



# **WCRA NEWS**

## **OCTOBER 2016**

# **POLAR EXPRESS SELLING WELL—GET YOURS NOW!**



## GENERAL MEETING

The **General Meeting** of the WCRA will be held on **Tuesday, September 27 at 1930 hours** at Rainbow Creek Station, corner of Willingdon and Penzance in Burnaby.

Entertainment will be surprise video presentation.

**Advance November Meeting Date Note**—the WCRA Annual Dinner and Awards Night will be held on Wednesday, November 30 at the Accent Inn in Burnaby. **Note Change of date for this month.**

## ON THE COVER

.Freshly painted Amtrak Cascades cab car 90252 pauses at Seattle with Train 513 from Vancouver, BC on Friday, September 9, 2016. Pushing us south is F59PHI #470. Soon we will continue on our way south to Portland, Oregon. (Don Evans photo)

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

- **West Coast Railway Heritage Park open daily 1000 through 1600k.**
- Friday, October 7—Deadline for items to be included in the November 2016 WCRA News
- October 21 to 23—Sea to Sky Home Show, CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre
- Tuesday, October 25—WCRA General Meeting, Rainbow Creek Station, 1930 hours
- October 25 to October 28—Mystery of the Magic Pumpkin event, train ride and PGE Carshop activities (see page 11)
- Saturday, October 29—CRAVE 2016—CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre (see page 12)

The West Coast Railway Association is an historical group dedicated to the preservation of British Columbia railway history. Membership is open to all people with an interest in railways past and present. We are a non-profit British Columbia society, registered as a Canadian charity. Membership prices are as follows, **Please note that GST must be added to all fees:**

Senior \$50 (\$52.50), Individual \$55 (57.75), Family \$65 (68.25) **E Members (electronic newsletter only) are \$35 (\$36.75) Senior, \$40 (\$42.00) individual and \$50 (\$52.50) family.** Other categories are:  
- Junior Member (age 18 and under) \$ 30 (\$31.50)  
- Sustaining Member \$100 (tax receipt) **plus** membership type regular fee  
- Life Membership \$700 (\$735) individual life / \$1,200 (\$1,260) family life

All memberships include the monthly newsletter, Heritage Park admission (except Special Events), mini rail rides and discounts on food and merchandise. The Association holds a monthly meeting on the last Tuesday of the month at 1930 hours in Burnaby at Rainbow Creek Station in Confederation Park. Apply through [www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org) or mail to WCRA, PO Box 2790 Stn. Term., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3X2.

# EDITORIAL

## TRAVELING MAN

Your editor feels a little bit like that old Traveling Man song (Ricky Nelson 1961) - if any of you remember that from the past! It has been—and continues to be—one busy month as a variety of things take us to places both exotic and far away as well as closer to home.

The latter part of August and first part of September were spent in Asia—Singapore and Indonesia. It was a trip of true contrasts—the orderly, clean, regulated and expensive big city of Singapore and the busy, chaotic streets of Indonesia.

Not much in rails to report, Singapore's MTR is a heavy subway (and elevated) rail system that handles huge crowds effectively and includes two fully automated lines (Bombardier) in operation. We used it several times during our time there. On landing at the chaotic airport at Jogjakarta, Indonesia (on the Island of Java), what should we see right across the front road but a narrow gauge railway (with heavy welded rail and both passenger and freight services observed—diesel MU and locomotives seen). We moved on to the island of Bali where there were no railways to be seen.

As I write this today (September 12) I am sitting in Portland Union Station awaiting Amtrak Cascades 516 back home to Vancouver. It is a busy time here;

- 1200 - Empire Builder Portland section consist arrives, adds two ex California Zephyr heritage stainless cars (sleeper and dome observation) to the end of its four Superliners and sets up for boarding. They look great behind the Superliners!
- 1300 - a Portland and Western freight trundles through with four Dash 2 EMD's (two orange and two Santa Fe blue and yellow)
- 1335 - southbound Coast Starlight stops with two GE's (#163 - #503), new baggage car and 10 Superliners plus an ex Santa Fe Pacific Parlour Car (which I thought had all gone)
- 1425 Coast Starlight departs after boarding a sizable crowd and we board Cascades 516
- 1450 we depart on time—clear sailing along a busy track to an on time arrival in Vancouver

I have to say that the BNSF dispatching was flawless in both directions, as we crossed over mainlines several times and met or overtook countless freights—always without stopping—amazing use of a busy double tracked (mostly) line.

Now we are off to Phoenix next to visit family, then to Winnipeg for some Rotary training. This issue will get completed in Arizona—thanks for your patience as we are a little late this month.

*Don*

# ASSOCIATION NEWS

## FROM THE AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

Chair **Jeremy Davy** called the meeting to order at 19:37K with 16 voting members, 1 spouse, no staff and 2 guests. This did not constitute a quorum so any motions or business requiring such was deferred.. Recording Secretary – **William Johnston**

- A minute of silence was held for member **Ron Anderson**, former board chair and board member for many years. He was an important person in the Squamish community and a long time supporter of WCRA activities.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**COLLECTION** – **Bob Hunter** reported that the deaccessioning process was progressing and **Bill Marchant** gave a brief update on #960. A long time members rose to question the process by which the vote for deaccessioning certain items was held. He contented it was not done properly and some members were not fully informed enough to make the vote fair. In particular a motion was made to defer action on 3 particular items: The GN RS-1 locomotive, the CNoR Dining car and the CN Combine. Because of the lack of a quorum the motion was deferred until one was in place. In the meantime an effort will be made to more fully inform the members present at the next meeting about the state of the noted items

**FINANCE** – Nothing special to report.

**OPERATIONS** – **Gordon Bell** reported in absentia that August saw 7 important events at the CN Roundhouse and Conf Ctr. raising much needed funds for operation. Upgrades to the park include the Forge that is now completed for future tours, and the letter press printing press. These items enhance the visitor experience. Thanks to **Zoe Cilliers** for her efforts in completing the project. Upcoming events include more weddings and a new client, the Sea to Sky Home Show booked for October 1016 and April 2017. Polar Express tickets are selling well. Volunteers are needed. Contact **Zoe** if you can help, we always need volunteer help

**FUNDRAISING** – **Ken Tanner** reported, via **Craig**, on the progress of grant applications of which there are many. The most important is the acquisition of the BCR MP2 shop. Fundraising events that produced funds were the Starlight train ride (\$4,000). Saloon and Pig Roast, minimum of \$2,000 but still being tallied. The October 5<sup>th</sup> Gala has all logistics complete and the task now is to market it and sell tickets.

