) 247-9342	680 North Rd., Gabriola Island, BC
Georgia Ave. School	(250) 753-1044	625 Georgia Ave.
*Ecole Hammond Bay School	(250) 758-5711	1025 Morningside Dr.
Ladysmith Inter. School	(250) 245-3351	317 French St., Ladysmith, BC
Ladysmith Primary School	(250) 245-3912	510 6th Ave., Ladysmith, BC
McGirr Rd. School	(250) 758-8946	6199 McGirr Rd.
Mountain View School	(250) 753-2831	2480 E. Wellington Rd.
North Cedar School	(250) 722-2722	2215 Gould Rd.
North Oyster School	(250) 245-3330	13470 Cedar, Ladysmith, BC
*Ecole Pauline Haarer School	(250) 754-2722	400 Campbell St.
Pleasant Valley School	(250) 390-4027	6201 Dunbar Rd.
*Ecole Quarterway School	(250) 754-6845	1632 Bowen Rd.
Randerson Ridge School	(250) 758-5076	6021 Nelson Rd.
Rock City School	(250) 758-2434	3741 Departure Bay Rd.
Rutherford Elem. School	(250) 758-5331	5840 Hammond Bay Rd.
Seaview School	(250) 390-4022	7000 Lantzville Rd. Lantzville, BC
South Wellington School	(250) 754-2873	1536 Morden St.
Uplands Park School	(250) 758-3252	3821 Stronach Dr.
Woodbank School	(250) 722-3644	1984 Woodbank Rd.

\*= schools with French immersion

### **Nanaimo Independent Schools**

<b>School</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Website</b>
Aspengrove School	(250) 390-2201	7660 Clark Dr.	<a href="http://www.aspengroveschool.ca">www.aspengroveschool.ca</a>
Nanaimo Christian School	(250) 754-4512	198 Holland Road	<a href="http://www.nanaimochristianschool.ca">www.nanaimochristianschool.ca</a>
Nanaimo Montessori	(250) 753-0649	945 Waddington Rd.	<a href="http://www.nanaimomontessorischool.org">www.nanaimomontessorischool.org</a>

### **Vancouver Island University** [www.viu.ca](http://www.viu.ca)

Vancouver Island University is a public, degree-granting institution that offers both university and college programs. Vancouver Island University was established in 1969.

It now has over 10,000 full-time Canadian students and 1,000 international students from more than 50 countries. Vancouver Island University offers graduate and undergraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates, and a 5-level English Language program.

### **Colleges and Trade Schools**

Academy of Learning [www.academyoflearning.com](http://www.academyoflearning.com)

The Academy of Learning, a Computer and Business College offers career training that prepares students for the workplace immediately. They have programs that allow students the flexibility to educate themselves in their own time according to their convenience.

Discovery Community College [www.discoverycommunitycollege.com](http://www.discoverycommunitycollege.com)

Discovery is a professional private college located in Campbell River on Vancouver Island, with satellite campuses in Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Cumberland and Qualicum.

Sprott-Shaw Community College [www.sprottshaw.com](http://www.sprottshaw.com)

Sprott-Shaw campus opened in 1998 and is located in the heart of Nanaimo. Sprott-Shaw provides a friendly rewarding learning environment, in one convenient location, with all the services and amenities you would expect from larger college campuses.

Tamagawa University [www.tamagawa.ca](http://www.tamagawa.ca)

Tamagawa Nanaimo is the non-profit satellite facility of Tamagawa Gakuen, a highly esteemed and private K-12 Academy and University located in Tokyo, Japan. Modeled on the original Tamagawa philosophy of “Zenjin” (“whole-person”) education, Tamagawa Nanaimo is a privately-owned campus that supports all educational endeavours and pursuits, whether from the local populace or international communities.

