

Rediscover Granville 2.010

What's New With Busking

With the success of busking on Granville Street during the Olympics (150 local and out-of-town buskers registered to busk during the 17 days), the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association (DVBIA, City of Vancouver and Vancouver Police Department are pleased to welcome buskers to Granville who will contribute to an interesting and dynamic atmosphere this Summer as a trial is conducted to learn what is possible on the new Granville in the future. .

What's New?

- Through September 6, **Granville Street from West Hastings to Smithe is closed to traffic** – so busking is encouraged in the middle of the street.
- The busking community, City of Vancouver and DV BIA have worked together to locate and designate preferred **'busk stops'** on Granville. These locations are best for making sure sound from neighbouring buskers don't interfere, lessening the sound impact to residents, are high pedestrian traffic areas and don't block access to businesses. The stops are designated by street signs with a musical note. Pitch sizes are noted on each sign. *(See the busk stop map)*
- Busking can take place between the hours of **10am to 12 midnight everyday through October 31**, and should be within 30 feet of designated busk stop signs. The midnight end-time is an extension of the current permit.
- Battery operated **amplification is allowed** at a reasonable level to not overpower other buskers, disrupt business operations or residents. This is modification of the current permit.
- The DV BIA has **hired a member of the busking community** part-time during the Summer to help educate and engage buskers re: the permit relaxations and busk stops.
- The **DV BIA is hiring buskers** every Friday during the Summer from 5-7pm to play on the 600, 700 and 800 blocks (Dunsmuir to Smithe) to encourage locals to linger downtown longer after work. The DV BIA is also hosting three busker concerts on designated Friday nights starting on Friday, July 9 from 7pm to midnight on the 700 block – the new civic festival space by Sears. For both the Friday busker series and concerts, the DV BIA held busker auditions with 45+ artists showcasing their talents.
- **Busking is being monitored** by participating organizations in terms of busker interest and compliance, enhancement of safety and enjoyment in the Entertainment District, noise levels and added vibrancy of the street.

What's the Same

- **All buskers in Vancouver need a City permit.** One can be purchased in person Monday-Friday at Streets Administration, 5th Floor, 507 West Broadway @ Cambie. It costs \$38.40/four months. Permits should be on the busker's person and/or visible when performing.

More Info

For busking etiquette on Granville and/or a map of the busk stops, visit: www.downtownvancouver.net

For more information on busking on Granville: Join the Facebook Group "**Busking on Granville.**" Or, contact Barbara, Events Coordinator for the DV BIA, with busking questions at: 604-685-7811 ext. 210, or email barbara@downtownvancouver.net