**LOCOMOTIVE 374** – **Craig and Bill** reported attendance, gift kiosk sales and donations figures. Many overseas visitors drop by with British and Germans the main nationalities showing up. Volunteers are still needed despite having all days covered.

**NEW BUSINESS** - **Bob Hunter** presented a collection of books from donors for sale. Some, in mint condition, were available at greatly reduced prices.

**GUESTS** were welcomed and the events calendar was reviewed

### **TRACKSIDE REPORTS**

- **Bill Marchant** contributed items of interest in his usual entertaining fashion.
- **Ryan Cruickshank** gave a brief trackside report and conducted another interesting show and tell with some vintage models.

A **50/50** draw was held. Winner **Jim Saunders** donated funds back to the Association with thanks.

**ENTERTAINMENT** - Supplied by **Tom Price** retired after 37 years as roadmaster and other positions on the Laggan sub for the CPR. The subject was “Mayhem” showing various disasters, accidents and other difficulties that have plagued railways over the decades.

### **PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

If your label reads 8/31/2016 then your membership has expired, if your label reads 05/30/2016 then this is your last issue. If you are an electronic news subscriber, please watch for an email noting pending membership expiry. Please renew—we need you all as members if we are to continue to be able to preserve British Columbia’s railway heritage. (J.D.)

### **MEMBER NEWS**

The Celebration of Life for **Ron Anderson** was held at the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre on August 15, 2016. The event was well attended by more than 300 people who expressed their thoughts to the family on their loss and reflected on all the great things Ron had done during his time with us. He will be missed by us all.

### **ANNUAL DINNER AND AWARDS NIGHT—NOV. 30**

#### **Wednesday November 30, 2016**

Advance Notice - The Annual Dinner and Awards night for 2016 has been set for **Wednesday**, November 30, 5:30PM at the Accent Inn in Burnaby. This great seasonal event will feature a sumptuous Roast Turkey buffet dinner and great time to chat with friends. Come out and enjoy a wonderful Christmas dinner together and help recognize our volunteers as the annual awards are presented. Everyone is welcome, so please bring friends, partners and whomever along. The Accent Inn is at 3777 Henning Drive just off Boundary Road on the Burnaby side. The location has free parking or easy access via #28 bus to the door which connects to SkyTrain at Joyce or Gilmour.

At the time of writing the ticket price is being finalized and will be announced at the September General Meeting. You can make your reservations at the September or October General Meetings, by calling Jenn at 604-524-1011, or the Heritage Park at 604-898-9336. Please note that you must have a reservation in order to attend and enjoy this wonderful evening however you may pay at the Door. (J.D.)

## **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome to membership.....

- Alex Audet and family of Vancouver;
- Rob Badmington of Calgary;
- Tegan Butterworth and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Russell Clark and family of Whistler;
- Arthur E. Davies of Sooke;
- Pamela DeRoo and family of Brackendale;
- Don Drinkwater and family of Coquitlam;
- Gred du Perez and family of Squamish;
- Negar Elmieh and family of Squamish;
- Maria Fordyce-Coons & Ben Coons and family of Squamish;
- Dave Gladwell and family Surrey;
- Erik Goldsmith and family of Squamish;
- Daniela Guidous & Stephen Bouffard and family of Squamish;
- Randy & Anne Leclerc and family of North Vancouver;
- Sophie Leever & Sean Frith and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Yuniao Li and family of North Vancouver;
- Jila Mahinfar and family of North Vancouver;
- Melissa McEvoy and family of Brackendale;
- Christian Jose Moser and family of Langley;
- Randy Neyndorff and family of Surrey;
- Sandra Peake and family of Britannia Beach;
- Marc & Porsha Peck and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Sara Place & Keith Gallant and family of Britannia Beach;
- Tom Price of Calgary;
- Stacey Rolls and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Tara Scuby & Paul O'Connell and family of Squamish;
- Jaclyn Smee and family of Squamish;
- Lesley Spratt & Chris Fiedler and family of Abbotsford;
- Marilyn White and family of Squamish;
- Ron Whitehurst and family of Chilliwack;
- Nigel Witt and family of Vancouver

New life members—welcome Lou and Jean Reid of Chilliwack.

And, we welcome back:

- Diane Manship and family of Squamish;
- Sheila Robertson and family of Garibaldi Highlands (J.D.)

## **MORE MEMBER NEWS**

**Dave Baker**, who wrote the Royal Hudson song, reports that the song continues to get performances all over the continent. Recently, the “Good Old Royal Hudson” was one of five songs representing Canada in a ten song set, performed by the Sonora Desert Chorus in Phoenix, Arizona! (D.B.)

Life member **Nick Teekman**, of Halkirk, Alberta was featured with his model railroad in The Castor Advance—the local county newspaper. Nick’s Halkirk Prairie Shortline railroad even features a real waterfall powered by a pump system.

## **WCRA TRIVIA #334 - By Ryan Cruickshank**

What was North America's first streamlined steam locomotive?

(Answer on page 26)

## **VANCOUVER TRAIN EXPO 2016**

**Last year the show moved to the Forum Bldg** at the PNE which is located at 2901 East Hastings. **This year’s show will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> at the same location.**

The 2016 Public Show hours have been extended. The hours this year are:

Saturday 10am to 6pm and Sunday 10am to 5pm.

## **WCRA at the SHOW**

Again this year, WCRA will be providing the MiniRail at the Show and will also have a booth where we will be promoting the Association, the Park, 374 and Special Events, as well as selling surplus books and artifacts as a fundraiser.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We need assistance with set-up of the booth in the late afternoon/early evening on Friday Nov 4<sup>th</sup> and with staffing it on Nov 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> during the show hours. If you have time you can donate on any or all of the days please let Jeremy Davy know your availability by email [jeremy.davy@wcra.org](mailto:jeremy.davy@wcra.org) or by phone 604.484.2791 (plse leave message if no answer). (J.D.)

## **RAILS OVER THE MOUNTAINS**

Author **Ron Brown** has a new book out that may be of interest to our readers. Rails Over the Mountains captures stories of the mountain railways of British Columbia and many of their challenges and legacies.

Ron visited the West Coast Railway Heritage Park and has many nice things to say about our facility and the collection we present. Rails Over the Mountains by Ron Brown, available now for an addition to your railway reading collection.