### **Employment Services**

Amber Education [www.ambered.com](http://www.ambered.com)

Ethos Career Management Group [www.ethoscmg.com](http://www.ethoscmg.com)

Express Employment Professionals [www.nanaimobc.expresspros.com](http://www.nanaimobc.expresspros.com)

GT Hiring Solutions [www.gthiringsolutions.ca](http://www.gthiringsolutions.ca)

Nine to Five Temporary Office Assistance [www.working9to5.ca](http://www.working9to5.ca)

### **Housing and Accommodations**

For a list of hotels/motels contact Tourism British Columbia at 1-800-435-5622 or online at [www.hellobc.com](http://www.hellobc.com)

Extended and Long Stays – The Painted Turtle Guesthouse, 121 Bastion St., Nanaimo.  
Phone (250) 753-4432 or [www.paintedturtle.ca](http://www.paintedturtle.ca)

Rental Directories:

Places 4 Rent – Nanaimo [www.places4rent.com](http://www.places4rent.com)

24/7 Apartments for Rent – Nanaimo [www.247apartments.com](http://www.247apartments.com)

Widsten Property Management Inc [www.islandrent.com/](http://www.islandrent.com/)

Rental Management – Coast Realty Group Ltd., 4200 Island Hwy. N., Nanaimo.

Phone (250) 758-7653 [www.coastrealty.com](http://www.coastrealty.com)

Transglobal Property Management [www.gotransglobe.com](http://www.gotransglobe.com)

Gottarent.com [www.gottarent.com/bc/nanaimo/](http://www.gottarent.com/bc/nanaimo/)

101 Apartments [www.101apartments.com](http://www.101apartments.com)

Nanaimo Affordable Housing Society [www.nahs.ca](http://www.nahs.ca)

Nanaimo District Senior Citizens' Housing Development Society [www.ndschds.org](http://www.ndschds.org)

Multiple Listing Service – Canada [www.mls.ca](http://www.mls.ca)

Vancouver Island Real Estate Board [www.vireb.com](http://www.vireb.com)

New Real Estate Developments - [www.1stview.ca/c6-Nanaimo-Vancouver-Island-BC/](http://www.1stview.ca/c6-Nanaimo-Vancouver-Island-BC/)

### **Seniors Services and Residences**

BC Seniors [www.gov.bc.ca/seniors](http://www.gov.bc.ca/seniors) (800) 465-4911

Bowen Park Seniors Activity Centre (250) 755-7501

Bus Passes for Seniors & Handicapped 1-888-661-1566

Daughter on Call Seniors Services [www.daughteroncall.ca](http://www.daughteroncall.ca) (250) 729-2664

Harbour City Nanaimo Probus Club [www.harbourcitynanaimoprobus.org](http://www.harbourcitynanaimoprobus.org)

Harbour City Seniors [www.nanaimoharbourcityseniors.com](http://www.nanaimoharbourcityseniors.com) (250) 755-7501

Meals on Wheels (250) 753-1300

Nanaimo & District Home Support Association (250) 754-3351

Nanaimo Affordable Housing Society (250) 755-1158 [www.nahs.ca](http://www.nahs.ca)

Nanaimo District Senior Citizens' Housing Development Society [www.ndschds.org](http://www.ndschds.org)

Old Age Security & Canadian Pension Plan 1-800-277-9914

Paradise Isle Seniors Society (250) 754-9566

Retirement Homes.com [www.retirementhomes.com](http://www.retirementhomes.com)

SAFER (Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters) [www.bchousing.org/Options/Rental\\_market/SAFER](http://www.bchousing.org/Options/Rental_market/SAFER)  
(800) 257-7756

Seniors 101 [www.seniors101.ca](http://www.seniors101.ca)

Berwick on the Lake [www.berwickrc.com](http://www.berwickrc.com) (250) 729-7995

Good Samaritan Society, Wexford Creek [www.gss.org](http://www.gss.org) (250) 753-4044

Hecate Gardens [www.hecategardens.com](http://www.hecategardens.com) (250) 751-4933

Keeping House [www.keepinghouseseniorshome.com](http://www.keepinghouseseniorshome.com) (250) 716-1920

Kiwanis Village [www.kiwanisvillage.ca](http://www.kiwanisvillage.ca) (250) 753-6471

Lakeside Gardens Retirement Community [www.lakeside-gardens.com](http://www.lakeside-gardens.com) (250) 756-0799

Long Lake Chateau Retirement Residence (250) 756-1411

Nanaimo Seniors Village [www.retirementconcepts.com](http://www.retirementconcepts.com) (250) 760-2325

Nanaimo Travellers Lodge [www.nanaimotravellerslodge.co](http://www.nanaimotravellerslodge.co) (250) 758-4676

Oak Tree Manor [www.oaktreemanor.ca](http://www.oaktreemanor.ca) (250) 716-1799

Origin at Longwood [www.originway.ca](http://www.originway.ca) (250) 751-7755

Woodgrove Manor (250) 390-1036



## **Health and Community**

### **Nanaimo Regional General Hospital**

Nanaimo Regional is the largest hospital north of Victoria on Vancouver Island. It provides primary hospital services to the residents in the Nanaimo/Parksville/Qualicum region, and secondary referral services for the 250,000 living north of Victoria.

