



# **WCRA NEWS**

## **NOVEMBER 2016**

# **POLAR EXPRESS**

# **ANNUAL AWARDS**

# **BANQUET NOV.30**



## GENERAL MEETING

The **General Meeting** of the WCRA will be held on **Tuesday, October 25 at 1930 hours** at Rainbow Creek Station, corner of Willingdon and Penzance in Burnaby.

Entertainment will be announced at the meeting.

**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

New CN ET44AC #3085 leads a westbound container train across the Assiniboine River in Winnipeg on the morning of October 2, 2016. The long train had two DPU's—ES44AC 2829 mid train and ES44AC 2888 on the tail end. (Don Evans photo)

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- **West Coast Railway Heritage Park open daily 1000 through 1600k.**
- Saturday, November 5 and Sunday, November 6—Vancouver Train Expo at the PNE Forum building, 1000—1800 Sat, 1000—1700 Sunday
- Saturday, November 12—Deadline for items to be included in the December 2016 WCRA News
- Friday, November 18—Refresh Night Market, CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre
- Saturday, November 20—Refresh Christmas Market—CN Roundhouse
- Saturday, November 26 and Sunday, November 27—Polar Express operates at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park
- Wednesday, November 30—WCRA General Meeting—Annual Dinner and Awards—Accent Inn at Boundary Road and Henning in Burnaby, 1730 hours. Price just \$49, reserve your space now at 604-524-1011 in Vancouver or 604-898-9336 in Squamish

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.

# ASSOCIATION NEWS

## FROM THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

**Chair Craig McDowall** called the meeting to order with 21 voting members, 2 spouses, 1 staff and 3 guests present. As this did not constitute a quorum, no official business was conducted

- **Craig** reported as **President** that he meets with the Operations Team at the park every Tuesday, then as required with Gord and staff regarding planning for major events and other issues. Management and staff are doing a good job up there. Park rentals are up and so are the rates. Another movie shoot is almost confirmed. In addition Polar ticket sales are doing very well using Social Media without need for TV or other forms of traditional media advertising. Facebook and Instagram ads are the new norm.
- **Craig & Christian** teamed up on **Railway Operations** advising that air conditioning has been repaired on two coaches with the rest scheduled for completion before DOWT depending on the work required. **Bill Marchant** gave a brief update on #960 highlighting the need to replace one window as the result of damage caused while grinding protrusions in the cab. The rear hood is now fitted after a little tweaking. All other work is going well.
- **David** presented financials in absentia reporting total revenue ytd July 31 was \$926k, almost the same as 2015. Loss of revenue from the *Henry Pickering* lease (\$35k) was offset by movie revenue of \$50k. Expenses were well controlled @ \$90k less than L/Y. The ytd deficit = \$123k T/Y vs \$209k L/Y.
- **Gord also** reported in absentia that the **Heritage Park** in September saw 8 important events at the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre raising much needed funds for operation. This included our first 100% in-house catered private event using the Park's own team and kitchen.
- As requested by the Board, time has been spent recently on developing a new website strategy. **Jenn** has been tasked to make the existing website more friendly. Design work is also proceeding on a separate CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre site with the build starting early October.
- Ticket sales for events are going well with 704 tickets sold to date for the Mystery of the Magic Pumpkin Train (incl. our first ever Vancouver School). Thanks to Craig, Robert and Christian, Polar Express tickets are almost 1/3 sold. Volunteers are needed to staff the event. Contact **Zoe** if you can help.
- Gord closed by listing projects the Park would like to complete during the fall – weather dependent.
- **Ken** started his **Fundraising Report** with recent Grant Application activity; The McLean Foundation has indicated allocation of \$5k towards Experiential Learning; BC Heritage awarded \$10k to *Northern Summit* Restoration; Canada Cultural Spaces is our reviewing request to support the MP2 acquisition and a decision is expected soon from GNRHS regarding assistance with cosmetic restoration of Transfer Caboose BN 11474 as GN X-180.

