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June 2018

# ILAW



## VICTORIA DAY PARADE

May 21, 2018 9:00 a.m.

Come and celebrate Victoria Day in British Columbia's capital city on May 21st. The parade begins at 9:00 AM at Mayfair Mall, stretches to Douglas Street and ends at the intersection of Douglas and Humboldt Streets. The annual Island Farms Victoria Day Parade is Victoria's largest parade, attracting over 100,000 spectators. It features Canadian and American marching bands, community and commercial floats, cultural shows, and festive clowns. The annual event is free and fun for the whole family!

The Victoria Filipino-Canadian Association, Bayanihan Cultural and Housing Society, Victoria Filipino-Canadian Caregivers Association, Victoria Filipino-Canadian Seniors Association and Vancouver Island Cordillera Association are coming together to represent the Filipino community in this year's Victoria Day Parade. Join us and dress up using your Filipiniana, Barong Tagalog, and local cultural attire.

Every year our goal is to showcase our culture as a nation. Over three consecutive years, we have been winning places in the walking group category. Let's make it happen again this year.

We will gather at 8:00 AM behind Denny's Restaurant along Finlayson Street. Look for the Philippine Flag.



*Bayanihan walking group. Victoria Day Parade in 2017*

Bring your friends and family. Dress up and show up.



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### Special points of interest

- Victoria Day Parade
- Mabuhay! Celebrating Philippine Culture
- Youth Camp
- Future of the Bayanihan Centre



TWENTY YEARS AGO, more than 120 individuals participated in the prize-winning Kalayaan/Freedom '98 tableau celebrating the 100th anniversary of Philippine Independence. The individuals were grouped in appropriate attire according to five eras 1. Pre Spanish; 2. Spanish; 3. U.S. rule/Japanese occupation; 4. Nation building; and, 5. Coming to Victoria. Lets step forward and come in attire to represent historic Filipino personalities at the "Mabuhay! Celebrating Philippine Culture" event.

## Parade of Filipino Personalities

Share your embrace of Filipino history and culture by portraying various Filipino personalities at "Mabuhay! Celebrating Philippine Culture," on Saturday, June 16, 2018, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Centennial Square.

However, to ensure that only one person is representing a Filipino personality [that is, there are not more than one "Pacquiao" or "Imelda"], you must register before Monday, May 30, 2018, with **Agie Miranda Myhre at: 250-704-8311, or, e-mail her at: agiemyhre@icoud.com.**

A list of suggested personalities, (we will provide their background information) that could be portrayed in their authentic attire, include:


### Men:

**Aman Dangat** of Batanes;  
**Andres Bonifacio**, father of the Philippine Revolution and founder of the Katipunan resistance;  
**Benigno Aquino III**, president, 2010-2016;  
**Carlos P. Garcia**, president, 1957-1961;  
**Diego Silang**, conspired with the British to overthrow Spanish rule;  
**Diosdado Macapagal**, president, 1961-1965;  
**Jose Rizal**, the most significant individual in Philippine history;  
**Elpidio Quirino**, president, 1948-1953;  
**Emilio Aguinaldo**, generally regarded as the first President of the Philippines;  
**Father Jose Burgos**, **Father Jacinto Zamora**, and **Father Mariano Gomez**, three priests who led what is known as the Cavite Mutiny;  
**Ferdinand Marcos**, president, 1965-1986;  
**Fidel Ramos**, president, 1992-1998;  
**Flash Elorde**, boxer;  
**Francisco Dagohoy**, led the longest rebellion against Spanish rule;  
**General Gregorio del Pilar**, "The Boy General";  
**General Mateo Noriel Luga**, appointed by Aguinaldo to fight the Americans in Cebu;  
**Gregorio Aglipay** of Ilocos Norte;  
**Jesús Villamor**, Distinguished Service Cross fighter pilot during the war;  
**Jose Abad Santos**, Chief Justice of the Commonwealth Supreme Court;  
**Joseph Estrada**, president, 1998-2000;  
**Lakandula**, King of Tondo;  
**Manny Pacquiao**, boxer;  
**Manuel Quezon**, First President of the Philippine Commonwealth, and Second President of the Philippine Republic, 1935-1944;  
**Rodrigo Duterte**, current Philippine president;  
**Senator Benigno Aquino**;  
**Ramon Magsaysay**, president, 1953-1957