The 409 bed hospital has a medical/dental staff of approximately 250. Services include medicine, surgery, maternity, pediatrics, intensive care, rehabilitation and psychiatry, as well as a 150 bed Extended Care Unit. Outpatient services are provided in the medical laboratory, radiology, CT scanning, diabetic counseling, pacemaker programming and endoscopy, among many others.

For more information, please contact: Nanaimo Regional General Hospital  
 1200 Dufferin Crescent  
 Nanaimo, BC V9S 2B7 (250) 754-2141



### **Medical Clinics**

Caledonia Medical Surgical Clinic 340 Campbell Street	(250) 753-3202
Cline Medical Centre 233 Prideaux Street <a href="http://www.clinemedical.com">www.clinemedical.com</a>	(250) 753-3030
Family Practice Clinic 2778-104th Street	(250) 758-1711
Medical Arts Centre 30-650 Terminal Avenue	(250) 753-3431
Southgate Medical Office 1151 Lawlor Street	(250) 754-3218
Sow's Ear Medical Clinic 7186 Lantzville Road	(250) 390-4542
Wellington Medical Clinic 1651 Boundary Crescent <a href="http://www.wellingtonmedicalclinic.ca">www.wellingtonmedicalclinic.ca</a>	(250) 740-2100

### **Other Health Services**

Nanaimo Health Unit <a href="http://www.viha.ca">www.viha.ca</a> 1665 Grant Avenue	(250) 755-6200
Nursing/Homemaker Nanaimo & District Home Support Association 528 Wentworth Street	(250) 754-3351

## **Health Care in British Columbia**

Health Insurance BC Website

Use this site to search for information, fill out forms online, download applications and find contact information: <http://www.hibc.gov.bc.ca/>

For specific information on medical and healthcare benefits in BC, visit:

<http://www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoben/benefits.html>

## **For Residents new to BC**

If you are a new resident in BC, you will need to apply for:

Medical Services Plan (MSP)

The MSP provides health care coverage for all residents of BC. It covers the cost of medically required services provided by physicians and supplementary health care practitioners, laboratory services and diagnostic procedures. All residents of BC must enroll with MSP.

When does coverage begin?

New residents or persons re-establishing residence in BC are eligible for coverage after completing a waiting period that normally consists of the balance of the month of arrival plus two months.

You should apply for MSP coverage immediately after arriving in BC, rather than at the end of the waiting period, to allow time for your application to be processed.

Coverage during the waiting period

New residents from other parts of Canada should maintain coverage with their former medical plan during the waiting period. New or returning residents arriving from outside Canada should contact a private insurance company for coverage during this period.

For more details, visit: <http://www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoben/eligible.html>

Fair PharmaCare

PharmaCare provides financial assistance to British Columbia residents for eligible prescription drugs and designated medical supplies. Further information on this program can be found at:

<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/plani/fag/planifaqindex.html>

## **Child Care Resources**

Nanaimo Child Development Centre [www.nanaimocdc.com](http://www.nanaimocdc.com) - This non-profit organization provides individualized services for children to help them grow and develop. Early intervention, family support, and programs that encourage the inclusion of children with special needs are provided.

PacificCARE [www.pacific-care.bc.ca](http://www.pacific-care.bc.ca) – PacificCARE assists parents in finding child care for children newborn to 12 years old for free; and provides training and support to child care providers.

BC Family Child Care Association [www.wcfcca.ca/](http://www.wcfcca.ca/) - WCFCCA is a professional organization of family child care providers. They can provide information on how to find child care, how to get a license and training opportunities for caregivers.