- Ken gave an update on the October 5<sup>th</sup> Gala ... all logistics are complete however the task of marketing it and selling tickets continues.
- Planning continues towards the development of the Telegraph Memorial Park ... next step is to confirm regulatory requirements meanwhile brochure preparation under way.
- Work continues on the development of the WCRA Patron Program.
- Funding for the semaphore installation is nearly complete. Work is proceeding on schedule for the 6520 restoration but additional funding is needed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS –**

**Annual Awards Dinner** – Scheduled for November 30 at Accent Inn Burnaby. Tickets \$49.00;

**Additional Business Items** on the Agenda would have led to a vote so were not presented due to lack of Quorum

- **Guests** were welcomed and the events calendar was reviewed

#### **TRACKSIDE REPORTS**

**Ryan Cruickshank** gave a brief trackside report and conducted another interesting show and tell with some vintage models. **Bill Marchant** contributed items of interest (with emphasis on the other Railway) in his usual entertaining fashion.

- The **50/50** draw was held. Winner **Bill Marchant** donated funds back to the Association with thanks.
- **Entertainment** - A video supplied by **Joe Naismith** ... *DM & IR –Steam Variety* shot in the 1950s and featuring the mighty Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range 2-8-8-4 Yellowstones at work hauling the heavy iron ore trains the task for which they were built. Thanks to Ryan for picking it up.

#### **PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

If your label reads 9/30/2016 then your membership has expired, if your label reads 06/30/2016 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.)

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

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 and supporters 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 North East corner. The location has free parking or easy access via #28 Bus to the door which connects to Sky Train at Joyce or Gilmour.

The price for the awards dinner evening is \$49.00 and a cash bar will be available. Please note we will not be printing tickets but you must have a reservation in order to attend and enjoy this wonderful evening. You can make your reservations at the October General Meeting, by calling Jenn at 604-524-1011, or the Heritage Park at 604-898-9336 ... YOU MAY PAY AT THE DOOR but we must give the Hotel the final count confirmation 48 hrs prior (on Nov 28) (J.D.)

## **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome to membership.....

- Shane & Sonja Addis and family of Squamish;
- Alex Anderson and family of Squamish;
- Dustin Blair and family of Britannia Beach;
- Andrea Buckman & Chris Wyckham and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Cheryl Caldwell & Tyler Cairns and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Roxana Chapela & Leopulbo Sanchez-Celis and family of Squamish;
- Ron Child of Surrey;
- Jill Dickson and family of Squamish;
- Sacha Galitzki and family of Squamish;
- Brodie & Pippa Henrichsen and family of North Vancouver;
- Patrick & Holly Higgins and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Melanie Horner and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Bobby Jian and family of Squamish;
- Victoria Johnstone and family of Surrey;
- Pascal Lavoie and family of Beaconsfield QC;
- Chris & Diana McBoyle and family of Squamish;
- Katherine Mulligan and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Aimee Newton and family of Squamish;
- Deedee Poyner and family of Squamish;
- Kelsey Roberge and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Nathan & Natalie Vadeboncoeur and family of Vancouver
- 

We welcome back to membership:

- Philip & Selinda Lye and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Sarah Manwaring-Jones and family of Squamish (J.D.)

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

In what city was the first operational subway system in Central America Built?

(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 Heritage Park, Locomotive 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 (please leave message if no answer). (J.D.)

## **COLLECTION**

### **GN 1090 REPORT**

GN 1090 Sept 30 Work Update ...I have made another wonderful discovery on the 1090. While putting the tarps on to keep the car dry for the winter I discovered that the ends of the roof are sheathed in copper. This is similar too the SP&S 218 at the Northwest Railway Museum in Washington State.

Also on my website I have included a list of other major restorations that are ongoing at other museums around North America. Some of these locations are the Northwest Railway Museum, Mid Continent Railway Museum, West Coast Railway Heritage Park and others. (T.M.)

