

and sold the other half for expenses. A year later the Buddhist church bought the United Church building on the corner of Jackson Avenue and Powell Street; both organizations exist today as stalwarts of Japanese culture. Tonari Gumi, a volunteer organization that in the early days provided assistance for seniors and new immigrants, was established in the 1970s. Eventually the volunteers set up Sakura So, a seniors' residence on Powell Street. The group supported a long-term-care facility nearby with culture and lunch programs that served as a drop-in centre for those in need.

Nineteen seventy-seven was a big revival year for the area: youthful activists masterminded a centennial celebration that acknowledged the immigrant experience

and the history of Nihonmachi with a book and touring exhibition entitled "A Dream of Riches." Currently the exhibition and Nihonmachi history are housed in the Japanese Canadian National Museum in Burnaby. The annual Powell Street festival is held at Oppenheimer Park each August. This popular event presents Japanese cultural events, food, arts and crafts, a sumo tournament, Powell Street walking tours, and other displays from supporting organizations. In honour of the legendary Hall of Famers, the Asahi baseball team plays a memorial game at Oppenheimer Park each year.

HASTINGS PARK CLEARING STATION 1942. Building K, formerly the Forum, was turned into the Japanese men's dormitory. The Park was taken over by the BC Security Commission to temporarily house and disperse the Japanese Canadians in the early months of 1942. This photo was taken by Leonard Frank, a well-known Vancouver commercial photographer who was hired by the BC Security Commission to document the clearing station and the camps.



**Good Neighbours
Good Advice**

22740 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge
phone: **604 463 6206** fax: **604 463 0644**

Hell's Gate Airtram
43111 Trans Canada Hwy
Boston Bar, BC Canada
604-867-9277 hellsgateairtram.com

Langley Centennial Museum
9135 King Street Fort Langley, BC,
(604) 888-3922
www.langleymuseum.org

West Coast
39645 Government Road
Squamish, BC
(604) 524-1011
www.wcra.org

vancouvermaritimemuseum.com
vancouver **maritime** museum
HOME of RCMP St Roch
1905 Ogden Avenue in Vanier Park | 604 257-8300

Japanese Canadian National Museum
6688 Southoaks Crescent
Burnaby BC
604-777-7000
www.jcnm.ca

Old Hastings Mill Store Museum
1575 Alma Street, Vancouver
604.734.1212