## **Media Listing**

### **Newspapers**

Business Vancouver Island  
25 Cavan St.  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 2T9  
Phone: (250) 758-2684  
Website: [www.businessvi.ca](http://www.businessvi.ca)

Nanaimo Daily News & Harbour City Star  
2575 Suite B1, McCullough Rd.  
Nanaimo, BC V9S 5W5  
Phone: (250) 729-4200  
Website: [www.nanaimodailynews.com](http://www.nanaimodailynews.com)

Nanaimo News Bulletin  
777B Poplar St.  
Nanaimo, BC V9S 2H7  
Phone: (250) 753-3707  
Website: [www.nanaimobulletin.com](http://www.nanaimobulletin.com)

(Daily News by subscription)  
(Harbour Star delivered free to all homes)  
(Nanaimo News Bulletin delivered free to all homes)

### **Publications**

Nanaimo Magazine  
88 Wharf St.  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 2X3  
Phone: (250) 741-8801  
Website: [www.nanaimomagazine.ca](http://www.nanaimomagazine.ca)

### **Radio Stations**

Jim Pattison Broadcasting [www.islandradio.bc.ca](http://www.islandradio.bc.ca)  
CHWF (The Wolf) 106.9 FM  
4550 Wellington Rd.  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 2H3  
Phone: (250) 758-1131  
Website: [www.1069thewolf.com](http://www.1069thewolf.com)

CKWV (The Wave) 102.3 FM  
4550 Wellington Rd.  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 2H3  
Phone: (250) 758-1131  
Website: [www.1023thewave.com](http://www.1023thewave.com)

91.7 Coast FM  
200 - 15 Commercial St.  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5G8  
Phone: (250) 754-9170  
[www.917coastfm.com](http://www.917coastfm.com)

### **Television Stations**

Shaw Cable Systems (BC) Ltd.  
4316 Boban Dr.  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 5V9  
Phone: (250) 760-1999  
Website: [www.shaw.ca](http://www.shaw.ca)

CTV Vancouver Island  
1420 Broad St.  
Victoria, BC V8W 2B1  
Phone: (250) 381-2484  
Website: [www.ctvvancouverisland.ca](http://www.ctvvancouverisland.ca)

CHEK News  
780 Kings Rd.  
Victoria, BC V8T 5A2  
Phone: (250) 383-2435  
Website: [www.cheknews.ca](http://www.cheknews.ca)





## **Community Services and Recreation**

### **Vancouver Island Regional Libraries** [www.virl.bc.ca](http://www.virl.bc.ca)

Nanaimo Harbourfront Branch  
90 Commercial Street, Nanaimo  
Telephone: (250) 753-1154

Wellington Branch  
3032 Barons Road, Nanaimo  
Telephone: (250) 758-5544

Gabriola Island Branch  
5-575 North Road, Gabriola Island  
Telephone: (250) 247-7878

Nanaimo North Branch  
6250 Hammond Bay Road, Nanaimo  
Telephone: (250) 933-2665

### **Nanaimo Ice Centre**

The new 7,900 square metre (85,000 sq. ft.) multiplex includes two NHL regulation size ice surfaces, each with seating for 500 spectators. The Nanaimo Ice Centre also includes three meeting rooms and a multi-purpose room. For more information contact (250) 756-5200.

### **Nanaimo Aquatic Centre**

Nanaimo Aquatic Centre features B.C.'s largest wave pool, play lagoon, 3 waterslides (B.C.'s highest), and lazy river, 1 and 3 meter diving boards, and 50 meter, 8 lane pool. Other amenities include a sauna, steam room, and hot tub. For more information contact (250) 756-5200.

### **Music/Dance/Theatre**

Port Theatre [www.porttheatre.com](http://www.porttheatre.com)

An 804-seat theatre on the breathtaking waterfront in downtown Nanaimo. The theatre offers a broad range of cultural events designed to meet many diverse interests and needs. Programs involve local groups as well as touring attractions and provide access to events for families, seniors, youths and adults.

Crimson Coast Dance Society [www.crimsoncoastdance.org](http://www.crimsoncoastdance.org)

Provides an environment and opportunities for regionally based emerging dance artists to develop their craft and creates educational opportunities for the local dance community.

Nanaimo Theatre Group [www.nanaimotheatregroup.com/](http://www.nanaimotheatregroup.com/)

For 50 years Nanaimo Theatre Group have been entertaining audiences of all ages with a variety of productions from around the world.

Theatre BC [www.theatrebc.org](http://www.theatrebc.org)

Promotes the development of theatre in B.C. through a wide range of programs, services, events and festivals offered year round.

