



WCRA NEWS

OCTOBER 2017

MAGICAL PUMPKIN PATCH OCT. 23—27

AFRICA SHOW OCTOBER 11

BCER CONNAUGHT RETURNS



GENERAL MEETING

The **General Meeting** of the WCRA will be held on **Tuesday, September 26 at 1930 hours** at Rainbow Creek Station, corner of Willingdon and Penzance in Burnaby.

Entertainment will be announced at the meeting

ON THE COVER

BC Electric interurban 1304 *Connaught* returns to service—photo taken in Cloverdale, BC on September 9, 2017 by Don Evans. Story on page 15.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- **West Coast Railway Heritage Park open daily 1000 through 1600k.**—mini rail in operation
- Friday, October 6—Newsletter deadline for the November 2017 issue
- Wednesday, October 11—Don & Deb present African Adventure—a show on their May 2017 trip to Africa. Doors 1830, show 1900—Free Admission, CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre
- Tuesday, October 24—WCRA General Meeting, 1930 hours, Rainbow Creek Station
- Monday, October 23 to Friday, October 27—Magical Pumpkin Patch at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park, train departs 1100 daily (see back cover)

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 or mail to WCRA, PO Box 2790 Stn. Term., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3X2.

EDITORIAL

ON THE MOVE

Apologies for the delay with this issue—your editor has been traveling extensively in the past weeks and we are now off to Minnesota for the annual HeritageRail Alliance Conference. Watch for coverage of this in a future issue of WCRA News.

Don

ASSOCIATION NEWS

FROM THE AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

Chair Craig McDowall called the meeting to order with 17 voting members, 2 Spouses, No Staff and 1 Guest present. THIS DID NOT CONSTITUTE A QUORUM:

- **Craig** gave a combined President and Heritage Park Operations report noting that August had been a typical summer month at the Park with daily attendance comparable with last year. This fall Park resources will concentrate on building the School Fieldtrip business;
- **Craig** continued with a synopsis of the activities surrounding the recent TV movie *Christmas Train* starring Danny Glover. From his personal observations working as “Park Liaison” he said it was the most interesting and biggest production done at the Park with a Crew of 50 plus 30 Actors & Extras. There is a possibility of another movie shoot in late September.
- There were no **Finance or Fundraising** reports as Ken Tanner was on vacation. **Craig** did advise that Debenture interest cheques payable in Mar & Apr 2017 would be released in September. Additional funding has been received from *Cultural Spaces Canada* to assist with the construction of the Pavilion over the Garden Tracks.
- **Craig** presented the **Railway Operations** report on behalf CMO **Robert MacBeth** reviewing restoration hilites so far this summer. **Brodie Moffett** has completed the body work on the GN transfer caboose to the available limit of funds donated by the *GNRHS*. They will consider additional funding at their meeting in September. Brodie will now focus his efforts on exterior work on the *Northern Summit*. There are plans to polish the sun faded exterior of 4069 before the winter. The *Bell Island* restoration is making great strides in the hands of our new employee (Carman) Brad has been working full time on the. He has worked on the exterior and while working on the interior has exposed a hidden wall as well as polished numerous brass fittings.
- From 374 **George** reported on the recent happenings in and around the Pavilion including a recent community event held in David Lam Park at which the 374 crew participated.
- **NEW BUSINESS** –**Jeremy** announced that because this year Halloween falls on our regular meeting date and **BCSME** operates their Halloween trains that evening the meeting date has been moved. The WCRA General meeting will be held on October 24 at the

regular time **and place.**

- **GUESTS** were welcomed
- **EVENTS CALENDAR** was reviewed
- **TRACKSIDE REPORTS** –**Ryan** did a Show ‘n Tell featuring one of his newer acquisitions—an Aristo-Craft G-Scale 2-8-2 Mikado accompanied by the history of the locomotive type. This was followed by his Trackside Report with **Bill** up next reporting on items of interest from his viewpoint.
- **50/50** draw was held.
- **Entertainment** - A video supplied by Joe Naismith ...“Logging Railroads of the Pacific Northwest” from Trains & Travel International.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome to membership:

