

Pires Review

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
December 2021



Love, peace and joy to you and your loved ones on Jesus's birthday and through 2022 --Reyan, Kaiya, Serena, Amit, Devin, Anita, Jason, Misha, Saho, Karl, Laila and Ben

Laila Pires

ARTS & CULTURE

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LEADERSHIP VICTORIA

VCLA 2021 Winner!



Bright spots in 2021

Breaking News: It will be a second Christmas without our whole family together. **Karl, Saho** and **Misha** have made the gut-wrenching decision to cancel their flights to Canada from Japan due to Japanese travel restrictions because of the Covid Omicron variant.

Despite the climate-change induced challenges our province faced -- second worst wildfire season, a "heat dome" with 40 C temperatures and "atmospheric rivers" of record rainfall that caused widespread flooding and landslides that damaged highways -- and Covid [we are doubled-vaccinated and most have got booster shots], 2021 had its silver linings. **Highlights were:**

- * **Laila** received the 2021 Victoria Community Leadership Award for Arts and Culture with the attending publicity in newspapers, posters, social media and video interviews.
- * A most enjoyable family -- but missing **Karl, Saho** and **Misha** -- vacation in the Okanagan and an overnight trip to Parksville, up-island.
- * Our first family and friends get together, after months of isolation, on August 1 in our backyard.
- * Our family Thanksgiving Dinner in Victoria.



September 15
Deep Cove Winery



10 years
Grade 5



12 years
Grade 7



17 years
Grade 12



Christmas 2020

during COVID -19 restrictions





Busy year for Laila as Bayanihan Community Centre's treasurer, applying for grants for programs and major renovations for the centre.



Kaliya poses in traditional Filipino dance costumes during spring break in Victoria.



Uncle Jason coaches Reyhan's Vancouver United FC team at Jericho Beach Park.



Reyhan got the All-star Award from the Jericho Major C League in spring in Vancouver.



Karl, with fellow Team Beaver members, were the champs of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan fall golf tournament.



Budding artist Misha, and her "Untitled" acrylic on canvas.



Reyhan spent a week in summer at Camp Thunderbird near Victoria. It was a day-long camp as there was no overnight camping due to COVID.



Amit's face was on billboards and transit shelters in the Lower Mainland in fundraising campaign for medical imaging at ERH.



Jason jumps to test the retractable, cable-supported, fabric roof of BC Place for CTV News. It is the world's largest such roof.



Reyhan attended a week-long summer junior golf camp in Victoria.



Karl captained Yokohama Country and Athletic Club's Old Boys Game versus Tsukuba University FC Old Boys.



Jason completed the 100 km Tour de Cure BC bike ride for cancer research. Riders selected their own route because of Covid.



Reyhan with friend Nate before heading for Vancouver Canucks game as a birthday gift for Reyhan.



Reyhan and friend Juliet with puck that Canucks player Elias Patterson gave them after NHL game in Vancouver.



Kaliya is all smiles after her ballet exam in June. Her hard work and dedication paid off despite the COVID interruptions.



Reyhan recognized for high academic standard and sincerity and kindness towards others by St. Augustine School.



Jason finished the 1/2 marathon (there was no marathon this year because of Covid) in Victoria on Canada's Thanksgiving weekend.



Reyhan and Kaliya went on the zipline adventure course at Wildplay near Victoria in the summer walking from tree to tree on tightropes.



In February, Ben signed up for Conquer Challenge and by the end of November he has walked nearly 2,500 kilometres by finishing 16 challenges, plus four of his own routes in the Philippines and Goa, India. He posted his treks on Facebook and 80 trees were planted in the world for his endeavours.



First family vacation, July 6 - 13, with easing of Covid restrictions



Vancouver



Osoyoos



Nelson



Nelson



Penticton



Rossland



Naramata



Up-island trip, July 24-25

Nanaimo



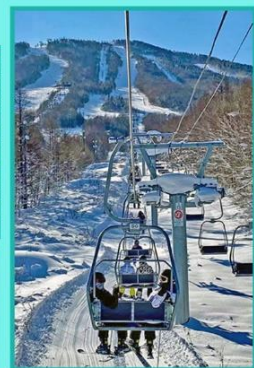
Parksville

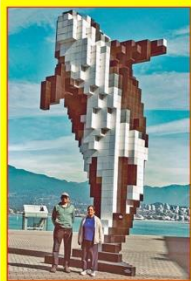
Coombs



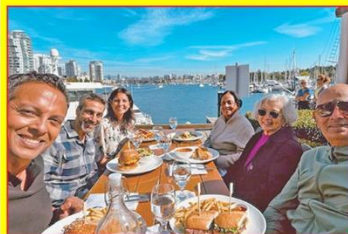
Misha, Saho and Karl went to Niseko Ski Resort and Sapporo in Hokkaido for skiing and snowboarding early in 2021

Misha's friends joined her on the first trip in February





Sister Gemma, Ben's eldest sister, based in Cypress, California, vacationed in Victoria in September. She went with Ben and Laila to Vancouver for Kaiya's 12th birthday, watched Reyan's soccer game and took in the Imagine Van Gogh exhibit.



Sister Lisa, Ben's elder sister, based in the family's ancestral home, gifted to the Presentation Sisters, in Nagoa, Goa, India, was featured on NBC News on April 4 on: "A hidden army of 'very brave' nuns fight child trafficking." This is just one of the many social issues she has fought, whether in India, Palestine, Ireland or Zimbabwe.



In August Reyan, Kaiya, Serena, and Amit at Joffre Lakes



In September

Serena,
Amit visit
California
vineyards



In November

Anita, Jason enjoy
trip to Honolulu, HI



Wedding Anniversaries



March 26



April 26



August 1



August 22

1st family, friends get together on August 1



Thanksgiving Dinner at Pires home