TheatreOne [www.theatreone.org](http://www.theatreone.org)

Nanaimo's Own Professional Theatre Company. TheatreOne provides a venue for professional artists, particularly those from B.C., to practice their craft, thereby enhancing the quality of life in Nanaimo by encouraging social interaction and by developing Nanaimo's culture and its economy.

Vancouver Island Symphony [www.vancouverislandsymphony.com](http://www.vancouverislandsymphony.com)

Each year, the Vancouver Island Symphony reaches more than 20,000+ people through a season of nine performances at The Port Theatre, community outreach programs, education concerts, special events and *Symphony in the Harbour*.

## Museums

Nanaimo District Museum [www.nanaimomuseum.ca](http://www.nanaimomuseum.ca)

Nanaimo District Museum, situated on the waterfront in the heart of downtown, brings history to life with its fascinating depictions of early coastal living on Vancouver Island, from European, Chinese and First Nations' perspectives. Visitors can explore the coal mining exhibit, learn about native life through personal reflections, hands-on exhibits and audio-visual presentations. Discover what's made Nanaimo tick in the post-coal mining era.



### The Bastion

The Museum is also the guardian of the only remaining, original Hudson's Bay Company Bastion left in North America, and it turned an amazing 150 years old in 2003.

Vancouver Island Military Museum

Military artifacts, including Canada's Victoria Crosses and an extensive weapons collection.

## Amusement Attractions

Great Canadian Casino [www.greatcanadiancasinos.com](http://www.greatcanadiancasinos.com) – Over 400 Slot machines from pennies to Loonie slots, Blackjack, EZ Baccarat, Roulette, Texas Hold'em, Fortune Pai Gow.

Jumping Jiminy's Playland & Café [www.jumpingjiminys.com](http://www.jumpingjiminys.com) – located at Rock City Centre, Jumping Jiminy's is a giant indoor playland with air hockey, ping pong, basketball and a toddler's section. There's also a café for parents to relax.

Romper Room [www.climbromperroom.com](http://www.climbromperroom.com) – located on Boban Drive, Romper Room is an indoor climbing centre with over 7,000 square feet of climbing for beginners to advanced.

WildPlay Element Park [www.wildplayparks.com](http://www.wildplayparks.com) – located on Nanaimo River Road, WildPlay offers Bungy Jumping, Zip Lines, King Swing, and Monkido Course.

## Diving

Divers love the coastal waters off of Snake Island with the crystal clear waters, the diversity of sea life and an artificial reef created with the sinking of two former naval ships.

The Dive Outfitters [www.nanaimodiveoutfitters.ca](http://www.nanaimodiveoutfitters.ca)

Sink or Swim Scuba & Water Sports [www.sosscuba.ca](http://www.sosscuba.ca)

Sundown Diving [www.sundowndiving.com](http://www.sundowndiving.com)

## Markets

Downtown Nanaimo Farmer's Market [www.nanaimofarmersmarket.com](http://www.nanaimofarmersmarket.com) (May – October) Every Friday, 10:00am – 2:00pm, Pioneer Waterfront Plaza

Bowen Road Farmer's Market – Every Wednesday, 4:00pm – 6:30pm, Beban Park Fairgrounds

Our Neighbourhood Farmer's Market – Every Saturday, 9:30am – 1:30pm, Nanaimo North Town Centre

## Annual Events

Dragon Boat Festival [www.nanaimodragonboat.com](http://www.nanaimodragonboat.com) - July

Marine Festival and World Championship Bathtub Race [www.bathtubbing.com](http://www.bathtubbing.com) - July

Silly Boat Regatta - July

Vancouver Island Exhibition (VIEx) [www.viex.ca](http://www.viex.ca) – August

## **Parks**

Nanaimo boasts over 100 parks, 4 public beaches, 20 picnic areas, 3 pools, 4 indoor ice rinks and 3 golf courses. Residents can enjoy a leisurely stroll along the waterfront sea wall, or a vigorous hike up Mount Benson. Newcastle Island, the charming provincial park just off the shores of downtown Nanaimo, is a popular summertime picnic and camping area. Buttertubs Marsh, in the heart of the city, is a wonderful place to view waterfowl and learn about our delicate ecosystem. Neck Point Park is a 14.5 hectare waterfront park known for its views and natural features. The park has a vast trail system of varying lengths and difficulty and offers a number of amenities including picnic areas, viewpoints and lookouts. The Linley Valley is a 5.8 hectare undeveloped park that contains many old growth trees, open meadows and wetlands. Residents enjoy the informal walking trails, the beautiful scenery and the abundance of wildlife. Visit the [City of Nanaimo's](#) website for more information on Nanaimo's parks and trails.