- Craig Banks and Family of Coquitlam;
- Tom Cseh and Family of North Vancouver;
- Sean & Carolyn Frank and Family of Delta;
- Mark & Susan Hainsworth and Family of Coquitlam;
- Abigail Kiyonaga and Family of Squamish;
- Jacquie Kydd and Family of North Vancouver;
- Tom & Robin Montes and Family of Vancouver;
- Alex & Maria Moulaeas and Family of Langley;
- Thomas & Sabrina Mehlhorn and Family of Surrey;
- Deb & Sabrina Nottingham and Family of Calgary AB;
- Dharm Prihar and Family of Langley;
- Jaylene & Mylan Savjord and Family of Vancouver;
- Maja Stachura & Phil Miller and Family of Squamish;
- James Stanklewicz and Family of Surrey;
- Darren Suehsschaf and Family of Surrey;
- Indira Szabia and Family of Garibaldi Hlds;
- Karen Vanzella and Family of Squamish

We welcome back to membership:

- Lev & Christine Becker and Family of Squamish;
- Ken Doiron of Surrey;
- Pascale Goodrich-Black and Family of Vancouver;
- Steve Miller and Family of Vancouver;
- Kim Urhahn and Family of Squamish

(J.D.)

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If your label reads 8/31/2017 it is time to renew your membership.....if it reads 5/31/2017 this is your last issue of WCRA News. We need all of you as members, please renew today.

MEMBER NEWS

Long time WCRA member and auto racing photographer & historian **Bob Hunter** is the 2017 recipient of the **Sandy Lovelace Memorial Award**. The Award recognizes those who have made an outstanding contribution to the preservation of the history of motorsport in BC. The award will be presented at the Greater Vancouver Motorsport Pioneers Society ceremony at the Cloverdale Fairgrounds on Saturday September 23rd" More info at gvmops.org

WCRA TRIVIA #345 - By Ryan Cruickshank

What is the *Angels Flight Railway*?

(Answer on page 23)

REMINDER – OCTOBER MEETING DATE CHANGE

The normal October meeting date in falls on Halloween this year. As in past, BCSME is operating their evening Halloween Train Rides that evening therefore the Rainbow Creek Station is not available.

Please note that the WCRA General Meeting will be held one week earlier on **OCTOBER 24th** at the regular time. (J.D.)

MEETING DATE and LOCATION CHANGES

Because of block bookings during November and the first 2 weeks of December the Accent Inn in Burnaby was unable to accommodate our request to have our Annual Dinner and awards night in November. As a result please note the following changes:

- The November General Meeting will be held Tuesday Nov 28th at the Rainbow Creek Stn @ 1930;
- The Annual Dinner and Awards Night will be held Tuesday December 19, at the Accent Inn in Burnaby.

ANNUAL DINNER AND AWARDS NIGHT

The Annual Dinner and Awards night for 2017 has been set for Tuesday, December 19, 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 along friends, partners and whomever you would like. 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.

To celebrate 2017 and to permit as many members as possible to enjoy this wonderful

evening the price will be the same as last year \$39.00 (incl Tax and Gratuities). You must have a reservation in order to attend but **YOU MAY PAY AT THE DOOR**. You will be able to make your reservations at the October or November General Meetings, or by phone after November 1st by calling Jenn, or the Heritage Park. (J.D.)

AFRICAN ADVENTURE SHOW OCTOBER 11

Don and Deb will present a photo and video show of their May 2017 trip to Africa on Wednesday, October 11 at the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre in Squamish. Everyone is invited to attend and the show will be free admission for all. Come out for a relaxed evening of the many experiences had on this amazing trip, including:

- Three days in Istanbul, Turkey with its classic mosques, palaces and the Grand Bazaar. We even found an amazing transportation museum in an old shipyard
- One of the true highlights was a trek (should I say climb) up to the 11,000 foot level in Rwanda to spend time with a family of 18 Mountain Gorillas in the wild
- Two weeks were spent on safaris in many regions of Kenya, with all the animals we hoped to see and more
- The trip finished in Zambia at Victoria Falls where we hiked, flew a helicopter tour and rode the classic Royal Livingstone Dinner Train (see coverage last issue)

We look forward to seeing everyone on October 11—members, partners, fiends and neighbours are all welcome. Doors at 6:30PM, show starts at 7:00PM. Movie style refreshments will be available.



VANCOUVER TRAIN EXPO 2017

Will again be held in the Forum Bldg as for the past two years ... Located at the PNE 2901 East Hastings. This year's show dates will be November 11th & 12th. The 2017 Public Show continues to be open the extended hours started last year. The hours 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, Polar Express, and other Special Events, as well as selling surplus books and artifacts as a fundraiser. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We need assistance with set-up of the Booth on Friday Nov 10th in the early evening and with staffing it on Nov 11th and 12th 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 or by phone 604.484.2791 (plse leave message if no answer). (J.D.)