## **ERIC STATHERS VISITS HERITAGE PARK**

Eric Stathers, grandson of Eric Prince Stathers of Squamish, BC and the PGE, stopped in at the Heritage Park on September 15, 2016. **Trevor Mills** and **Don Evans** toured him around, and visited an item of particular interest, the Northern Summit business car. (we hope you enjoyed the story on the Northern Summit in our last issue...photo below of Eric P Stathers with the Northern Summit on February 2, 1958).



Eric has just published a second book of his grandfather's memories, called "**My Story**". In it are recollections of Squamish in the period 1929 to 1945 while he was employed by the railway. While less railway content than his first book "**In The Ditch**", there is of lots of local interest and many railway references. Eric lives in the US and it was great to see him visit Squamish and we enjoyed touring him around our facilities.

## **COLLECTION**

### **HERITAGE BC AWARDS GRANT FOR NORTHERN SUMMIT RESTORATION**

**Heritage BC** has awarded the West Coast Railway Association a \$10,000 grant towards the

restoration of the Northern Summit railcar. This Heritage Conservation Program grant will allow the restoration project to get started on this very important piece of British Columbia history. The exterior will be the immediate priority, with a new roof and repairs to the steel body the first orders of work. Our thanks to Heritage BC for this grant. (K.T.)

## **ORIGINAL STANLEY PARK MINIATURE TRAIN ARRIVES**



The Stanley Park train has now been delivered to the Heritage Park in Squamish and is in safe storage. Our thanks to **Chris Humphrey** for the transportation of the train. Chris reports that his dad was good with its departure from the garage where it has resided for many years, and that he is pleased it will be preserved. Now that it is at the Heritage Park, work will get underway to create an exhibit where the locomotive will be displayed along with photos of the train from years past and the story. Over time, we will plan to put together at least one of the rider cars (we have all the metal parts to do this with new wood). Thoughts are also that we may show the train and exhibit in

Vancouver at the Locomotive 374 Pavilion at some point. (photo, Trevor Mills)

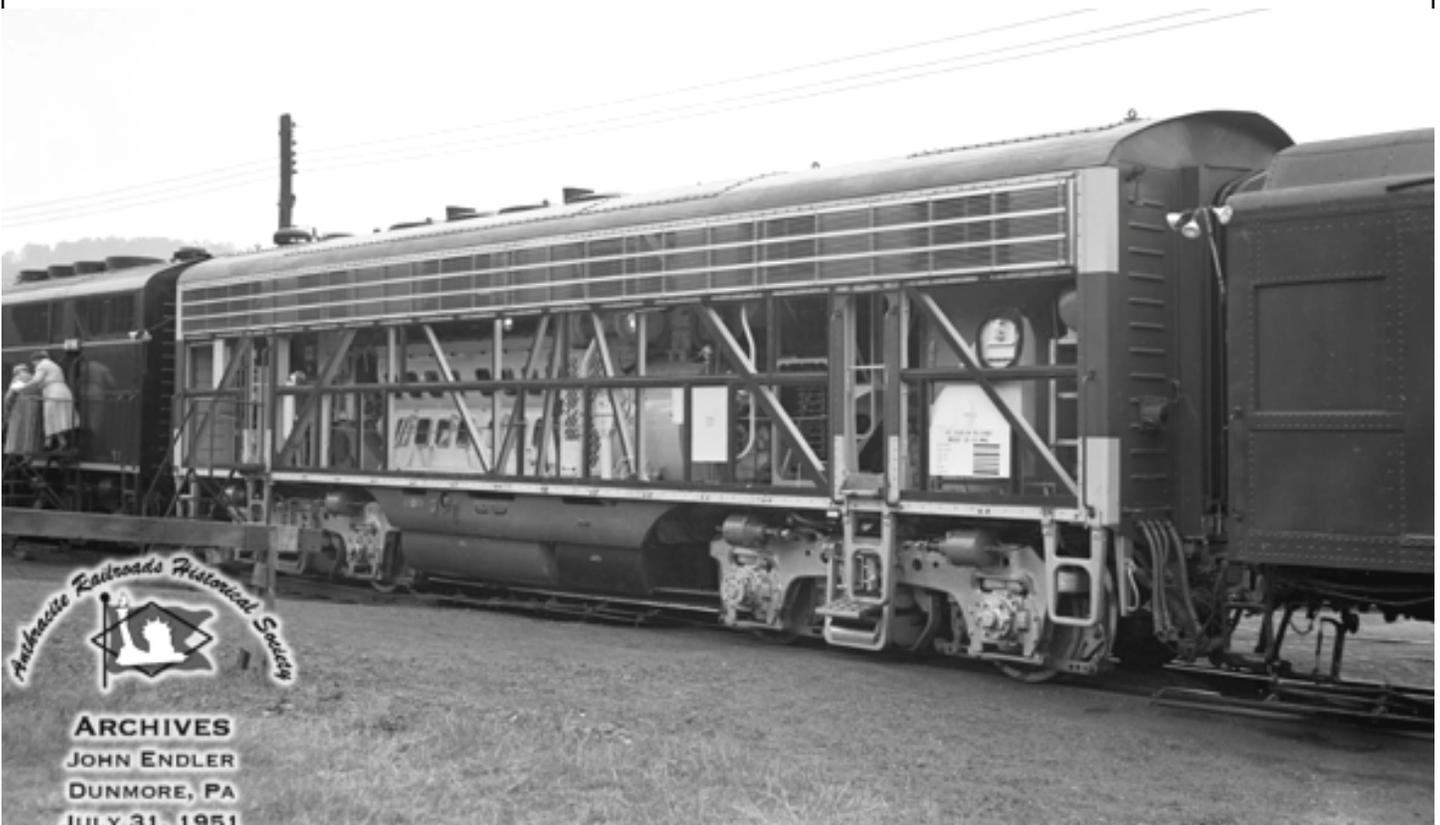
## **GN 1090 REPORT**

GN 1090 September 4 Work Update - I have put enough notes together to start building one of the structural parts of the car. I have started to build the ribs or car lines that hold up the lower clerestory roof. I started by making a paper pattern from measurements and traced this pattern onto a piece of 1/8 plywood to be the master pattern. I put this pattern in place in a few areas on the car and had to make a few minor alterations to make it fit properly. I then used this pattern to lay out the final pattern on a piece of 2X10. The final piece was cut out on the band saw and drilled to accept the bolts where needed. One big assumption I have is the slot for the nut on the top part of the piece. There is not enough of an original to figure out how the slot was made. What I did was drill a hole and squared it out with a chisel. I am only assuming

but it works for what I need it to do. If anyone has had any experience with this type of construction I would appreciate any ideas you might have. (T.M.)