## **Sports Clubs**

Nanaimo Clippers Junior A Hockey [www.nanaimoclippers.com](http://www.nanaimoclippers.com)  
Vancouver Island Raiders Football [www.viraiders.ca](http://www.viraiders.ca)

## **Movie Theatres**

Avalon Cinemas – 8 screen theatre located at Woodgrove Centre  
Galaxy Cinemas – 8 screen theatre located at Nanaimo North Town Centre

## **Shopping Centres**

Beban Plaza 2220 Bowen Road

Anchor Tenants: Central Drugs, Quality Foods, Landlubbers Pub

Brooks Landing 2000 N. Island Highway

Anchor Tenants: Royal Bank, Staples, Home Hardware, Shanghai City Restaurant

Country Club Mall 3200 Island Highway [www.countryclubcentre.com](http://www.countryclubcentre.com)

Anchor Tenants: Save On Foods, Liquor Store, CIBC, JYSK

Dickinson Crossing 6900 Island Highway North

Anchor Tenants: Dairy Queen, Nesbitt Burns, KFC-Taco Bell, Pet Smart, Home Outfitters

Nanaimo North Town Centre 4750 Rutherford Road [www.nanaimonorth.com](http://www.nanaimonorth.com)

Anchor Tenants: Sears, Galaxy Theatres, London Drugs, Canadian Tire

Port Place Shopping Centre 650 S. Terminal Avenue

Anchor Tenants: Thrifty Foods, London Drugs, Liquor Store, Wendy's

Terminal Park 1533 Estevan Road

Anchor Tenants: Liquor Store, Bank of Montreal, Burger King, Bulk Barn

University Village 530-5th Street

Anchor Tenants: Value Village, Quality Foods, Shoppers Drug Mart

Woodgrove Centre 6631 N. Island Hwy [www.woodgrovecentre.com](http://www.woodgrovecentre.com)

Anchor Tenants: The Bay, GAP, Toys 'R' Us, Avalon Cinemas, Wal-Mart

**Public Golf Courses** [www.golfvancouverisland.ca](http://www.golfvancouverisland.ca)

Cottonwood Golf Course (250) 245-5157  
1975 Haslam Rd, Cassidy Website: [www.cottonwoodgolfcourse.com](http://www.cottonwoodgolfcourse.com)

Eagle Quest Golf Centre (250) 754-1325  
1601 Thatcher Rd, Nanaimo Website: [www.eaglequestgolf.com](http://www.eaglequestgolf.com)

Fairwinds Golf Course Ltd. (250) 468-7666  
3730 Fairwinds Drive, Nanoose Bay Website: [www.fairwinds.ca](http://www.fairwinds.ca)

Gabriola Golf & Country Club (250) 247-8822  
825 South Rd., Gabriola Island Website: [www.gabriolagolf.com/](http://www.gabriolagolf.com/)

Morningstar Golf Course Ltd. (250) 248-8161  
525 Lowry's Parks, Parksville Website: [www.morningstargolf.com/](http://www.morningstargolf.com/)

Nanaimo Golf & Country Club (250) 758-6332  
2800 Highland Blvd., Nanaimo Website: [www.nanaimogolfclub.ca](http://www.nanaimogolfclub.ca)

Pheasant Glen Golf Resort 1-877-407-4653  
1025 Qualicum Rd, Qualicum Beach Website: [www.pheasantglen.com](http://www.pheasantglen.com)

Pryde Vista Golf Course (250) 753-6188  
155 Pryde St., Nanaimo

Qualicum Beach Memorial Golf (250) 752-6312  
115 W. Crescent, Qualicum Beach Website: [www.golfqualicum.ca](http://www.golfqualicum.ca)

Winchelsea View Golf Course Ltd. (250) 390-3934 Pro Shop  
7655 Harby Rd. West, Lantzville (250) 390-2274 Office  
Website: [www.winchelseaviewgolfcourse.com](http://www.winchelseaviewgolfcourse.com)



## **The Ultimate Nanaimo Bar Recipe**

No trip to Nanaimo would be complete without sampling the city's famous chocolaty delight, appropriately named the "NANAIMO BAR". True aficionados can sample several unique creations from the city's bakeries, and enjoy a happy dilemma - deciding which bar is tastiest!

