



Canucks fans celebrate on Granville Street after the team's 1-0 win over the Boston Bruins in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Final Wednesday.
CARMINE MARINELLI, 24 HOURS

Businesses get flexible for Canucks

STEPHANIE IP
24 hours

If you can't beat 'em, join them.

That's the philosophy some employers have taken to avoid staff calling in with the dreaded Canucks "hangover." "We close down (early) so the staff can enjoy it and party a little bit," said Brad McDougall, owner of Ottico Eyewear and Optometry, whose Granville Street window display features blue and green sunglasses honouring the Canucks. "Especially with something at this stage, we don't want to miss out on the fun."

Ian Cook, B.C. Human Resources Management Association director, suggests employers find ways to incorporate playoff fever into the workplace, such as allowing staff to wear jerseys, to improve productivity during the Stanley Cup run.

According to the association,

many employers learned from the 2010 Olympics and adjusted hours to allow for flexible schedules on game days.

North Face manager Julian Alphilbert said playoff fever is hard to avoid because the store's location is right next to an outdoor celebration plaza. "We even closed early (Wednesday)," he said. "We encourage our staff to have a good time and support the local team."

He added none of his staff had called off work for the Canucks.

"Our staff is fairly responsible. They realize their still work to do," said Alphilbert.

McDougall agrees and said his staff hasn't had to cancel work because of the store's flexible-and-relaxed attitude toward the playoffs.

"We allow for some fun," he said. "Let's celebrate, let's put on a show."

stephanie.ip@summedia.co

SAYWHAT?

Have you ever called in sick because of the Canucks, or would you ever do so?



TREVOR MCFARLAND, 22

Yes. I said it wasn't because of the Canucks when blatantly it was.



STEPHEN MITCHELL, 50

No 'cause I'm the supervisor. I can't do that.



KATIE WARREN, 26

No, but if they win the Cup, I may have to call in sick the next morning.



JOHN BOILEAU, 43

I've only done it twice, once in '82 and once in '94. (If they win), for three days, I'll be calling in sick.

Twitter: @24hoursvan

Police warn of impaired driving

SHAWN CONNER
24 hours

For many, the Stanley Cup Final and a beverage go together like Robert Luongo and hair gel. But after issuing seven alcohol-related immediate roadside prohibitions Wednesday night, North Vancouver RCMP are issuing a warning: If you're tipping a bot-

tle while watching the game, don't drive.

"If you are out celebrating the Canucks, as we all are, it's not worth getting behind the wheel and risking someone's life," said North Vancouver media relations officer Sgt. Peter DeVries.

He couldn't say for sure whether the prohibitions were a result of hockey celebrations,

but confirmed the numbers did show a spike in alcohol-related driving offences for that time and day.

Media relations officer Cpl. Drew Grainger said Surrey RCMP were focusing their efforts on fan sites, and that they hadn't seen an increase in impaired driving charges. Const. Jana McGuinness of the Van-

couver Police Department said officers were being extra-vigilant, and that Vancouverites have been electing to ride the SkyTrain rather than bring their vehicles downtown.

"The most important thing is for everyone to get home safely," she said.