COLLECTION

4069 AND HENRY PICKERING GET A SHINE

Thanks to Dave L and Max for giving the CPR FP7A #4069 a great wax job, and also the *Henry Pickering* open car as well. These are the first exhibits a Heritage Park guest sees as they are parked at the station along with the *Alberta* and were looking a bit tired and dirty. 4069 was also recently used in The Christmas Train movie shoot at the Park. (R.MacB)

FP9 #6520 TO CHANGE COLOUR

Next time you see our FP9A #6520 it may look a bit different, as it is receiving a second coat of primer paint—this time black—for a movie shoot, The unit will be left in this primer as part of its preparation for final painting. (R. MacB.)

PGE 561 AT WORK AGAIN

PGE RSC-3 #561 has been at work again as another round of railway safety training for the BC Maritime Employers was recently held.

GREAT NORTHERN 1090

Trevor continues work on Great Northern #1090 over alongside the MP 2 shop. Recently he has disassembled of one of the window. He found the structure for these wood pieces not solid pieces of mahogany but rather assemblies of 19 pieces of wood and veneer in one component. There are 27 windows in the car to do! He has also been working taking the

ceiling down and found one of the arched clerestory window supports which can now be duplicated as part of the rebuilding of this classic car. (T.M.)



BELL ISLAND BEING WORKED ON

Work is underway on the CN sleeper *Bell Island* at the Heritage Park. Bart has been leading this work and he has stripped and cleaned all the interior stainless steel fixtures, and repaired or replaced all the ceiling panels. Rusted exterior metal has been replaced and **Cloverdale Paint** in Squamish will donate the paint for this car when it is ready. (D.W.)

(David Walmsley photo)

NEW SIGNS TO IDENTIFY COLLECTION PIECES

New signs are being created to better identify the various pieces of our display collection. The signs need to be sturdy, yet moveable as our rolling stock collection moves to different

locations form time to time. Thanks to **Brodie Moffett** for the welding and construction work and to **David Walmsley** for the lettering and finishing.



WEST COAST RAILWAY HERITAGE PARK

Home of the Royal Hudson



POLAR EXPRESS—GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

Polar Express tickets are selling fast and we have a special surprise for everyone buying tickets on the night time ride. The 6pm ride is only available 4 times through the entire event and it offers a premium Polar Express experience. If you come every year or if it's your first time, this year may be the best year to book into a 6pm ride and experience what it's like to arrive at Santa's house at the North Pole.

Go to www.wcra.org to book your tickets today. Polar Express operates four weekends—

November 25—26, December 2—3, December 9—10 and December 16—17. There are five departures on Saturdays at 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600 and 1800 and four on Sundays (no 1800). (G.B.)

POLAR EXPRESS VIP CAR ON SALE UNTIL OCTOBER 1

The Polar Express Private VIP Car Alberta is still available for limited dates. This is a great idea for a Christmas party! Enjoy your own private rail-car, aboard the exclusive restored 1929 Alberta passenger car with:

- VIP seating for 15 passengers maximum
- A personal coach attendant with white glove service
- Exclusive interaction with Polar Express characters
- Comfortable couch seating with panoramic windows
- A Polar Express golden ticket & collectors mug for each guest
- Beverages, appetizers and snacks
- A private washroom
- Free parking for every guest

CONTACT JENNIFER AT 604-524-1011 OR JENN@WCRA.ORG

(J.C.)



NEW DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE IN SQUAMISH

The District of Squamish is in the process of erecting new directional signage throughout the community—which identifies and points the way to the Heritage Park very well (G.B.)

CHRISTMAS TRAIN FILMS AT HERITAGE PARK

A major movie shoot filmed at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park in late August. The Christmas Train shoot transformed the park into a Christmas wonderland as the station area was decorated in grand style. The train consist was our two Budd RDC's which were both decorated as Amtrak for the movie. The Heritage Park had to be closed to the public for about one week to accommodate the large film crew for safety reasons.



(photos page 11 and page 12 top Craig McDowall, Photo page 13 bottom David Walmsley)





Movie shoots have become a major source of revenue for us this year and they are great for us as they are “clean revenue” that delivers good cash to our bottom line which has been badly needed.