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

### **BCER 960 REPORT**

So, now that we've all had a great summer, it's time to get really back to work on our demanding 960. Not that we haven't put in a number of hard days the past couple months, so here's an update..

The focus has been and remains the final fitting of steel panels, doors, and hardware on the rear hood. The left rear drop door was proving problematic at an earlier stage, so it was switched out for the right front, and this door certainly fell into place nicely. But oops, major modifications to the three latch fittings, door to side of hood, were going to be needed to have this door work

effectively. The mods would have been potentially an ugly distortion with questionable operation. So, we dropped in again the proper door for the left rear, and with some grinding here and there, and a slight lift of the right rear of the hood, ( bless the 10 ton overhead crane ) the proper door finally fell into its opening as it should. At one point, we had one door hanging down on hinges and the proper door sitting in its opening, sort of a two door thing for the left rear hood. I'm told this goes with restorations when you try to match up old original pieces with newly fabricate plating, aaaagh. We're now on the right track for finishing off this aspect, with new hinges plus latch mechanisms coming together plus paint priming touch up scheduled.



On the same left rear side we've had to remove the engineers window glazing. Apparently when we were doing a little grinding to better fit hood to a side panel, the white hot sparks actually embedded into the tempered safety glass. One couldn't much notice until you ran your hand over the face of the glass, rough on hands and would certainly shred wiper blades... Another frustrating mistake, as we mistakenly thought everything was bouncing off this glass, but thankfully, our generous glazier cut us another piece in short order.

**Peter Layland** spared us some time away from working on brakes at the FVHR, so we completed installation of the replacement break piping pieces up through the 960s steel pan, which involved a good deal of top and bottom alignment work. We now have to set in place dozens of the refurbished piping brackets. The bottom angle new fabrication pieces for the front hood are dry fit in place, we now simply need a welder on hand.

By end of November we aim to have rear hood painting completed, new glazing replaced and more advances with the brake hardware.

Till then... Mike, Bill, Bob, Gordon and Peter / 960 crew.

### **KYLE REDOING ROOF OF MCDONALD CREEK**



WCRA's Power / Baggage car WCXX 9622 is getting some roof work done in the PGE Carshop in September and October.

This Gordon Bell photo shows **Kyle Harris** at work on the roof getting it prepped for a new membrane as has been installed on several of our operating coaches.

In other news re our operating train, two of our coaches have now had their air conditioning systems repaired and reactivated. Our goal is to field a fully air conditioned train when Thomas returns in 2017.

### **WORK BEGINS ON STANLEY PARK TRAIN EXHIBIT**

Work has commenced towards the creation of an exhibit featuring the original Stanley Park train locomotive and several vintage photos of the train when it operated there between 1947 and 1963. The Atlantic type locomotive has been polished up in the PGE Carshop at the Heritage Park, and photos are now being collected. If you have any photos of this train please share them with us—contact the newsletter editor (see page 26). (photo page 9, Gord Bell)





## **WEST COAST RAILWAY HERITAGE PARK** *Home of the Royal Hudson*



### **POLAR EXPRESS TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

Polar Express tickets are selling well via [www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org) Last year this popular event sold Out and we expect the same for the 2016 version—some departures are now sold out as we go to press—but lots still available! 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.

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.”

## **FALL MINI RAIL OPERATIONS**

The West Coast Mini Rail has a busy Fall and early Winter ahead of it, and it will be moving around a bit. At the Heritage Park, the mini rail now operates on Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays as well as special event days. It will also operate in the PNE Forum Building in Vancouver on November 5 and 6. By the end of November, the mini rail will move into the North Pole for Polar Express operations through the month of December. (J.D.)

## **NEW HERITAGE RESTORATIONS DEBUT AT BILLY MINER DAYS**

The West Coast Railway Heritage Park isn’t just about trains, it also focuses on the stories of how the railways established communities here in Western British Columbia and the types of community activities that grew up as our towns became established. And so it was, that as the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre was transformed into the “saloon”, the area also debuted of some new operating artifacts.

