

**Grand  
Opening....**

**City Hall & Public Library**

**Official Opening  
September 19th, 1998**

**WE'RE CELEBRATING  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!**



**Join in the Celebration**



## **Mayor & Council**

*Mayor Jon Kingsbury*

*Councillor Kent Becker*

*Councillor Louella Hollington*

*Councillor Mae Reid*

*Councillor Jim Stangier*

*Councillor Diane Thorne*

*Councillor Maxine Wilson*

## **Library Board**

*Chairperson Bob McNary*

*Vice Chairperson Paul W. Van Drunen*

*Trustee Gordon Fulton*

*Trustee Ben Lee*

*Trustee Barrie Lynch*

*Trustee Ronald Nixon*

*Trustee Gerrie Wallis*

*Trustee Rob Weizel*

*Councillor Jim Stangier*

## **Program Schedule**

11:00am-11:30pm Tony Prophet

11:30am-12:00pm Coquitlam Adult Choir

12:00pm-12:45pm Official Opening

12:45pm-1:00pm North American Chinese Lion Dance

1:00pm-2:00pm Tete a Tete (French Canadian Dance Group)

2:00pm-2:30pm East Indian Dance Group

2:30pm-3:00pm Theatrix:

-- It's a Wonderful World by Chromatic Five

-- Save the Salmon - Save the World

-- Tagalog by Philbert de Torres

3:00pm-3:30pm Coquitlam Country Kickin' Dancers

3:30pm-4:00pm Tony Prophet

HISTORY OF LION DANCE  
BY  
NORTH AMERICAN LION DANCE ASSOCIATION

It is believed that approximated 300 years ago, a community of Cantonese (Chinese from the south part of China) living in Buddha Mountain country felt it was necessary to invent a resembles of a mystical creature which would frighten away animals that fed on the harvest especially one whose existence appears as an alien which has an enormous head detailed with bowling ball eyes, drum sized ears and fangs as long as sharp as samurai sword. Ironically, below this massive head, was an undersized body (because this monster only ate vegetables) and a sharp horn in the middle of the monster's forehead. These peoples mainly were farmer constructed a beastly looking demon known as the "lion" by using bamboo sticks to build the skeleton, coloured hard rice paper to resemble the flesh and different animal furs to surround the visous looking skull. For the shallowness and arrogance. Now the question was how they maneuver the beast? Finally they decided it was best to use two human heads who would wear the construction to create mobility, where one person would create the motion of the head by lifting it up and down and the second person would bend over to cause the rounded back of the monster. To make this event more spectacular, other farmers would play cymbals, gongs and drums to create loud sounds. They awaited for the predator in the ditches and when the beast appeared they drummed and clapped the cymbals and gongs as loud as possible. Because this was so successful, the farmers all celebrated by holding a festival annually. To enforce good harvest for the farmers, good profits for the merchants, the farmers and the good merchants of the community hung red envelopes wrapped with green lettuce (the word lettuce sounds like good fortune) for the lion to feed and light firecrackers to attract the lion to their doorsteps. Once would experience, only good luck for the whole year.

Nowadays, the lion dance is performed at any festivity when a community wish to celebrate good fortune, and successful future such as grand openings celebration or weddings, not only the lion is a resemblance of good fortune, but is also an image of arrogance, bravery, curiosity, invincibility, and fearlessness. It also describes the dancers to be coordinated, athletic, artistic. The dancers has to create moods of curiosity, happiness, feelings of temptation, and also anger. Therefore, the lion dance signifies community awareness, cooperation amongst the people, joy and contentment. It is a sign of artistic ability, culture, wisdom, and imagination. The lion dance is a part of every person's joy, wisdom and full of excitement imagination throughout the community.