

# Plenty of love behind Blanshard organic cafe

**On the move**  
John Juricic has been appointed chairman of SportHost Victoria, succeeding Andrea Carey of The Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence. SportHost is a sport tourism partnership made up of industry leaders in the region. It was created as a legacy of the 1994 Commonwealth Games as a way to increase the number of sporting events held in Greater Victoria. Juricic, owner of Harbour Digital Media, is executive director of the Sidney North Saanich Industrial Group and serves as chairman of the Langford Economic Development Committee. He is also a past president of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce and is a board member of the B.C. Chamber of Commerce.

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Brother and sister Heather and Joe Cunliffe, operators of popular Pandora Avenue live food juice bar **Café Bliss**, have expanded their offerings in a new location.

**Be Love** has taken over half of a beautifully renovated space at 1019 Blanshard St. that formerly housed **Alpine Market**.

The cozy new café offers a wide variety of organic apps, main dishes and desserts in a comfortable environment. Visit [belovestaurant.ca](http://belovestaurant.ca).

## Microsoft gaming studio pulling up stakes

Less than two years after setting up shop in Victoria, **Microsoft** announced it is closing its gaming studio here in 2014.

Siting the office here – it opened in Bastion Square and moved to a larger space at Wharf and Fort streets as staff was added and game development ramped up



**Don Descoteau**  
Biz Beat

– could be traced to **Don Mattrick**, the former EA Sports co-founder who became head of the company's interactive entertainment division and lives part-time in the city. Mattrick left Microsoft and became CEO of mobile game producer **Zynga** in July.

While a number of Victoria employees are expected to be transferred to a studio in Vancouver and some to Washington state, at least two dozen staffers will be forced to look for new employment.

In a statement, Microsoft said it still views Victoria as a source of top talent for the industry and will actively help staff who face layoffs to find jobs in other companies.

It also expects to “build upon our relationship with the University of Victoria as we seek to fill our future talent needs.”  
The closure is expected to be finalized by next spring or summer.

## Facelift for McDonald's in Royal Oak mall

On Sunday, franchisee Grant Reid unveiled serious upgrades to his **McDonald's Restaurant** in the **Royal Oak Shopping Centre**. Renovations include new flat-screen televisions, leather chairs, modern lighting, contemporary artwork and updated washrooms, plus a redesigned barista bar for coffee and smoothie fans.

## Who's making waves on the business scene

Sports tourism booster **SportHost Victoria** named **Harbour Digital Media** owner **John Juricic** to replace **Andrea Carey** as chair of its board of directors. Juricic is a past-president of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce.

The **City of Colwood** has a new chief administrative officer. **James Moller**, city manager for Humboldt, Sask., starts in February and replaces **Chris Pease**, who came back in an interim role during the search. Send your business news to [ddescoteau@vicnews.com](mailto:ddescoteau@vicnews.com).