



# Your Inside Track

*What's new & what's happening!!!*

"The Home of the Royal Hudson"

Summer Edition - 2003

Welcome to the inaugural edition of our new e-newsletter, "Your Inside Track". As front line staff, greeting a variety of people, we appreciate your need for up-to-date, informative and accurate information about local attractions and facilities. This e-newsletter is meant to fill this need for the West Coast Railway Heritage Park, which attracts passionate railway enthusiasts from all over the world. We hope this e-newsletter will assist you in serving these people - your guests and customers - in a manner that makes you (and your business) look good.



Sherry Elchuk-Manager

First off, it's important to note the **West Coast Railway Heritage Park houses Western Canada's largest heritage railway collection. We are the home of the renowned Royal Hudson 2860 steam locomotive. Over 70 vintage railway cars and locomotive are displayed on a 12 acre site of incredible natural beauty.**

Next, **the Railway Heritage Park is always growing, with new exhibits and park features opening often.** So, although a guest may have visited us a year-or-so-ago, they will likely find new and intriguing additions or changes. "We are continually a work in progress!" (See pg 2 for current details..)

We intend to "publish" this e-news letter 2 or 3 times a year. In the meantime, if you have any questions or inquiries, please feel free to contact us:

604-898-9336 or Email: [manager@wcra.org](mailto:manager@wcra.org)

We are located in Squamish at 39645 Government Road.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- The West Coast Railway Heritage Park attracted over 30,000 visitors in 2002 and expects to top 35,000 guests this year.
- The Park opened in 1994 welcoming 4300 visitors that year. We welcomed our 200,000 visitor Sunday, May 25th this year!
- The Heritage Park is truly an asset for not only Squamish, but for Sea to Sky corridor communities and the Lower Mainland as well. Train enthusiasts the world over know about and visit our park. It puts us on their maps!
- The West Coast Railway Heritage Park is completely privately funded. It is owned and operated by the West Coast Railway Association (WCRA), a charitable, non-profit society.
- **The park is open year-round and features a scenic 3 km mini-rail train route.**

### **The Royal Hudson Report**

We are honored to be the home of the majestic 2860 Royal Hudson steam locomotive. **It is designated as "Royal" because a locomotive of its same design (the 2850) transported King George VI across Canada in 1939.** It is currently on display adjacent to our fabulous "Squamish Station", a replica of a 1920's railway station. The WCRA is in the process of assessing the repairs necessary to make it fully operational again, then fund-raise to make this happen.



This July, the Royal Hudson's boiler will be opened up to get an inside look at work needed to be done. Even as this happens, though, this magnificent locomotive is available for all to view. Don't miss this opportunity!

Please note our Summer Hours: 10 am to 5 pm daily

[www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org)

## KIDS - ALL ABOARD!!!



Our park is one for all ages. Recently we just got much more attractive for our younger guests with the completion of this magnificent hand crafted wooden play train. It's already an instant hit. ***Rocky Mountaineer Rail Tours donated funds for materials, while the Squamish Lions Club volunteered the construction labor to build it.***

Many thanks to both organizations for creating such a beautiful addition for all to enjoy in **Howard Lyttle Park**.

## A TRIBUTE TO A LONG-TIME VOLUNTEER

The Railway Association and Park rely on the incredible contributions of hundreds of dedicated volunteers to restore equipment, build facilities, keep the grounds presentable and just about anything and everything you will encounter on your visit. ***All totalled there are 25,000 volunteer hours put in each year! One such dedicated volunteer was Ken Mason, a retired Royal Hudson engineer.*** Ken passed away late last year. To honor his contribution, a new station, in ***the Eagle View loop on our mini-rail line, will be named after him - Mason Station.*** It will feature some of Ken's memorabilia and serve as an access stop for our new ***Eagle View natural area***. As the name implies, this is a ***great eagle viewing area in late December and early January***.



## GIVE YOUR PARTY A "CA-BOOST"

***We have a fabulous meeting room which can accommodate 65 people theatre style or 56 people banquet style.*** This, combined with the incredible experience our park offers, makes for a great party or staff meeting experience. And now, ***we are adding a great new dimension to this aspect of the park: a completely restored and specially outfitted caboose, geared to children.*** Again, combined with the fascinating and interactive displays throughout the park, ***the West Coast Railway Heritage Park is a great place to party. Call Sherry for details.***

## OUR GIFT SHOP IS A TREASURE

Have a special occasion coming up? Consider our gift shop where you will find a great selection of railway, historic, local hiking and nature books. We also have a wonderful variety of giftware and art, as well as an incredible selection of "Thomas the Tank Engine" toys.

## UP COMING EVENTS

**Sunday, July 13th - The Jaguar/MG Club** will visit the park with 25 cars: MGs, MGBs and Midgets. Jaguar models include sports models such as XK140, XK150, XKE, XJS, as well as sedan models such as MKII, XJ6, XJ12, X-Types etc. Ages will range from 1950's through 2003 with most decades represented. All cars are in very good condition. Vintage cars...with different wheels!

**Sunday, August 17 - Mini-Rail Day** - You won't want to miss this exciting day. Mini-rail builders from throughout the Lower Mainland will visit the park with their pride and joys. As a result everyone benefits in seeing an incredible variety of miniature train models and, in some cases, even get to ride them on our 3 km track. It's a great day! Also, Squamish Lions Cook Out...Mmmm!