Outside the saloon entrance was a working forge, restored by **David Walmsley** with the help of Brodie, who created butter knives on the forge from base steel for the guests who attended the function. This was the first time it has been fired up for the public and it was quite something to watch.

Inside the entry, the first thing you came upon was Mamie’s Wash House, where **Cat** operated and demonstrated the 1929 Maytag wringer washer and washed anyone's clothes who needed it! Again, it was a great live demo of this restored piece of home equipment, that normally resides in the wash house beside the Brightbill Heritage House.

And then, there was the Print Shop—our vintage printing press restored to operation and setup, with **Zoe Cilliers** turning out Billy Miner posters for guests. The printing press also created our thank you cards which were used at the Gala on October. (photos)



*Catherine "Cat" operates the vintage Maytag at Mamie's Wash House during Billy Miner Days event.*



## WOODFIBRE REUNION

A 1951 Hayes Flat Deck chain drive truck complete with a "Twenty" on the deck visited the West Coast Railway Heritage Park from the Alberni Valley Museum. The Hayes spent it's entire working career at Woodfibre and was onsite for the Woodfibre Reunion on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The event was held in the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre and was very well attended. (Photo, page 12 by Gordon Bell)

The event was just one of many that have chosen our heritage venue in recent months.



## FILMING AT THE HERITAGE PARK

Following on the shoot for the television series *Timeless* that used PGE #2 and train at the Mac Norris Station, the filming business has continued at a brisk pace. Working with **Pat Doiron** of Industrial Film Works, we have had several others scout the site and have landed a couple more pieces of filming. A small shoot was held on Thursday, September 15 and *Legends of the Future* had a hard look at our facility. While they didn't book in the end, they did provide a donation for our time spent with them.

We did get another contract, this time with 1922 Productions and that filming was underway October 6th with an operating train and, once again, our new star PGE #2. (G.B.)

**CN ROUNDHOUSE  
& Conference Centre**

## HOLD YOUR EVENT AT THE HERITAGE PARK

Do you have a unique event to celebrate? Why not hold your birthday, anniversary or milestone event right next to the Royal Hudson at the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre! This venue is truly spectacular with 20 ft. high floor- to-ceiling windows with a panoramic view, more than 200 feet across. We have up to 5 heritage train cars that can moved in and out of the Roundhouse, to customize the size of your event space. We also have 7 massive wooden train doors that can be opened to let the outside in.



We have an excellent on-site chef and offer scrumptious catering for parties from 10 to 1,200 guests. Choose from one of our tasty sumptuous buffets, barbeques or a fine dinner menu...whatever your appetite, we can accommodate. A full kitchen can also be provided if you wish to bring in your own caterer. We offer tables of all sizes, linens, tableware, staging, risers, AV equipment, sound system 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 lunch or dinner on a heritage railcar from either 1890 or 1929.
- Hold a private indoor or outdoor mini-rail ride for your guests – surely unforgettable!
- Include fun themes for your event such as Roaring 20's, Orient Express, Train robbery or Country Hoedown.

The West Coast Railway Heritage Park and CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre also has ample free parking available and is wheelchair accessible.

These events provide WCRA with much more than just events revenue. Each one introduces many people to our work in heritage preservation to what we are all about, as they enjoy time with their group amid our wonderfully restored heritage trains.

We'd love to have you up for a private guided tour to see this space first-hand. Please [jenn@wcra.org](mailto:jenn@wcra.org) or call 604-524-1011 in the lower mainland. (J.C.)

# FUNDRAISING

## OCTOBER 5 GALA A GREAT SUCCESS



A nice crowd of around 60 supporters gathered at the Locomotive 374 Pavilion on the evening of October 5 for the WCRA's annual fall gala. Dubbed *Rails Under the Harvest Moon*, the day proved to be a perfect fall day as we enjoyed champagne and appetizers to the music of **Kierah** on the fiddle.