[www.trevorstrains.weebly.com](http://www.trevorstrains.weebly.com)

## WE COULD DO THIS



In the early 1950's, at the height of the steam to diesel revolution, EMD built an F7 B unit with one side plexiglass so people could see what was actually inside this new technical advance in railway locomotion. This is one thought that we have for our CPR F7B #4459. With the unit painted CPR we could show and A-B matched set of 4069 / 4459, while the other side would serve as an interpretive exhibit for our guests and educational programs.

## WEST COAST RAILWAY HERITAGE PARK

*Home of the Royal Hudson*



### POLAR EXPRESS TICKETS ON SALE NOW—FOUR WEEKENDS

Polar Express tickets are selling well via [www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org) Last year this popular event sold out, we expect the same for the 2016 version. Dates this year are four weekends - November 26 / 27, December 3 / 4, December 10 / 11 and December 17 / 18. Go to the blue purchase tickets tab at the top to buy your tickets—prices for 2016 are \$30 coach class, \$45 first class

and \$49 all seats on the Saturday 6PM (Night time) departures. Tickets are already selling fast so make your plans today and book your space. It's not too early!

As with previous years, guests are invited to really experience the Polar Express and come dressed in their housecoats or pajamas. There will be fun for everyone with some additional elements added this year.

This review from the 2015 event was posted by Chantel:

“We had a group of 11 people last year (2015), 3 generations (grandparents, children and grandchildren) and we all had a great time. Sure put us in the Christmas spirit! The train ride was my most memorable memory—everything from the actors, the hot chocolate and cookie, the singing of Christmas songs and the trip itself leaving in the daylight and coming back in the evening (4:00PM departure). When we got back to the roundhouse we got to do pictures with Mr and Mrs Claus, decorated gingerbread men, made Christmas crafts, made wishes in the tunnel on the mini train, and went upstairs to see the Christmas village with its toy trains.

“I REALLY ENJOYED MYSELF. I loved the keepsakes—the silver bell (both my children got one and they will always have a special place on our Christmas tree) and the hot chocolate mugs we got to keep. I will most definitely be attending again this year and every year after! I'd like to thank everyone at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park—thank you for your volunteering and your efforts to go over and beyond.”

## **MYSTERY OF THE MAGIC PUMPKIN**

Mystery of the Magic Pumpkin is returning to the West Coast Railway Heritage Park on October 25<sup>th</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup>. This school field trip is a sell out every year. Children enjoy a train ride to the pumpkin patch to search for the magic pumpkin, each child then gets their pumpkin carved by railroad conductors and other characters while enjoying other games and crafts. Watch for the great pumpkin patch to emerge! (G.B.)

## **MINI RAIL CONTINUES THROUGH OCTOBERR**

The West Coast Mini Rail continues to run every day starting at 11am until the end of October, come on out and enjoy a few more rides before winter sets in. By the end of November, the mini rail will move into the CN Roundhouse to be part of the North Pole for Polar Express.

## **THE ART OF MAX JACQUIARD**

The *John Hardie Mitchell Gallery* is now the permanent home to the West Coast Railway Association's extensive collection of **Max Jacquiard** artwork. Max has been a friend of the association for many years and we are very proud to now have a permanent home for the

collection. The *John Hardie Mitchell Gallery* will continue to also host rotating exhibits along with the Max Jacquiard collection.

## HERITAGE PARK FALL MAINTENANCE

A number of activities are planned for the fall to upgrade the appearance of the Heritage Park.....if you have been up there recently it is looking really good with grounds, buildings and displayed pieces of the collection all in top shape. Coming up:

- A full power wash of the Mac Norris Station
- Painting of the fascia boards on the Mac Norris station
- Putting a coat of stain on the Paul D Roy Mini Rail shop
- Cleaning up and leveling of the area south of the back door of the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre
- Relocation of the Lions Club railcar
- Installation of the banquet storage container and new floor for the storage building (G.B.)



## BUSY TIMES FOR THE CN ROUNDHOUSE THIS FALL

The CN Roundhouse and Conference Centre welcomes The **Sea to Sky Home Show** on October 21,22 and 23. This is a new event for the entire Sea to Sky corridor featuring all sorts of home renovation and healthy living ideas.

**Crave** is coming to the CN Roundhouse and Conference Centre on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by the Squamish Helping Hands Society, Crave features food and drink from local establishments while raising money for this important not for profit association that helps kids, individuals and families in Squamish.

The annual **Firefighter's Ball** comes back to the CN Roundhouse on Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup> and will welcome over 300 guests. Open to the public tickets are now on sale and always a great time enjoyed by all in attendance.

And then, it is time for **Polar Express** which starts up the last weekend of November. Our CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre won the best Décor for our North Pole of all Polar Express events in North America. Take in Polar Express this year and see why.. (G.B.)

## HERITAGE PARK A GREAT EVENT VENUE

Do you have an upcoming birthday, anniversary or historic event? Why not hold it At the

West Coast Railway Heritage Park / CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre in Squamish, at our special member rates.

The 12-acre Heritage Park offers a park setting with ample outdoor green space. It features a mid-20th century old style town centre and railway station with heritage displays and over 90 pieces of railway cars and artifacts. Or party alongside the famous Royal Hudson steam engine and up to five authentic heritage trains at the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre.

We can provide full catering and/or beverage service with staff. Choose from tasty sumptuous buffets, barbeques or a fine dinner menu...whatever your appetite, we can accommodate. Or a full kitchen is provided to bring in your own caterer and/or bar. We have tables of all sizes, and provide linens and tableware. We can also provide, staging, risers, microphone, sound-system and AV equipment , and outdoor tenting if required.

There are many ways to make your event unique for any rail-fan:

- Take your guests on a private ride on working passenger train or speeder car.
- Have an elegant breakfast, lunch or dinner on a dining car train.
- Include fun themes for your event such as Roaring 20's, Murder on the Orient Express, Billy Miner Train robbery or Country Hoedown.
- A private indoor or outdoor mini-rail ride can be arranged for guests

The Heritage Park and CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre has ample free parking available and is wheelchair accessible. We'd love to have you up for a private guided tour to see this spectacular venue first-hand. Please contact one of our experienced event coordinators at to arrange a visit or if you have any questions. Email [jenn@wcra.org](mailto:jenn@wcra.org) or call us at 604-524-1011 or at the Heritage Park in Squamish at 604-898-9336. (J.C.)

