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(COURTESY WWW.VCBF.CA)

Annual Cherry Blossom Festival goes ahead despite early start to season

Organizers say the Kanzan tree is just about to bloom

Brock Hunter March 29, 2015 10:49 am



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VANCOUVER (NEWS1130) – You can't count on Mother Nature when you plan an outdoor festival. The annual Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival gets going this week even though the petals are already falling.

Many of the cherry trees have already peaked around Vancouver but that's OK with those behind the festival.

Organizer Linda Poole says the hot pink blossoms called Kanzan are just about to bloom. "They are coming next so we are not worried. Some of the events that were scheduled with the earlier Akebono, that is out now, they will be falling or gone but that is ok because it's about the celebration and our local talent. It's all about the return of spring."

She says they're hoping for warmer weather with a lot of cherry blossom picnics planned. The festival runs from April 2nd to the 29th.

Other highlights include a night time illumination on Good Friday at Charleson Park and Bike the Blossom rides mid-April.

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