(left, appetizers are offered to WCRA Directors **Paul McCrea & Marian Robson** and **Lynne**

**McCrea)**

(right— WCRA Chair **Bill Johnston** talks about Vancouver's railway history and the coming of the railway to our fledgling community way back in 1887. Looking on are our MLA West Vancouver **Sea to Sky**



**Jordan Sturdy** and Canadian Western Bank's **Nick McLean**)



*(above—Zoe Cilliers and Bonnie Game welcome guests to the Locomotive 374 Pavilion)*

At 1830 we moved into the main hall of the Roundhouse Community Centre for our dinner which was outstanding—thanks to David and **Sugar Mountain Catering** for a great meal. Music was provided by **Amicus Duo**. There was some time then to attempt the mini golf obstacle course and to succeed at the bean bag toss for some great prizes.

The auction completed the evening with some terrific items—thanks to **Paul McCrea** (stay at Woodrun Lodge in Whistler), **Best Western Tin Wis Resort** for a stay at Tofino, **Westin Whistler Resort & Spa** for a stay, **Ken Tanner & Don Evans** for dinners on the **British Columbia railcar** and **David Wheeler** for a Max Jacquiard framed print.

A very special thanks to our sponsors for the evening, **CN**, **Southern Railway of BC**, **Robert Philip** and **George & Bonnie Game**. (photos by George Game)

## **RING OF SUPPORT PAVERS—GREAT FOR CHRISTMAS**

Do you have someone special that is really hard to find the perfect Christmas gift for? Someone special that you wish to remember? Then look no further.....

A reminder that our Ring of Support paver stones are still available. Get Your Name Carved in Stone (or of someone you wish to honour or remember) and the completed stone will be placed in our supporters garden at the Mac Norris Station.

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.)

## **LOCOMOTIVE 374 PAVILION**

Our visitor count for September was 3,466. This was 958 people less than last September. The YTD Total is 33,777 Visitors. I am not sure why the visitor count is down this year. Tourism Vancouver is reporting a record year for tourism.

Even with less people visiting, our cash donations and kiosk sales are up. Our Volunteers must be doing a good job. Thanks everyone!

Another Summer Season is over. It is definitely getting colder in the Pavilion. Its almost time to put away my shorts! We will be switching to winter hours (11 - 3) soon.

In November we will be losing Silvana, our volunteer from Brazil. She will be returning home. We look forward to her return in the future. Thanks for all your time and effort. We will miss you. We already have one person off on medical leave and one couple has cut their hours. This represents six man/women days loss per month. It will be a challenge to keep the Pavilion staffed and open during the winter months. Many of our staff will also be working the Polar Express. If you can spare a day or more to help out, please give me a call at (778) 875-3573. Mondays are the day we need help with the most.

We are located at the corner of Davie St & Pacific Blvd. Just across from the Canada Line Yaletown/Roundhouse Station.

Enjoy the Fall Colours! (G.G.)



## **FEATURE ARTICLES**

### **FROM THE STEAM CHEST—OCTOBER 1961 PART 1**

**- with thanks to Craig McDowall**

#### **BCER**

In a lightning move on August 3rd the B.C. Government took over the British Columbia Electric Co. which included the B.C. Electric Railway. What will happen to the railway is now a huge question mark. Many rumours are going around with the most popular being that it would become part of the Pacific Great Eastern. To date, the day to day railway operations haven't changed. (Ed. Note—it became the BC Hydro Railway)

#### **Rapid Transit for Vancouver?**

This question was raised by the BC Government's Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi when he said a rapid transit system would be better for Vancouver than a freeway system of highways.

