



DOPING

Working around the rules

Russian hackers have accessed WADA and are releasing major names, such as Serena Williams, who have received drug exemptions

PAGE 5

Globe British Columbia

LAW ENFORCEMENT

VPD denies that carding is on the rise

Two weeks after complaint commissioner's comments, Vancouver police cite data indicating the practice has been in decline

SUNNY DHILLON VANCOUVER

The Vancouver Police Department says street checks are not on the rise, two weeks after the police complaint commissioner expressed concern about the department's use of the practice.

The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner, a provincial body that oversees com-

plaints involving municipal police, in a report late last month cited "an increasing trend in complaint allegations involving the police practice of conducting street checks." The report, however, did not provide a total.

Street checks, or carding, can refer to stopping individuals to gather information without a

reasonable suspicion of an offence. The issue has drawn significant attention in Ontario, where the provincial government announced regulations restricting carding in March after complaints were raised about privacy violations and police were accused of disproportionately targeting minorities.

Vancouver Police Chief Adam

Palmer said he has not seen any numbers to validate the police complaint commissioner's claim.

"I've got no data to suggest that that is the case. I'd be happy to see data if someone is providing it," he told reporters outside a police board meeting Thursday.

A Vancouver Police Department spokesman said it conducted about 6,200 street checks last

year – compared with 6,900 two years ago, and 7,300 three years ago.

Sergeant Brian Montague, the spokesman, said in an e-mail the street checks "capture information about individuals found involved in suspicious activity and believed involved in criminal activity."

Carding, Page 2

STUDENT RESIDENCE

World's tallest wood building



People stand outside the Brock Commons student residence building, which is under construction, at the University of British Columbia during a ceremony to mark the completion of the wood structure on Thursday. It is the first mass wood, steel and concrete hybrid project to extend taller than 14 storeys in the world. The 18-storey building is scheduled to welcome more than 400 students in September, 2017. DARRYL DYCK FOR THE GLOBE AND MAIL

ABORIGINAL HISTORY

Royal visit to include residential schools monument

MARSHA LEDERMAN VANCOUVER

When the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visit British Columbia this month, they will come face to face with a powerful monument to a devastating consequence of colonization. The Witness Blanket is a beautiful piece of art about one of Canada's ugliest chapters: the residential school system.

More than 12 metres wide and two metres high, the massive work is made up of artifacts from buildings of that era – churches, government buildings and the schools themselves. Artist Carey Newman collected more than 800 artifacts and "wove" many of them together into a large-scale, 13-panel installation that has travelled across Canada, bringing visitors and many tears at each stop – along with new donations from survivors and their descendants.

The work has now been installed at Government House in Victoria, where the Duke and Duchess will have a chance to see it during a reception on Monday, Sept. 26. It is a monumental work of art that also offers a powerful history lesson. Attendees – royal and otherwise – will be able to see the artwork's battered old hockey skates, religious icons, leather straps used to beat children, braids from the artist's two sisters – their father was sent to residential school as a child – as well as photographs, letters and children's artwork. One unforgettable late donation is a hand-crafted doll – created with a rag and sticks by a little girl who was not allowed to bring her own doll from home.

Monument, Page 2

COURTS

Judge rules against seizures by Civil Forfeiture Office

SUNNY DHILLON VANCOUVER

A judge has ruled that British Columbia's Civil Forfeiture Office cannot seize assets unless they are tied to unlawful activity, a decision that a lawyer in the case says is an important precedent.

The case began in November, 2015, when the forfeiture office began an attempt to seize prop-

erty from several people charged in an RCMP investigation into a marijuana trafficking network one month earlier. The office – a government agency that has been criticized for its aggressive attempts to seize homes, vehicles and cash connected to criminal offences, even from people who have not been convicted or charged – named six of the men who were charged as defendants

in the civil-forfeiture case.

One of the men and his wife applied in B.C. Supreme Court earlier this year to have part of the notice of civil claim thrown out. Counsel for Stephen and Jennifer Lockett argued that the director of the Civil Forfeiture Office failed to show a link between their property – three homes and two vehicles – and unlawful activity. The couple

said the director, citing Mr. Lockett's criminal record, had claimed that even if their property was obtained using legitimate income, it could still be forfeited because they engaged in criminal activity and used illegitimate income to support their lifestyle – including the purchase of clothing, food, entertainment and travel.

Property, Page 2