A very special thanks to **Pat Doiron** (who acts as our agent with the industry) for his role in helping secure these contracts for WCRA and also for his hard work to oversee the movie work to completion.



The most unique event space is now available for bookings!

Need a place to hold your anniversary, birthday, or Christmas party? The CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre is unlike any other event venue. It has 20 ft. high floor-to-ceiling windows and panoramic views featuring natural light and majestic mountain views. The grand hall can accommodate up to 1,200 guests - the largest event venue on the Sea to Sky with 21,000 square feet of indoor space. Up to 8 heritage trains can be moved in or out, customizing the space size to allow for more space or it being more intimate.

It also features an indoor/outdoor mezzanine patio that is a great alternative for a cocktail reception or late-night dessert bar. There are also seven sets of grand wooden train doors that can be opened up letting the outside in - spectacular on a sunny day. Where else can you hold your event right alongside the Royal Hudson steam train? Contact Jenn at 604-524-1011 or jenn@wcra.org for pricing and availability. (J.C.)

LOCOMOTIVE 374 PAVILION

Our visitor count for August was 6,113. We had 492 more visitors than last August. Our count for the year so far is 33,675.

We are having a fantastic Summer. Good weather, lots of tourists and local guests. Many Lower Mainland visitors are doing a Staycation and enjoying everything Vancouver has to offer. The Pavilion has been very busy this Summer.

The Roundhouse Community Centre had their annual BBQ Picnic in David Lam Park. We were invited to participate this year for the first time. They had a Live Band, two Bouncy Castles, a Balloon Lady, Face Painter and many other things for the public, parents and kids to do. Urban Faire and Jug-O-Juice supplied the food and drink. We had a table displaying

some Train Memorabilia and Information on the Heritage Park & CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre. We handed out Canadian Flags, Lapel Pins and put Tattoos on the kids. We held a draw and gave away Polar Express Tickets to one lucky family. Peyton, Bonnie and I manned the table and answered peoples questions and had a very enjoyable day. Weather was perfect! We are looking forward to next years party.



Used Book and Magazine Sales are doing great! Thanks to everyone who has donated.

We still need a few more Volunteers at the Pavilion. Ideally, we would like to have two people on every day. Please give me a call (778-875-3573) if you would like to help out or get more information.

We are located at the corner of Davie St. & Pacific Blvd, across the street from the Canada Line, Yaletown/Roundhouse Station. Free parking and a coffee is available for Volunteers at the Roundhouse. Summer Hours are 10 to 4. Please come down and check us out! (G.G.)

FEATURE ARTICLES

BC ELECTRIC RAILWAY “CONNAUGHT” MAKES ITS RETURN DEBUT

- by **Don Evans**

September 9, 2017 was a dull rainy day in Cloverdale, but that didn't dampen the spirits in any way as the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society unveiled their restoration of BC Electric Railway interurban car 1304—Connaught.

In September 1912, Canada's Governor General, Prince Arthur- the Duke of Connaught, toured the Lower Mainland. He used BCER car 1304, a near new “Valley Car”, which was designed to handle the long runs from Vancouver to Chilliwack. Car 1304 was refitted and freshly painted for the occasion, with the name Connaught on the sides of the car in gold. Inside, the car was luxuriously outfitted for the special tour.

Following the tour, 1304 was returned to transit service and resumed its regular duties as an interurban car on the Valley line. In 1945, on a deadhead move back from Chilliwack, a fire broke out in 1304—the last car on a three car train—and completely gutted the car. However, still good from the floor down, BC Electric rebuilt the car at its Kitsilano shops and it returned it to service all shiny and new again.

After service on the Valley Line ended in 1950, the Connaught continued service on the Central Park line and lasted to the end of interurban service. It was then acquired by a trolley museum in Oregon until being repatriated to Canada in 2009. Now, after some 16,000 volunteer hours over five years, the car is once again returning to service—this time in Cloverdale.

By 11:00AM on September 9, guests are assembling to witness the ceremonies to launch the car Connaught for its next generation of service. Many dignitaries are present, including a very special guest, Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Judith Guichon. Master of Ceremonies **Don Evans** calls the event to order, and the dignitaries are piped to the station deck for the official words. The Lieutenant Governor makes her remarks, and then asks the Director of Operations to summon the Connaught for its symbolic first arrival at the station. BCER 1304 Connaught appears around the curve to the east of the station and rolls up to the platform, powered by Parrish & Heimbecker TP 56 #5601. (Photo page 16) A succession of Federal, Provincial and Municipal dignitaries provide comments and then, the official party and some very special guests board the car for its first trip.