This has been discussed by various municipal levels of government and the funds for a survey have now been approved. Several points in favour of a rapid transit system would be that it takes up less space than a freeway, would pay for itself and would be faster than any freeway. Freeways don't make money and would deprive the city of valuable taxable downtown property. The original suggestion would be to use the currently abandoned rights of way of the BCER interurban lines and the currently little used freight lines still operated by the BCER. Plans indicate that this rapid rail system could be in place by 1969-1970.

#### **CNR**

On September 5th, caboose #76279 came out the CNR's Port Mann shops carrying the new 'wet noodle' insignia. The car was painted the normal CNR orange but this was just to use up existing paint stock! Future repainting will be in the new 'red-orange' colour to match the noses of the repainted diesel units.

Passenger diesel B unit #6616 also showed up in September in the 'toothpaste' scheme

CNR 2-8-0 #2165 and 0-6-0 #7396 were sent from Mirror, Alberta to Edmonton early this summer en route to Winnipeg for scrapping. The engines remained in Edmonton for a little while and it wasn't until Sept. 8th that they headed east to Winnipeg along with 4-6-2's #5104 & #5117, all in a way freight. At the same time, 2-8-0 #2164 was in the Edmonton 9th Street Roundhouse waiting to get her running gear greased and then sent east to be scrapped.

4-6-2 #5114 will run a fan trip out of Edmonton to Camrose and the excursion is planned for October 28th by the Northern Alberta Model Railway Club. If the trip is a success, #5114 will probably be retained for some other trips in the spring next year. This locomotive traveled to Athabaska Alberta on August 31st for an official city celebration just after receiving a quick inspection and fresh paint. When she returned a few days later, she was put on temporary

static display near the CNR freight offices.

2-8-0 #2141 arrived at Port Mann from Victoria on August 28th and during the next two weeks was given a quick 'once over' and a new coat of paint and then sent to Kamloops on September 15th to be placed on display at the city park near the Thompson River.

0-6-0's #7413 ,based in Drumheller, and #7362, based in Hanna Alberta, were sent to Saskatoon during August en route to the CNR Transcona shops in Winnipeg to be scrapped.

Grand Trunk Western diesel #73 was scrapped at Battle Creek Michigan this past spring. She had been in storage there for the past year or so.

### **Pacific Great Eastern**

A very rare occurrence took place on Sept. 2nd when a five car Budd RDC train was operated out of North Vancouver. This sold out train was a result of the long Labour Day weekend and a special rail fan party aboard. Four cars had been scheduled but the fifth one was added at the last minute due to the passenger load. The train departed with standing room only with some passengers situated in the baggage sections of the RDC-3 units! As the PGE only has six RDC's, this left only one unit to cover the southbound train from Prince George to Lillooet (where three cars of the northbound train were dropped off to meet the southbound RDC).

Work bunk car #X-120 was tipped over and burned at Squamish during September. This car, former baggage car #701, began life as Oregon Electric baggage motor car #952. She is the first of the old OE baggage motor cars to be scrapped.

The passenger car situation has remained fairly static this past year. Sleeper 'Clinton' (ex Indiana Public Service) has been in storage at Squamish along with ex Gas-electric car #1800. X-110 (former diner #651) has not been seen in Squamish lately and is believed now scrapped. And Gas-electric #107 has been placed in storage at Squamish pending her fate. Elsewhere, the other ex Indiana sleepers 'Pavillion' and 'Barkerville' are based in Prince George in service on the Prince George-Chetwynd mixed train. The three ex Pullman 'Lake' sleepers are all at North Vancouver along with the ex MILW coaches. Some of these coaches are used on the weekly mixed North Van to Lillooet train . Business cars 'Cariboo' (ex GN open end observation A-5) and 'Northern Summit' are usually located in North Vancouver when not in use. Open observation car#14 is under shelter at Squamish.

Diesel #590 was in an accident on Sept. 9th at Milepost 23 when she left the rails and went over the side of an embankment. The engine stopped about 30 feet short of Howe Sound and after a week's salvage work was finally recovered and sent to Squamish for repairs.