### Women:

**Agueda Esteban**, contributed greatly to the revolution;  
**Cecile Licad**, virtuoso classical pianist;  
**Corazon Aquino**, president of the Philippines, 1986-1992;  
**Estefania Aldaba-Lim**, medicine and politics;  
**Eugenia Apostol**, one of the founders of the Philippine Daily Inquirer and was also instrumental in the downfall of two Philippine presidents;  
**Fe del Mundo**, medicine;  
**Gabriela Cariño Silang**, National Hero;  
**Glicería Villavicencio**, supported the revolution by way of providing financial assistance to the Propaganda Movement;  
**Gloria Diaz**, Miss Universe 1969, first Filipino to win Miss Universe;  
**Imelda Marcos**, Ilocos 2nd District Congresswoman; former First Lady of the Philippines;  
**Josefa Gabriela Silang**, Diego Silang's wife led the uprising against the Spanish;  
**Josefina Guerrero**, used her leprosy to gather intelligence and did surveillance on the Japanese forces stationed in Leyte and in Manila;  
**Lea Salonga**, music, film and theatre;  
**Lisa Macuja-Elizalde**, Philippine's first Prima Ballerina; first foreign soloist to join Russia's Mariinsky Ballet;  
**Lorena Barros**, one of the co-founders of the Malayang Kilusan ng Bagong Kababaihan, the group focused on women's rights;  
**Lydia de Vega-Mercado**, 'Asia's Fastest Woman,' 'Asia's Sprint Queen,'  
**Marcela Marcelo**, a fierce fighter and able leader during the revolution;  
**Maria Rosa Luna Henson**, gave "comfort women" a voice when she decided to speak out about her experience in 1992 and in her autobiography Comfort Woman: Slave of Destiny;  
**Marina Dizon**, spent her young adult years as one of the first women members of the Katipunan;  
**Melchora Aquino** (Tandang Sora) National Hero;  
**Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski**, 2002 Asian Games Gold Medalist;  
**Miriam Defensor-Santiago**, former Senator;  
**Nazaria Lagos**, known as the "Florence Nightingale of Panay;"  
**Nieves Fernandez**, female guerrilla leaders during World War II;  
**Nora Aunor**, 'Superstar,' first Philippine 'Box Office Queen,' FAMAS Hall of Famer;  
**Remedios Paraiso-Gomez**, liked to fight while dressed in style during her many skirmishes with the Japanese in Central Luzon;  
**Salud Alagabre**, joined the Sakdal ("accuse" in Tagalog) movement that pushed for full independence, the end of American rule and equal distribution of land owned by the hacenderos;  
**Simeona Punsalan-Tapang**, fought the Japanese in Central Luzon during World War II.

# MABUHAY!

Celebrating  
Philippine Culture 

**Culture is a strong part of our lives.** It influences our views, our values, our humor, our hopes, our loyalties, our worries and fears. So when you are working or being around people and building relationships with them, it helps to have some perspective and understanding of our and their cultures.

We hope that everyone of the more than 6,000 pinoys in the Capital Region District will come out, support, share and enjoy the **"Mabuhay! Celebrating Philippine Culture"** on **Saturday, June 16, 2018, at the Centennial Square.**

The whole day event—from 1:00AM to 6:00 PM—encompasses the annual **Filipino Food Fiesta** and a celebration of the **120th anniversary of Philippine Independence.**

There will be food, folk dances, fashion shows, exhibits, children's activities, programme ceremony, talks and more.

This is in keeping with our vision of **"Working together and celebrating Philippine culture in Canada's Mosaic"**.

Various levels of sponsorships are available until Tuesday, May 15, 2018:

Contact **Connie Custodio at [ateconniel@gmail.com](mailto:ateconniel@gmail.com) [250-508-4988]** and **Annette Beech at [curt340@shaw.ca](mailto:curt340@shaw.ca) [250-514-9599].**

There will also be display/ sales tables at the Centennial Square:

Contact **Sid Emmanuel at [sidemmanuel@shaw.ca](mailto:sidemmanuel@shaw.ca) [250-475-3124]**

There will be 1,000 copies of full-colour souvenir program, with advertising rates as follows:

Full page [7.5"x10"] - \$300  
Half page [7.5"x4.85"] - \$200  
Quarter page [3.7"x4.85"] - \$100  
Business Car size [3.7"x2.35"] - \$50.