These special guests are a story in their own right. The “Yarrow Riders”, Miss Fowlie's Grade Three class, were the last group to ride the car back in 1955! Miss Fowlie, the teacher, wrote to BC Electric President Dal Grauer and requested the car so her class could take a



ride, even though service had ended five years earlier and the overhead wires had long since been removed. Grauer said yes—and the class got their ride on the BCER—car 1304 Connaught powered by a BC Electric Diesel locomotive! So here we are in 2017, and the Yarrow Riders are out in force, and fill the car for the first ride all these years later!

Following the ride a lunch was served in the FVHRS Car barn and some final thank yous were offered to supporters and others. At 1330, the Lieutenant Governor party departed and the crowd thinned as things wound down.

For electric railway preservation it was a great day, and congratulations are due the Fraser Valley group for the great job they are doing at preserving the BC Electric railway interurban story. On September 9 three restored cars are on site—BCER 1207, 1225, and 1304 with a fourth car, 1231 coming soon from the former Downtown Historic Railway in Vancouver.

The FVHRS site in Cloverdale, with its Cloverdale Station, carbarns and grounds are well worth a visit. Interurban car rides happen weekends through the season, check their website for operating dates. There are also plenty of exhibits to see along with speeder rides and other attractions. While in the area, the Surrey Museum and the BC Truck Museum facilities are also nearby.

FROM WCRA NEWS—JULY 1979

Thanks to Craig McDowall

MCM note: This was the first issue when Don Evans became the editor when I stepped down. So Don has now been the editor for 37 years!

BCR

The old Australian Creek wooden trestle 20 miles north of Quesnel will finally be dismantled. The 20 year old trestle was replaced two years ago when a route re-alignment involved a culvert and a fill crossing of the creek.

Work continues on re-ballasting the mainline between Kelly Lake (MP 203) and Williams Lake (MP 299). Work is about 50% complete and involves 60 men and is costing \$3,750,00 and will replace 25,000 ties.

BC Rail is currently leasing six C424's from CN. The units include #3209, 3214, 3216, 3232, 3237 and 3239.

BC Rail experienced two major wrecks recently. On May 20th, the Prince George south yard switcher collided head on with a bridge transfer run. Three RS10's were damaged (#579, 581 & 583). #575 was also involved but not damaged. Then on May 27th, the northbound MacKenzie local with four units derailed due to a washout at MP 551. Moderately damaged were units #632, 641 and 803 while #574 suffered major damage.

Canadian National

CN has a number of new diesels including 9 SD40-2's for late delivery in December, 30 SD40-2's for delivery in second quarter 1980 and 9 M420's for late 1980 delivery. The railway has also ordered 16 slug units for early 1980 delivery.

The last Green/Gold Geep, a GP 9 #4500, is the only one still on the roster, as both sister units #4550 & 4551 on the Central Vermont have now been repainted into the new CV green paint scheme.

A derailment ten kilometres west of Vanderhoof blocked the Prince George to Prince Rupert line on Sunday, August 12th. Twenty cars of a 81 car freight left the tracks when a wheel broke. The line was re-opened 24 hours later although final clean up will take some time yet due to cargo spillage (lumber and aluminum).

Canadian Pacific

The E & N on Vancouver Island continues to sport a variety of power assignments. Spotted at Wellcox (Nanaimo) on July 26th were Baldwin switcher #7070 and chop nosed GP9 #8530. In addition, the BC Government's Museum train was there with ex CPR #3716 on the head end

prior to heading for a July 28th opening in Courtenay.

CP's annual car rebuilding program will continue this year by refurbishing and upgrading over 6000 freight cars and 172 cabooses. Work will be done at three locations: Montreal, Winnipeg and Calgary. CP's current fleet consists of approximately 69,000 freight cars and 450 cabooses.

CP Rail has started a full scale investigation to probe suspected arson fires on company property in BC. Fires include tool sheds, etc up to more serious cases such as a trestle fire in Matsqui and the station in Slocan. A total of six fires this year to date with seven others last year. Some are suspected to be set to disguise theft.