### **Ceylon names locomotive 'Vancouver'**

The government of Ceylon asked the City of Vancouver in September for a photo of the city

crest to they could place a plaque on a locomotive they were about to name 'Vancouver'. The city agreed to provide the plaque as a goodwill gesture. The locomotive had been bought with funds provided by the Canadian sponsored 'Columbo Plan'.

## **A VISIT TO THE WINNIPEG RAILWAY MUSEUM**

**- by Don Evans**

A recent trip took us to Winnipeg for a conference, and while there we had a bit of a chance to explore the city a bit. Of course, a visit to Union Station was in the cards, and while there a visit to the Winnipeg Railway Museum which is housed on tracks one and two in the station.

The museum has a significant collection, the most famous piece being the Countess of Dufferin steam locomotive—CPR #1. The little 4-4-0 was built in 1872 by M Baird & Co. in Pennsylvania, and came to CPR contractor Joseph Whitehead in 1877 at Winnipeg. The loco was used in building the CPR east to the lakehead, south to Pembina and west to Golden, BC and then was transferred to the CPR becoming their #151. She now is exhibited as CPR #1 recognizing her unique role in the original construction of the railway.

Enjoy these photos from our short visit to the museum on September 26, 2016.....





CNR GMD-1 #1900 is the first of this model built by GMDD in London Ontario in 1957. A uniquely Canadian locomotive, these were owned only by CNR and Northern Alberta Railway. It is exhibited with its engine doors open, revealing the 12 cylinder GM 567 power unit that generates 1200 hp.

CN heavyweight combine #7188 was converted from a Colonist car in 1955 and is a sister to WCRA's car CN 7186 . The car serves as the museum's gift shop as well as an exhibit.





Page 21—top—interior of the passenger section of CN combine 7188

Page 21—bottom—City of Winnipeg 1946 Packard track inspection car

Below, Winnipeg Electric (ex Northern Pacific) Mack railbus B1 (1922) operated until 1962



We appreciated the hospitality of the volunteers at the museum and were also pleased to meet and chat with their President, Make sure you visit when you are in Winnipeg. More info on the Midwestern Railway Association and their museum can be found at [www.wpgrailway museum.com](http://www.wpgrailway museum.com)

## **RAILWAY NEWS**

**Amtrak Cascades** train 516 of September 27, 2016 arrived very late into Vancouver due a grade crossing collision by a BNSF freight ahead of it. The train, consisted of locomotive Amtrak P42 #146 had the Talgo consist of cars 7103, 7416, 7417, 7419, 7522, 7503, 7553, 7453, 7901 and cab car 90340. The train passed Slocan Street at 0208 and arrived at Pacific Central station approx. 0245 on Wednesday, September 28. (J.M.)

Following up on last month's report on **CP SD40-2's**, we have reports of CP #5824 still operating in the local area, handling the Ashcroft—Kamloops turn in late September and early October. (J.M.)

**Rocky Mountaineer** had a mishap on it's northbound train September 23 when it derailed both locomotives (8015 / 8017) at a switch at Glen on the CP line. None of the train consist was derailed and no one was hurt. In typical Rocky Mountaineer fashion a full recovery was launched....buses were dispatched from Kamloops to rescue all stranded passengers and get them to Kamloops where they were to overnight anyways. The two locomotives were re-railed and backed to CN Thornton for inspection and repairs, and another entire consist was deadheaded from Vancouver to Kamloops. The train departed a bit late from Kamloops next morning with all guests on board to complete their journey as scheduled. (Various sources)

**SkyTrain** has started putting its new Mark III cars in service. The new cars, numbered in the 400 series, were seen testing on the Expo line October 1 and in service by October 6. (R.E.)