## **FUNDRAISING**

### **WCRA GALA OCTOBER 5, 2016—NOW ON SALE**

The date for the WCRA Fundraising Gala has been set—it will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at the Locomotive 374 Pavilion / Roundhouse in Yaletown. Our organizing committee is **Ken Tanner, Craig McDowall, Gord Bell, Lisa Tuningley and Don Evans.**

Tickets are now open for sale for this event and work is getting underway on sponsorships as well as major auction prizes. Tickets are \$250 per guest or \$1,800 for a table of eight, each ticket includes a charitable receipt (est. \$150 in value). This is an important major fundraiser for WCRA—please consider supporting it by attending and bgy bringing guests—more information on the rear cover of this issue. (K.T.)

## **RING OF SUPPORT PAVERS AVAILABLE**

The Ring of Support Garden at the Mac Norris Station continues to flourish. Next round of stones arrived the first week of July and Cat has now installing them. Have a look on your next visit to the Heritage Park—it is looking great! (G.B.)

A reminder that our Ring of Support paver stones are still available. Don't be left out—Get Your Name Carved in Stone (or of someone you wish to honour or remember). Call Ken Tanner at 604-898-9336 in Squamish or Jennifer at 604-681-4403 in Vancouver and we can help you. There is also an application form at [www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org) Thanks for you support to the WCRA (K.T.)

## **MATCHING DONATIONS A BIG HELP**

A reminder to all our members out there, if you are employed or retired from a major company, that many of these offer matching donations programs to help with contributions to a favourite charity. We were reminded of this recently, when a cheque for \$8,000 arrived from Telus representing the doubling of charitable contributions through payroll deduction for WCRA. Thanks to those who contributed—your collective \$4,000 turned into \$8,000 for WCRA. We appreciate your support. (K.T.)

## **FOUNDATIONS WORK STARTING TO PAY OFF**

The efforts to work more with foundations is starting to payoff as we have another preliminary letter of interest ok'd and are now submitting a full application. Stay tuned!

## **LOCOMOTIVE 374 PAVILION**

Our visitor count for August was 5,621 This was 265 people less than last August. The YTD Total is 30,311 Visitors.

A special thanks to **Trevor Mills** for repairing out fleet of N-Gauge Locomotives. These engines get a lot of use at the Pavilion and are a highlight for the visiting children. On any day you will see them with their faces planted on the glass display case watching the model trains circle the track. Parents sometimes have trouble getting them to leave. Interestingly, both young girls and boys enjoy the model railway (a few adults too). Hopefully some of them will remain interested in the future and take over from us.

Another thank you to **Peter Reid** for his many donations of railway books, plates and mugs to the Pavilion. **Craig McDowall** has also donated books, Model Trains and Videos to the

Pavilion. Thanks Peter and Craig for your support. If anyone has anything they want to donate, please let me know. The proceeds go right to the Park.

The Summer days are now getting shorter, but we are still averaging 200 guests a day. The Asian Festival at the Roundhouse brought in 452 Visitors. Because of this, more Volunteers are always needed! Our students will be returning to school shortly and reducing their volunteer hours. Silvana from Brazil will be returning home in November. We need 3 more Volunteers for Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you would like to help out, please give me a call @ 778-875-3573. We have easy Skytrain and Canada Line access to the Pavilion.

We are located at the corner of Davie St & Pacific Blvd. Just across from the Canada Line Yaletown/Roundhouse Station. Please come down and visit. (G.G.)

## **FEATURE ARTICLES**

### **FROM THE STEAM CHEST—JULY 1975 PART 1**

**- with thanks to Craig McDowall**

#### **BC Provincial Museum Train**

The museum train with ex CPR #3716 on the head end began its inaugural tour of the Province on July 1st. The train departed CP's False Creek yard in Vancouver on June 30th for a run over BC Hydro's Arbutus-Marpole-New Westminster line and then onto the Central Park line to Burnaby. BC's Recreation and Conservation Minister Jack Radford officially dedicated the train and it then opened for public viewing. It was on display in Burnaby till July 6th and then traveled to Port Coquitlam on the 7th and 8th and moved to North Vancouver from the 10th to 13th. The train is currently on the BC Rail mainline having stopped already in Lillooet and Quesnel with the following schedule:

July 23rd - 27th - Prince George

July 30th - Chetwynd

July 31- August 1st - Fort St. John

August 2nd & 3rd - Dawson Creek (with diesel helper)

August 5th - MacKenzie (with diesel helper)

August 6th - Fort St. James (with diesel helper)

August 8th - 10th - Prince George

August 12th - Williams Lake

August 13th - Exeter (Williams Lake)

August 14th - Clinton

August 15th - Lillooet

August 16th - Pemberton

August 16th-17th - Squamish

August 17th to North Vancouver for storage  
August 20th - transferred by CN to Vancouver  
August 21st - 26th - Vancouver - location TBA

Consist of the Museum Train:

Number	Type	Name	Notes
3716	2-8-0	City of Port Coquitlam	Ex CPR 3716
991936	Tank	Water Car	Ex BCR tank car
4902	Display Flat	Chemainus River	Ex CPR boxcar
4901	Display Flat	Cayuse River	Ex CPR boxcar
4904	Gen Car	Cheakumus River	Ex CPR boxcar
	Display Car	Skeena River	Ex CPR coach
	Display Car	Kootenay River	Ex CPR parlour car
	Theatre Car	Cowichan River	Ex CPR coach
	Staff/Office	Peace River	BCR Northern Summit

Display flat car #4902 carries an old steam donkey engine and car #4901 carries Shawnigan Lake Lumber Co. #2, a 23 ton Climax built in 1917 (C/N #1485). Both the Climax and the donkey engine 'operate' through steam provided by #3716. #2's drive truck is raised off the rails to allow its mechanical function to operate.

**BCR**

The eight M420B's on order have started to arrive in North Vancouver. The first unit was #681, delivered in late June with the next two #682 & 683 on July 5th, 684 on July 10th and 685 on July 12th. The remaining three are expected shortly. Known as Remote Control Locomotives (RCL's), the M420B's will run in conjunction with the four old robot cars which were assumed will be retired shortly.

Unit S12 #1004 is stored in Squamish. It was returned to the BCR after being leased to Vancouver Wharves while VW's S2 #24 was in Portland, OR for electrical work.