'Hot box' detectors with digital light display have been installed along the CP mainline between Calgary and Medicine Hat. The boards are located every 30 miles and indicate to tail end crews a count of any hot boxes detected as the train passes.

Chop-nosed GP9 #8619 was leased to Crown Zellerbach on Vancouver Island in late June.

CP will take delivery of SD40's #5915-5949 in fall of this year.

VIA Rail

The train washing operations resumed again on July 25th at CP Rail's Drake Street yard with the arrival of The Canadian that day. The washer had not been used for some months previously for reasons unknown. The re-activation was somewhat of a surprise as it appeared that some disassembly had been done on the unit. The CP crews cut the 16 coach consist in two due to the issue of blocking Smith street when the entire consist is washed at one time. The Canadian consist these days isn't the traditional 'all stainless' steel as VIA continues the change over. The train is a combination of CP stainless, VIA blue and CN black & white paint schemes but at least it is now clean.

The Canadian will switch over to the VIA/CN station on Main Street this fall.

VIA's E & N ridership is booming. July saw 7,700 riders - a huge increase over July 1978 which saw ridership of 4000. So far this year 37,000 passengers have rode the line, only 8000 short of last year's full 12 month ridership. And last year saw an increase of 400% over 1977! It is doing so well that RDC-2 #9103 has been replaced by a full coach RDC-1. The two coach consist is now two RDC-1's #9064 and 9067 on the daily operation. Amazing what a little advertising will do.

VIA's Turbo Train resumed service on the Toronto-Montreal corridor at the end of July. The train had sat idled for two months due to a fire which destroyed one set. They were returned to service after safety modifications were made.

VIA

A report from the Federal Government's Transport Ministry has proposed a formula to retain only those rail routes that generate at least 25% of costs for the route. If adopted, the result would be the end of up to 20 runs - saving about \$30 million in passenger subsidies. Among the routes that could be abandoned include the Jasper/Prince Rupert and the Edmonton/Calgary service.

VIA RS-10 #8558 arrived on The Canadian on Sunday, August 13th, spliced between red FP9A's #1409 & 1404. The VIA paint scheme is basic VIA blue, with a black roof. Cab numbers are white with large VIA in yellow on the long hood. The nose of the long hood is yellow with red VIA lettering with the yellow wrapping around the long hood. Nose of the short hood (rear) is plain black.

The 'Canadian Show Train' arrived and departed Vancouver with little notice. This was a 10 day excursion across Canada with champagne, fine dining, tours and theatre shows. For a paltry \$1285 per person, passengers are fed daily in a private dining car, treated to shows in the cabaret/theatre car, first class sleeping accommodation and then flown home. The coaches are added to the Canadian and make one day stops in Calgary and Banff, two day stops in Winnipeg and two other stops in distant destinations. The trip originates in either Toronto or Vancouver.

AMTRAK

Superliner coach #34041 arrived in Vancouver with the Pacific International on July 24th. Coupled with the Superliner was a regular AMTRAK coach. The Superliner was in Vancouver to check clearances with the platform canopy roof at the VIA/CN station. The two cars departed Vancouver two days later on the PI with its regular consist of three Amfleet coaches with the Superliner on the rear but this required an extra man when wyeing the train as the conductor could not get down to throw switches from the upper level.

A bill passed by the House of Representatives and US Senate would retain the PI as part of the AMTRAK system. The bill would allow discontinuance of only long distance trains averaging less than 150 passengers or losing more than 7 cents per passenger mile and short distance trains averaging less than 80 passengers or more than 9 cents a mile. Under this formula, the overall 44,000 kilometre system would be reduced by 20%..

FP40 #219 ran out of fuel(!) near Bellingham WA while northbound on the PI on May 9th. Solution? Put an emergency call into Burlington Northern and borrow BN GP7 #1629 and arrive three hours late at 02:08 !

MISC

Have you seen the Hudson Bay display window with the large B & W photo of a streamlined NYC Hudson pulling the 'Century'? The photo is framed by a simulated corrugated stainless

steel car side (very tacky). Similar displays are on all floors in the store also.

Delta Alaska Terminals

The Baldwin DS4-4-6 #1 DAT has been sold to a Tacoma scrap dealer and will be scrapped. The engine worked the Alaska train-ship terminal for many years until the operation closed down in 1977. The unit left on a BN freight on June 19th.