According to local legend, a Nanaimo housewife entered her recipe for chocolate squares in a magazine contest about 45 years ago. In a burst of civic pride, she chose to dub her entry "Nanaimo Bars". The prize winning bars have since become the city's tastiest export. In 1986, the Mayor, in conjunction with Harbour Park Mall, held a contest to find the Ultimate "Nanaimo Bar". The winner - of almost 100 entries – was dessert maker supreme, Joyce Hardcastle.

### **Bottom Layer**

1/2 c. unsalted butter (European style cultured)  
1/4 c. sugar  
5 tbsp. cocoa  
1 egg beaten  
1- 3/4 c. graham wafer crumbs  
1/2 c. finely chopped almonds  
1 c. coconut

Melt first 3 ingredients in top of double boiler. Add egg and stir to cook and thicken, Remove from heat. Stir in crumbs, coconut and nuts. Press firmly into an ungreased 8x8 pan.

### **Second Layer**

1/2 c. unsalted butter  
2 tbsp. and 2 tsp. cream  
2 tbsp. vanilla custard powder  
2c. icing sugar

Cream butter, cream, custard powder and icing sugar together well. Beat until light. Spread over bottom layer.

### **Third Layer**

4 sq. semi-sweet chocolate (1 oz. each)  
2 tbsp. unsalted butter

Melt chocolate and butter over low heat. Cool. When cool, but still liquid, pour over second layer and chill in refrigerator.



## **Starting up a business in Nanaimo**

Thinking of moving to Nanaimo to start a business? Check out these websites.

BC Business Registry [www.bcbusinessregistry.ca](http://www.bcbusinessregistry.ca)  
City of Nanaimo [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)  
Community Futures Development Corporation [www.cfnanaimo.org](http://www.cfnanaimo.org)  
Small Business BC [www.smallbusinessbc.ca](http://www.smallbusinessbc.ca)

## **Links to Other Useful Websites**

1<sup>st</sup> View [www.1stview.ca/c6-Nanaimo-Vancouver-Island-BC/](http://www.1stview.ca/c6-Nanaimo-Vancouver-Island-BC/)  
BC Auto Insurance [www.icbc.com/autoplan](http://www.icbc.com/autoplan)  
BC Ferries [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com)  
Better Business Bureau of Vancouver Island [www.vi.bbb.org](http://www.vi.bbb.org)  
College of Physicians & Surgeons of BC [www.cpsbc.ca/node/216](http://www.cpsbc.ca/node/216)  
Government of B.C. [www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca)  
Medical Services Plan [www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoben/eligible.html](http://www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoben/eligible.html)  
Nanaimo Airport [www.nanaimoairport.com/](http://www.nanaimoairport.com/)  
Nanaimo Port Authority [www.npa.ca](http://www.npa.ca)  
Real Estate Listings [www.mls.ca](http://www.mls.ca)  
Regional District of Nanaimo [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca)  
School District #68 [www.sd68.bc.ca](http://www.sd68.bc.ca)  
Service BC [www.governmentagents.gov.bc.ca](http://www.governmentagents.gov.bc.ca)  
Service Canada [www.servicecanada.gc.ca](http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca)  
Tourism British Columbia [www.hellobc.com](http://www.hellobc.com)  
Tourism Nanaimo [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com)  
Tourism Vancouver Island [www.vancouverisland.travel](http://www.vancouverisland.travel)  
Vancouver Island Health Authority [www.viha.ca](http://www.viha.ca)  
Welcome Wagon [www.welcomewagon.ca](http://www.welcomewagon.ca)  
Vancouver Island University [www.viu.ca](http://www.viu.ca)

For further tourism information, please contact:

Tourism Nanaimo  
Email: [info@tourismnanaimo.com](mailto:info@tourismnanaimo.com) Website: [www.tourismnanaimo.com](http://www.tourismnanaimo.com)