Chopnosed RS3 #560 (Ex LS & I #1606) is assigned to switching in North Vancouver.

**Burlington Northern**

SW 1200 #217 (still in former NP colours) arrived in late June for use in the Vancouver area.

GP-38-2's in the high 2000 series have been running into Sumas WA lately.

F7A #602 is now in service after its rebuild.

A net loss of \$10.4M for the second quarter of 1975 on revenue of \$365.8M has been announced by the railway. However, BN predicts a substantial profit for the full year.

## **Canadian Pacific**

On June 20th, CP Rail announced it would abandon the Parksville-Courtenay section of the E & N Railway on Vancouver Island and that came into effect on July 1st. Two large wooden trestles on the 44 mile section would require repairs costing an estimated \$1.7 million and the company stated that this large cost wasn't warranted considering the amount of traffic currently on the line. Service south of Parksville to Nanaimo and through to Victoria will continue. The E & N Dayliner will now originate in Parksville rather than Courtenay. There was immediate reaction from the BC Government with Premier Barrett stating they would examine the viability of taking over the line or appeal to the Federal Government.

## **WCRA New Items**

A picnic at D'Arcy on the British Columbia Railway has been set up for Sunday August 10th. Train fare for the round trip will be approximately \$8.50 for adults and \$4.25 for children. We will need 25 paid adult fares for this trip to make it a 'go'. Arrival at D'Arcy is scheduled for noon with the departure back to North Vancouver at 17:30. Please call Keith Anderson at 936-8501 for reservations.

Tickets are available for the August 23rd and 24th runs of the Royal Hudson Steam Train. The July trips went well with Ed Bowman selling 27 tickets resulting in his becoming our 'Chief Ticket Agent of the Year'. Fares for the August trips are: Adults \$5.50, Students/Seniors \$4.00 and children (2-11) \$2.75. Bob Gevaert ('Mr. Corduroy') has tickets on hand as Ed will be away. Call him at 738-5754. Remember that all sales must be finalized by August 20th.

## **BC Government**

Just before we went to press, news sources have stated that BC Transport Minister Robert Strachan has asked Federal Transport Minister Jean Marchand to force CP Rail into maintaining adequate rail service on the full Vancouver Island mainline. As stated earlier in this issue, CP abandoned the section from Courtenay to Parksville-Port Alberni section on July 1st.

## **BC Electric Railway**

Three interurbans that are owned by BCER are being returned to Canada at the end of this month. They are #1220, 1231 and 1235. They were sold in the late 1950's, just after the Marpole-Steveston service was discontinued, to Trolleyland just south of Olympia Washington. They have been acquired by the BC Provincial Museum and two of them are to see service on some yet to be determined line. Apparently the third interurban, #1231, has been sold and will be shipped to Ottawa to a museum there. Cost of acquiring back the three cars is reported to be \$15,000. They are being shipped back to Vancouver by Foss Tug and Barge from Seattle and will be unloaded at the BC Rail's barge slip in North Vancouver.

## MAKING CHARITABLE DONATIONS WORK FOR YOU

- By John Day

### *Taking full advantage of the Charitable Donations Tax Credit.*

The charitable sector in Canada is very important. Through the annual combination of nearly two billion hours of volunteer time, and the donation of over twelve billion dollars, the charitable sector delivers services that would be simply unattainable or unaffordable if left to government or the private sector. Charities provide services in religious, education, research, sports, arts, cultural, health, and environmental fields, among many others. It is no surprise, therefore, that there are 85,000 Registered Charities in Canada, and as many again unregistered organizations, competing for donor dollars.



Statistics Canada reports that while 44% of Canadian aged 15 or older participated in volunteer work in 2013, 82% of the same category made charitable contributions, the average annual amount contributed being \$531.

Clearly the charitable sector is very important in the development of the country, and to this end the tax system has been designed to strongly encourage Canadians to contribute to the charities of their choice, through generous tax credits and other measures, many of which are misunderstood or only partially understood.

### How it works

Although the charitable contribution tax credit is often referred to as the “charity deduction”, the tax system was amended many years ago to level the playing field for almost all donors. **The value of a tax credit, as opposed to a tax deduction, is the same for all individuals, regardless of their income.** The only requirement, as a “non-refundable tax credit”, is that the individual must have some sort of tax liability for both Federal and Provincial Tax, to absorb the tax credits generated by the charitable contributions. Anticipating that some people may have more donations in a particular year than they are able to use efficiently, **the law allows donations to be carried forward for up to five additional years** for use in reducing tax payable.

The income tax credit is calculated on an increasing scale, with the first \$200 of annual contributions to all charities generating a combined federal and provincial tax credit of 20.06%, **with all amounts in excess of the \$200 threshold generating a credit of 43.7%.** There is an annual maximum that can be claimed, equal to 75% of an individual’s net income, with some exceptions.

Assuming an individual meets the \$200 donation threshold (where the credit rate changes from 20.06% to 43.7%) through relatively small donations (e.g. the canvassers who call at your door and give you a \$25 or \$50 receipt), then **donations in excess can produce some very nice tax savings: \$1,000 generates a saving of \$437 while \$10,000 generates \$4,370.**

There are some further incentives which apply in certain circumstances. If an individual makes a **gift of publicly traded securities**, not only does the individual receive a tax credit for the fair market value of those securities, but the tax on the capital gain that would have applied if those securities had been sold. For example, suppose you bought 100 shares at \$6.00 each four years ago, and they are now worth \$12.00 a share. If you gave these shares to a registered charity, you would get a tax receipt for \$1,200 (worth \$524 in saved taxes) and would save a further \$131 in the tax on the capital gain you would have to pay if you sold the shares. So the shares you paid \$600 for actually give rise to a tax saving of \$655, with the charity receiving a benefit of \$1,200.

Similarly beneficial rules apply to the **gift of other capital properties**.

There is also an additional **“first time donor” “super credit”** which allows for an **additional 25% credit on gifts of money up to a maximum gift of \$1,000**, in any year from 2013 to 2017. You must fit the definition of a “first time donor” which is basically where neither the individual nor spouse (or common-law partner) has claimed a charitable contribution credit for any year after 2007.

**Fiction vs. Fact**

*Fiction #1: “I don’t have much income though I do have some spare cash. I would make a donation but I won’t get any tax saving from it.”*

**Fact #1:** Provided you pay at least some Federal and Provincial Income Tax (lines 420 and 428 respectively on your tax return), you will realize savings at the rate of 43.7% for annual donations in excess of \$200.