Carmi Sub

The battle for the CP Carmi Sub is on. The combatants are the CPR, the Province of BC and the Kettle Valley Railway Heritage Society. The CPR was granted permission to abandon the trackage in Dec. of last year by the CTC, however nothing happened until a tender for removal of the rails was awarded on July 27th this year with work to start a month later. Thoughts regarding the tourist potential of the line have been discussed for years but no action was taken until this announcement was made.

The KVRHS was formed to try and save the line and they petitioned the Provincial Government to put a 'stop order'. They have also commissioned a feasibility study together with an engineering study of the condition of the trestles and road bed on the line from Penticton to McCulloch which includes the very scenic Myra Canyon with its 16 wooden and steel trestles and a few tunnels. It should be noted that the cost of these two studies (\$40,000) has been funded by one individual, Pat Capozzi, of the wine and hotel family. The studies will be completed prior to the start of dismantling in August. At McCulloch, the proposal is to build a lodge and other tourist facilities. Servicing the locomotives and rolling stock would be done at the CPR Penticton roundhouse which includes both a turntable and a wye. A wye would have to be built at McCulloch.

The Provincial Government has remained aloof so far which is bit surprising since Premier Bill Bennett's riding includes this section of the rail line. The government has supposedly done their own feasibility study and decided it wasn't economically feasible. This study is apparently in the form of a Cabinet Report and not available to the public. Despite requests from the Society in contacting several representatives of the Government in Victoria, nobody seems to have a copy of the report. The Okanagan Tourist Association estimated that between a tourist railway operation and movie location shoots, revenue could possibly exceed \$1 million a year.

As members of the railfan community, we should do everything possible to retain this jewel in the Okanagan. Express your concerns to either Premier Bill Bennett or the Honourable Don Phillips, Minister of Economic Development, in Victoria or to the Kettle Valley RR Heritage Society % CKOY Radio, Box 100, Kelowna BC .

RAILWAY NEWS



SQUAMISH RAILS LIFTED

In 1910 two ribbons of steel were laid here and our town of Squamish grew out of being a farming community to become a center where goods from all over BC were shipped all over the world. Known as the Pacific Great Eastern and later BC Rail, here is where it all began.

Last week, the rails along Loggers Lane were taken up removing the last evidence of our beginning. The photos were taken in 1954, 1998 and today all at the same location. (T.M.)





LAST WORDS.....Interesting power is appearing often in Squamish, on September 1 a power set included Illinois Central SD-60 #1027 (T.M.).....CN re-opened the Tumbler Ridge rail line to service on September 1 so coal trains will once again roll between the mines near that community and the Ridley Island terminal in Prince Rupert.....CN was a major participant in the opening of the second phase of the Prince Rupert Fairview Container terminal—CN provided a business car train to the event as well as a small train for the kids.

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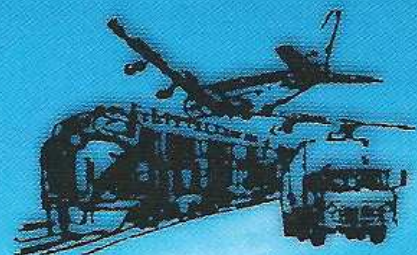
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TRIVIA ANSWER

The *Angels Flight Railway* is a 1901 built funicular in the Bunkerhill District of Los Angeles (351 South Hill Street). Construction started 2Aug1901 and took only 120 days to build the 298' incline. It was opened to the public on 31Dec1901 by Colonel J.W. (James Ward) Eddy. In 1969 it was dismantled for "urban renewal" and in the early 1990's was relocated 1/2 block south adjacent to the *California Plaza*, refurbished and re-opened in 1996. The railway appeared in the 2016 film *La La Land* starring Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling and 2011's *The Muppets Movie*.

See photo on back cover.



**CANADIAN COUNCIL
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RAILWAY HERITAGE**

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In reference to the Trivia question and answer this issue, here is a July 20, 1957 photo of Angel's Flight in Los Angeles, taken by Jack Evans on one of the Evans family's visits to the Los Angeles area.



Monday, October 23 - Friday, October 27, 2017
at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park

FROM 11 AM - 1 PM: Take a real passenger train, departing at 11 am to the **Magical Pumpkin Patch** and search for your pumpkin which may contain a magic surprise! Draw a face and have your pumpkin **carved and ready to take home**.
Enjoy an outdoor mini-rail ride, multiple games and craft stations followed by the train ride back at 1:00 pm.

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