### **DISCOVERED AT HOUSTON.....**

Spotted on the passenger track next to the arrival track for the Sunset Ltd. On Sept 27<sup>th</sup> in





Houston TX.....Business cars: UPP103 “Cheyenne”, (left), UPP7015 Dome car “Challenger”, UPP 5483 “Texas Eagle” – Bookended by locos 2698 and 2696. Locos are ET44AC GE Evolution series Tier4, 4400 HP. (Bill Johnston photos)







Private cars at San Diego on September 25, 2016 as shiny Amtrak F59PHI #457 leads a pair of heritage cars painted in the Southern Pacific's two tone gray scheme. Rear car is lounge Overland Trail SP 2981 and ahead is coach Pacific Trail UP 5430 at San Diego's classic Santa Fe station. (Don Evans photos)

**Visit Our  
New Location  
Just 83' West of  
our Old Location**  
**2825 Grandview Hwy in Vancouver**



*We also stock a  
large selection of  
books and magazines!  
Open Daily at 11 a.m.  
Monday thru Saturday*

**CENTRAL HOBBIES**

**Your One Stop Scale Model Train Shop on the West Coast**

2825 Grandview Hwy., Vancouver, British Columbia V5M 2E1

(604) 431-0771 Fax (604) 431-9855 ORDERS (888) 7trains (787-2467)

Web Site: [www.central-hobbies.com](http://www.central-hobbies.com)

**CREDIT LINES**

ISSN 1204-07  
Vol. 56 Issue 11

Editor Don Evans  
Distribution Jeremy Davy & Donna Simon

Contributors:

G.B.	Gordon Bell	J.C.	Jennifer Chisholm
J.D.	Jeremy Davy	R.E.	Robert Etchell
G. G.	George Game	B.J.	Bill Johnston
J.M.	Jim McPherson	T.M.	Trevor Mills
K.T.	Ken Tanner		

Send contributions to the WCRA PO Box, direct to the editor at #28 - 2133 St. Georges Ave., North Vancouver, B.C. V7L 3K5, on the Internet to <[news@wcra.org](mailto:news@wcra.org)>, phone news to (604)988-3435(res) or fax to (604) 986-7660. Check us out on the Internet at <[www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org)>

Contact us: Tours 604-524-1011 / 800-722-1233 Heritage Park 604-898-9336 Office 604-681-4403  
CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre 604-898-1082  
[www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org)

**TRIVIA ANSWER**

**Panama City.** Work started in 2011 in the city's historic *Cinco de Mayo Plaza* on the \$1.6bil first of four phases plan. This section, completed on 5 April 2014 included 13 stations on an 8.7mi (14km) route running from the densely populated *San Miguelito Municipality* to *Albrook bus station*. The fares on this stretch started at 35 cents, but are expected to raise to \$1 when the second line opens by the end of 2018, which will add an additional 14mi and 17 stations. The project is being built by a consortium of France's *Alstom*, Brazil's *Norberto Odebrecht* and Spain's *Fomento de Construcciones y Contratas*.

**BACK COVER**

PGE #2 sparkles on the turntable in the sunshine in this Heritage Park view taken in August 2016 by Don Evans.



**CANADIAN COUNCIL  
FOR  
RAILWAY HERITAGE**

WCRA News acknowledges the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia



Bank Trust Insurance Wealth Management



## Business banking is about a shared perspective.

Being headquartered in the West has its advantages. We understand your industry and make timely decisions, locally. As a bank focused on entrepreneurs, we partner with you to find the solutions perfectly suited to your business financial needs. Learn more at [cwbank.com](http://cwbank.com)

Proud supporters of West Coast Railway Heritage Park!

**Park Place branch**  
100 - 666 Burrard Street  
P: 604.688.8711

**Nick McLean**  
Sr. Acct. Manager,  
Private Business Banking  
P: 604.602.2755

[cwbank.com](http://cwbank.com)



The **Working** Bank®



**Published monthly by West Coast Railway Association  
PO Box 2790 Stn. Term., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3X2  
[www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org)**

**ISSN 1204-072X  
Vol. 56 Issue 11**

**Canada Post, Canadian Publications Mail Sales Product Agreement #40007853**