*Fiction #2: “I have the cash available to give a larger gift, but I want to spread it out over five years so that I can get the best tax result for it.”*

**Fact #2:** Provided you have some tax to pay in each of those years, you will get the most benefit from giving early. You can choose the exact amount of donation needed to eliminate your current year’s tax (you may need an accountant’s help) and carry forward any unused donate on credits for use in any of the next five years.

T1-2015 Donations and Gifts Schedule 9

For more information, see line 349 in the guide and see Pamphlet P113, Gifts and Income Tax.

Attach a copy of this schedule to your return. Remember, you may have charitable donations shown on your T4 and T4A slips.

Donations made to registered charities, registered Canadian amateur athletic associations, and registered Canadian low-cost housing corporations for the aged	1000	1
Donations made to government bodies (government of Canada, a province or territory, a registered municipality in Canada, or a registered municipal or public body performing a function of government in Canada)	500	2
Donations made to registered universities outside Canada that are prescribed	500	3
Donations made to the United Nations, its agencies, and certain registered foreign charitable organizations	500	4
<b>Add lines 1 to 4</b>	<b>3500</b>	<b>5</b>
Enter your net income from line 236 of your return.	8000	6
	$\times 75\% =$	3750
<b>Note:</b> If the amount on line 5 is less than the amount on line 6, enter the amount from line 5 on line 346 below and continue completing the schedule from that line.		
Gifts of depreciable property (from Char 2 in Pamphlet P113, Gifts and Income Tax)	300	7
Gifts of capital property (from Char 1 in Pamphlet P113, Gifts and Income Tax)	500	8
<b>Add lines 7 and 8.</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>9</b>
Enter the total of lines 6 and 9 or the amount on line 236 of your return, whichever is less.	3750	10
<b>Total donations limit</b> = 3750		
Allowable charitable donations (enter the amount from line 6 or line 10, whichever is less)	3500	1000
Eligible amount of cultural and ecological gifts (see line 349 in the guide)	340	
<b>Add lines 340 and 342.</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>1000</b>
Enter \$200 or the amount from line 344, whichever is less.	340	300
	$\times 15\% =$	348
<b>Line 344 minus line 345</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>800</b>
	$\times 25\% =$	<b>348</b>
<b>First-time donor's super credit (FDSC)</b>		
For the purpose of the FDSC, you will be considered a "first-time donor" if neither you nor your spouse or common-law partner has claimed and been allowed a charitable donations tax credit for any year after 2007.		
Only gifts of money made after March 20, 2013 to a maximum of \$1,000, are eligible for the FDSC.		
<b>Note:</b> If you have a spouse or common-law partner, you can share the claim for the FDSC, but the total combined donations claimed cannot be more than \$1,000.		
Enter the amount of gifts of money* made after March 20, 2013. (Maximum \$1,000)	1000	
	$\times 25\% =$	340
<b>Add lines 11, 12, and 13.</b>		<b>482</b>
Enter this amount on line 349 of Schedule 1.		<b>Donations and gifts</b>
* The amount claimed on line 345 must also be claimed on line 346 by you or your spouse or common-law partner. Also note that if the donations are shared, the combined amount on line 343 for you and your spouse or common-law partner cannot exceed the combined amount claimed on line 346 by both of you.		

The charity gets to put your money to work sooner and you can manage your contributions to save you money sooner.

Fiction #3: *“I am comfortably well off and have no financial worries. For this reason, I plan to leave a legacy gift to my favourite charity in my will.”*

Fact #3: If you can truly afford it, you may wish to make your gift early. Gifts made through a will can be used only against the tax liability for the year of death, the year preceding death or, if you have a continuing estate, to what is essentially the first three tax years of the estate. It may be better to use the funds in another year, applying the credits optimally against as many as six years of personal income tax. In addition to getting to hear the words “thank you” from the recipient, the gift, if included in your estate, will be subject to probate fees.

Fiction #4: *“I have never made a charitable gift before as I don’t think it will save me money. I am just a wage earner/pensioner.”*

Fact #4: You probably qualify for the first time donor’s super credit which is aimed specifically at you, which will leverage the tax saving by a further 25%, for gifts of money up to \$1,000. If you make no donations except for a \$1,000.00 first time donation of money to a single charity, you would receive a reduction in your personal income tax of \$639.72.

Fiction #5. *“I’m not sure my gift will be used for charitable purposes. So many charities seem to spend a lot on fundraising and administration.”*

Fact #5: Many charities are very efficient and support most administrative and fundraising efforts through volunteers. You can find out financial information on any registered charity, including revenue sources, and expenses by type, by searching the Canada Revenue Agency website: [www.cra.gc.ca/charitiesandgiving](http://www.cra.gc.ca/charitiesandgiving). Many charities will provide prospective donors with information on its expenditures upon request.

Fiction #6: *“I’ve gone through the calculations for the Donations and Gifts Credits using ‘Schedule 9’ of the tax forms, and came up with a much smaller credit than I expected.”*

Fact #6: You must also claim the provincial portion of the credits. In British Columbia, use form BC428 lines 31, 32 and 33. You will come up with the full 43.7% credit on amounts over \$200.

### **Don’t forget employer matching programs**

Many employees, particularly those of large corporations, can put not only their money to work, but their employers’ as well. Each employer is different, and employees should check with their HR department as to how matching donations work.

In our example for a first-time donor who is also able to have his \$1,000 donation matched by his employer, the charity would receive \$2,000 at a net cost to the donating employee of \$360. That is leverage of 5-1/2 times which is really quite an amazing outcome.

Employers which have employee matching programs include many banks, Canadian Pacific, and Telus Corporation, to name just a few.

*This information was prepared as a public service by John M. Day, CPA, CA.*

## RAILWAY NEWS



### PHILIP AVE. OVERPASS OPEN

The new overpass across the CN McLean Yard is now open in North Vancouver, and the former Pemberton Ave. crossing is closed. The new bridge has a good pedestrian walkway and provides good views of the operations at this point of the yard. The Rocky Mountaineer continues to board there, its walkway somewhat hidden now by the new bridge. This is now the only way to the industries on the south side of the CN tracks.

### CHANGE AT THE HELM

CN's President & CEO Claude Mongeau has retired from CN for health reasons. Replacing him is former CN CFO Luc Jobin. Mongeau had been president since 2010 after succeeding Hunter Harrison.

