



## THE ROYALS IN CANADA

Visits by Queen Elizabeth and her family members since she was crowned in 1953. » B6-7

## ENTRÉE, ON THE STREET

Latest fleet of food carts offers an impressive array of eats. » E1



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## PUPPY LOVE

Finding the dog  
that's right  
for you



## THE NEW GOLD RUSH

Historic mining towns like Barkerville are back on the economic map, with prospectors investing more than \$300 million in B.C. this year in hopes of striking it rich. » D3

WESTCOAST NEWS



# Fast backups, Final Cut and Smartfish

BY GILLIAN SHAW  
VANCOUVER SUN



Final Cut Pro X is now within financial reach of most prosumers.



Apple's Time Capsule is easy to use.

The Smartfish eases the strain.

## Time Capsule, Apple, from \$299

If you've ever had your computer crash and die, you'll know just how important backups are. Apple makes it easy with Time Capsule, with its new models just released. The Time Capsule storage device is now available in a two terabyte model for \$299 and three terabyte at \$499, giving you more storage for the money than its predecessors. An automatic backup device, it works wirelessly with Time Machine in Mac OS X Leopard or later operating systems to automatically back up any file changes. It also works with all the Mac computers on your wireless network, so you don't have to hook up a backup drive to every computer. [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)

## Final Cut Pro X, Apple, \$300

I don't often include software in this column, but I'm making an exception for the latest version of Apple's pro video editing software since a whopping price drop now puts it in the reach of prosumers who may want to upgrade their video editing software. If you've wanted to try Final Cut Pro but were deterred by the hefty \$1,000-plus price tag, it's worth noting that its replacement, Final Cut Pro X is selling for \$300. There are lots of cheaper video editing apps available but for those ready to take the step up, Apple's leading video editing software is more affordable now than it was. It's a totally new program, which may not be a move welcomed by all previous Final Cut users, but if you're starting out, you won't have to worry about adapting to changes. Available only at the Mac App Store. [www.apple.com/ca/finalcut](http://www.apple.com/ca/finalcut).

## Reflex Compact Keyboard with Ergomotion, Smartfish, \$150

This keyboard takes ergonomics to a new level, changing its position while you type so your hands are never in a fixed position for too long. Critics have suggested taking a break from the keyboard or giving your hands a shake could have the same effect but if you're looking for high-tech help, this keyboard makes the moves on its own. Check it out at [www.getsmartfish.com](http://www.getsmartfish.com) and watch the video to see how the keyboard shifts every so slightly under typing fingers as Smartfish offers its answer to repetitive strain.

[gshaw@vancouversun.com](mailto:gshaw@vancouversun.com)  
[www.vancouversun.com/digitallife](http://www.vancouversun.com/digitallife)



### Notice of accreditation visit and invitation to comment

With no comparable national quality-assurance organization in Canada, Simon Fraser University (SFU) has applied for formal accreditation in the United States from the Washington-based Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

Upon completion, SFU will become the first major Canadian research university to be so accredited.

#### Among the benefits of accreditation:

- Regular external assessment of SFU's adherence to best-practice standards will increase our accountability to stakeholders.
- Accreditation will help establish clearer benchmarks/standards for assessing learning outcomes and thus benefit students' learning experiences.
- Accreditation will enhance the value of an SFU degree for alumni abroad and for international students returning home.
- Accreditation will simplify our relationships with US institutions, including government, foundations and collegiate sports associations.
- Accreditation will foster public confidence in SFU's ability to fulfill its stated mission and goals.

The independent, non-profit NWCCU accepted SFU's application for candidacy in January 2009. The full accreditation process, which is based on a series of SFU self-assessments and NWCCU member peer reviews, will take another three to five years to complete.

As part of the process, a team of senior administrators and academic peers from accredited institutions will visit SFU on October 12, 13 and 14, 2011 to conduct a comprehensive initial site evaluation for candidacy.

Members of the public are invited to send signed comments on SFU's application for candidacy directly to the NWCCU at:

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities  
Suite 100 - 8060 165th Avenue N.E., Redmond, WA 98052. U.S.A.  
Telephone: (425) 558-4224

The deadline for comments is September 11, 2011. The NWCCU will forward all signed comments to SFU and the site evaluation committee.

For more information, visit [www.nwccu.org](http://www.nwccu.org) or telephone (425) 558-4224. To review the NWCCU's Policy A-5, Public Notification and Third Party Comments Regarding Full-Scale Evaluations, visit: [at.sfu.ca/glpluM](http://at.sfu.ca/glpluM)

[www.sfu.ca](http://www.sfu.ca)

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