Deadline for payment and submission of ad copy is **Tuesday, May 15, 2018.** Contact **Annette Beech at [curt340@shaw.ca](mailto:curt340@shaw.ca) [250-514-9599].**

The **Philippine Bayanihan Community Centre** and the **B.C. Ferry and Marine Workers' Union** are presenting **"Mabuhay! Celebrating Philippine Culture"** in co-operation with **Sprott Shaw College**, the **Campus Auto Group**, **LBC**, **Fastrac Printing**, The **Victoria Filipino-Canadian Association**, the **Victoria Filipino-Canadian Seniors Association** and the **Victoria Filipino-Canadian Caregivers Association.**

Here are some reasons why our culture is important to us:

- ◆ Ancestry: Our cultures help us gain valuable information about our ancestry
- ◆ Self-realization: when we study about the roots of our cultures and follow them accordingly, we get to know about ourselves much better
- ◆ Evolutionary enlightenment: Knowing our culture in-depth gives us a sneak peek into our evolution
- ◆ Moral values: Following a culture instills moral values in us
- ◆ Discipline: Cultural traditions keep us disciplined
- ◆ Knowledge: Detailed study about every aspect of our culture can give us profound knowledge
- ◆ Compassion: Every culture teaches us to co-exist with all the other cultures in the world. Cultural teachings always aim for peace. They teach us to live compassionately and respectfully with everyone, so that peace prevails
- ◆ Meaning of life: cultures teach us the real meaning of life
- ◆ Safeguard future generations: Cultural Traditions were made by our experienced ancestors who wanted to pass on their valued knowledge about life to every generation of mankind henceforth, to make their survival easier
- ◆ Responsibility: Cultural traditions teach us to be responsible human beings

We should uphold our culture as our heritage.

We should not allow anything and no one to attack or destroy our cultural traditions..

It is always wise to remember that our cultures define our existence and make us who we are.

It should be passed on generations after generation, like it has been done until now.

Our cultural background should never fade into oblivion and we have to make sure of that.

A world without cultural diversity will not be as colorful as it is now.

## Philippine Bayanihan Community Centre

The Centre is a gathering place for Filipino-Canadians along with their families and friends who are living in or visiting Victoria, British Columbia

Owned and operated by the **Bayanihan Cultural and Housing Society (BCHS)**, it is also supported by:

**Victoria Filipino Canadian Association (VFCA)**

**Victoria Filipino-Canadian Caregivers Association (VFCCA)**

**Victoria Filipino-Canadian Seniors Association (VFCSA)**

### The Centre exists to:

- Provide a welcoming, sustaining and engaging community where everyone is welcome;
- Promote Filipino cultural and social values and traditions;
- Provide access to resources and support to those in need;
- Promote good citizenship



## Youth Camp 2018

Send your children, ages 6-17 to this year's youth camp. During camp, they will learn the language (*tagalog*), arts and crafts, learn how to play *sungka* (pronounced soong-kha; a Filipino mancala game), have a hand at preparing and cooking Filipino cuisine; learn traditional Filipino folk dances—one dance most of our youth enjoy learning is the *tinikling* (dance involves 2 people beating, tapping and sliding bamboo poles against each other on the ground while 1 or 2 dancers step over and avoid being caught by the crossing poles) music, storytelling and history. Most of all, they will have fun, make friends and create memories this summer.

This year's camp will be on August 13 and 14. Reserve your spot with Dominga Passmore by email: [domingapass@gmail.com](mailto:domingapass@gmail.com) or phone: 250-882-8025.

## Future of the Bayanihan Community Centre

The board of directors of the Bayanihan Cultural & Housing Society has voted unanimously to sell the property at 1709 Blanshard Street and build in partnership with a non-profit housing society a community-centre-cum-affordable housing project.

The result of the community consultation in November last year voted 50% in favor of this option. The remaining 50% was spread out among the other options.

The BCHS board also gave the housing committee (Ben Pires, Sid Emmanuel, Fredilyn Ruiz, Elaine Wong, Mike Gonzales, Lani Domaloy) the mandate to continue its work in sourcing for a non-profit partner, and negotiate with the partner for a community-centre-cum-affordable housing project.

### Upcoming Events :

May 19, 2018 — Community Feeding  
May 21, 2018 — Victoria Day Parade  
May 27, 2018 — University of Victoria  
Asian Heritage Festival

June 02, 2018 — VFCSA Kamayan Dinner & Buffet  
June 16, 2018 — Mabuhay! Celebrating Philippine Culture  
June 23—24, 2018—VFCCA fundraising garage sale  
June 30, 2018 — Sidney Day; Sampaguita Dancers performing

August 13 -14, 2018 — Youth Camp  
August 18, 2018 — VFCSA Community Feeding

September 1-3, 2018 — Saanich Fair  
Sept. 16, 2018 — PR preparation/Immigration info workshop

October 7, 2018 — VFCA carollers practice begin  
October 27, 2018 — VFCSA Halloween Party

November 4, 2018 — VFCA AGM / Volunteer Appreciation Day

December 2, 2018 — Children's Christmas Party  
December 8, 2018—VFCCA Christmas Party

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