### FORMER BC RAIL UNITS STORED

It has been reported that CN has put most of the former BC Rail C40-8M units in storage—reported on the list are 4601, 4602, 4603, 4604, 4607, 4609, 4611, 4613, 4616, 4617, 4618, 4621, 4623, 4625 and 4626. (TJ)





## **ARBUTUS LINE AND O YARD**

Not only has rail along the Arbutus corridor now been lifted, but also most of the O Yard trackage (along Kent Ave. in South Vancouver) has also been taken out of service. Switches have been spiked closed on all but two tracks in the yard—they and one industry track remain usable. Closed are the former locomotive track, the north yard run around, and all yard tracks except O 34 and O 35. (SDHSE)

## **ROYAL CANADIAN PACIFIC VISITS**

The Royal Canadian Pacific train, led by the A—B—A set of F units, made a couple of summer visits to the west coast. As usual it got a lot of railfan attention, and daylight operations made for great photos. The most recent was in September, with a long train departing waterfront yard eastbound about 0940 on Wednesday, September 7.

## **SD40-2 UNITS ALMOST GONE**

In August there were only four SD40-2 units active on CP, and all were in the US. Reported in operations were 6028, 6063, 6068, and 6073. (TJ) The SD40-2 was once the standard locomotive on CP, now the AC 4400 series would hold that crown.

## **COAL TRAINS PAIRING UP IN KOOTENAYS**

CP is operating coal trains in pairs to help alleviate congestion due heavy traffic on the Crowsnest subdivision. The procedure gives two trains the same time clearance, and the conductors are then responsible for keeping the appropriate distance between the trains traveling the same direction. (SDHSE)



## **MORE ON THE GP20D**

The GP20D unit currently being tested by SRY is a Caterpillar design. Unit CEFX 2036 is one of 40 such locomotives' built in 2000, produced jointly by Motive Power Inc and EMD. It uses a Caterpillar 3516 prime mover (similar to the 3512 engines used in the BCR RS 18 to CRS 20 program in the 1990's). (SDHSE)



## ROCKY MOUNTAINEER GOLD LEAF REFURBISHING UPDATE

Ontario Northland Railway is now carrying out the work to complete the refurbishing of the Gold Leaf fleet after Canarail Consultants switched the work contract there. The work will be done at ONR's North Bay, Ontario shops. Five cars have already been completed and 11 remain to be done, the first five were done in Quebec's Gaspé region. The entire 16 car fleet is to be upgraded by 2018. (SDHSE) (photo below, by Don Evans May 2015)



## COASTAL PASSAGE TRAINS

Rocky Mountaineer's Coastal Passage service has grown in frequency this year. The trains operate along the BNSF route to Seattle and handle guests on a core three day itinerary of Seattle—Vancouver—Kamloops—Banff. A typical consist sees a pair of F40PH-2 units for power, with Gen car, crew coach, lounge car, Silver Leaf car, crew coach and two Gold Leaf.



## **CANADIAN NOTES**

VIA's westbound Canadian ran on CPR tracks on July 18 to Mission on account a defective switch at Basque—where the train would normally switch to the CN tracks. It crossed over the Fraser River at Mission and completed its journey into Vancouver on its normal CN routing. (SDHSE)

A very long Canadian—29 cars long—departed Vancouver eastbound on August 9. Three tour groups aboard swelled the train to 340 passengers, and the consist included three Skyline domes, a glass topped car and the Park dome observation. (SDHSE)

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **VANCOUVER AREA TRANSIT GETS NEW GOVERNMENT FUNDING**

Improvements and more equipment are coming to Greater Vancouver transit services with the announcement of \$741 million in new Federal funding. The funds will:

- Add another 28 Mark III cars to the Skytrain system
- Fund upgrades to several Skytrain stations
- Add 22 new cars to the Canada Line fleet (currently 40 cars)
- Add one new locomotive and five new cars to West Coast Express

Skytrain has now put its new Mark III cars into service on the system—they are numbered in the 400 series so are easy to identify.

### **BNSF BRIDGE UPGRADE**

BNSF is upgrading its bridge that crosses the Nicomekl River at MP 127.6 (Crescent Beach). Drawbridge 69 is being converted from wood trestle to concrete (as was earlier done on the Mud Bay bridge).

### **US EMISSIONS STANDARDS TO BE ADOPTED BY CANADA**

Canada has announced that it will adopt the same emission standards for diesel electric locomotives as have been put into force in the US. (SDHSE) The major railways are reported to be ok with this plan.

## BC MUSEUM TRAIN

Below is a David Wilkie photo of the BC Museum Train at Penticton station in the Okanagan. The train travelled the Province in 1975 and 1976 (see page 15 for more info)



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**TRIVIA ANSWER**

New York Central in late 1934 applied a shroud to *J-1e 4-6-4 5344 "The Commodore Vanderbilt"* ( The non-streamlined version was the basis of Lionel Toy Trains' pre-war O-scale Hudson number 700e - very highly sought after by collectors today ). Full streamlining followed in 1935 with Milwaukee Road's Alco-built A-class Hiawatha 4-4-2's 1 and 2. Canada joined in 1936 with CPR's F2a 4-4-4 3000-3004 Jubilees and CNR's U4a 4-8-4 6400-6404 ( GTW received six similar U4b's in 1938 ).

**BACK COVER**

Climb aboard the WCRA's Fall Gala—support the WCRA with a donation and a great evening—\$150 of each ticket is a charitable receipt.



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Support the West Coast Railway Association with our fall fundraising gala  
**Rails Under the Harvest Moon!**



**Join WCRA members and friends on Wed. Oct. 5, 2016 at the Engine 374 Pavilion in Yaletown for an evening of fine food, silent auction, door prizes, games of chance, a variety of music, and entertainment.**

5:30 pm, Cocktails and appetizers in the 374 Pavilion - to the toe-tapping music of "Kierah"

6:30 pm, 3-course dinner in the Yaletown Roundhouse - with "Amicus Duo" providing their soothing background music

8:00 pm, Presentations to valued supporters of the W.C.R.A.

8:30 pm, Silent auction and Games of Chance

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**Tickets \$250/each or \$1,800 for a table of 8**  
*(you will receive a \$150 tax receipt for each ticket)*

Call the Heritage Park in Squamish at 604-898-9336 for tickets  
or 604-524-1011 in the lower mainland.

**West Coast Railway Association Box 2790 Station Main, Vancouver BC V6B 3X2**

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