



# WCRA NEWS

## October 2019

Heritage Rail Alliance Conference  
a Big Success!  
Polar Express Tickets now on sale!



## GENERAL MEETING

The WCRA's October Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 22nd (**Note one week earlier due to conflicting booking on the 29th**). General Meeting at 1930 hours at Rainbow Creek Station, Willingdon at Penzance in Burnaby.

Entertainment will be announced

ON THE COVER: HRA meeting being held in our Conference Centre

The WCRA hosted the 2019 Fall Heritage Rail Conference at the Heritage Railway Park on Sept. 18th-21st. Over 100 railway museum and rail industry registrants attended the four day conference. Cover photo shows one of the major presentations held in the Conference Centre

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

- **West Coast Railway Heritage Park open daily 10:00 to 16:00**

Note: Our Escape Room is currently under renovations. Contact the gift shop at 604-898-9336t

Note: Our October meeting is being held one week early this month on Tuesday , Oct. 22nd—WCRA General Meeting, 1930 hours, Rainbow Creek Station

' **Mystery of the Magic Pumpkin** will be held at the Railway Heritage Park on October 27th to 31st Tickets are \$15 for each child and adults free! Call 604-898-9336 for tickets

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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

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 2387 Stn. Main, Squamish, BC, V8B 0B6 - membership information on page 6 of this issue

## FROM THE EDITOR

### A Tribute to “Mr. Railroad” Paul Roy

Paul was a long time supporter of the WCRA and passed away on Sept. 15th. Paul was a friendly hardworking passionate railroader. He started working for Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) in 1956, then worked for: Northern Alberta Railway (NAR), Pacific Great Eastern (PGE), Canadian National (CN), & BC Rail. Paul worked many positions on the railroad starting as a Section man & Foreman; Telegraph Operator, Assistant Agent, Agent, Train Dispatcher, Chief Train Dispatcher, Rules Instructor & Senior Train Supervisor at Robert's Bank. He retired after 32 years of service.

Paul was a collector of railroad memorabilia. At one time, Paul had the largest private railroadiana collection in Canada which all started with a switch key. He “worked”, more like played with his railway hobby by leading/organizing work parties to construct various mini rails for various associations/clubs (with the Heritage Park mini rail a prime example); entrepreneur and founder for Western Rails, Paroni Enterprises and PDR's Train Shop; & traveler, he (& Mary) rode the rails of the world and meet other railroaders. He collected many pieces of railroad memorabilia as well as full scale locomotives and cars, for example, an Electric Locomotive #6001 donated to the Railway Forest Museum in Prince George; a private rail car named “Marjatta” dedicated after his wife & also helped fund the “Paul D Roy” car. Both rail cars are parked at the West Coast Railway Assoc. (WCRA) museum in Squamish. Paul has already donated some of his railroadiana collection to a few BC museums: Port Moody, Squamish and Prince George.

Paul and Mary focused a lot of energy organizing work parties and supervising the construction & operations of the minirail at WCRA. Their work parties always had a good volunteer turnout with Paul organizing the workers and Mary feeding them lunch. What a team! During the off season, e.g. Christmas and Halloween, they operated the mobile minirail track with railcars for children to ride at a couple lower mainland shopping malls, parking lots & Canada Place, with all the proceeds going to WCRA. Paul funded & dedicated the “Silver Fox Station” in memory of his mother. And WCRA dedicated a Minirail Shop to Paul for “Outstanding Support and Vision of the Minirail Venture.”

Paul founded and chaired the Western Rails Railroadiana Show in Burnaby. It was known as the largest Railroadiana Show in Canada. Paul chaired the show for over 20 years. The show enabled Paul and his railroad friends to display and sell their railroad treasures and Paul's network grew to include more of BC, Alberta, & Washington State.

Paul won many well deserved awards including including two WCRA Volunteer of the Year in 1995 & 1996 and being inducted into the Canadian Railway Hall of Fame in 2009.

## **ASSOCIATION NEWS**

### **FROM THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING**

Chair Craig McDowall called the meeting to order at 1935 hrs with 15 Voting Members present. THIS DID NOT CONSTITUTE A QUORUM.

A Moment of Silence was held for long time Member/Supporter Paul D Roy who passed away on September 15th. Paul was a member for 28 years, actively supporting Railway Heritage in many locations in BC. A Celebration of Life, will be held in the Spring and will be by Invitation.

Bob Philip noted in his Presidents Report – Speeders donated by Carl Vanderspek have started to arrive on the property. There are plans for Bob, Robert and at least one Collection Committee Rep to meet monthly to discuss Collection matters. 6520 is still being kept under wraps - Painting is complete but the appliances still have to be reattached.

Bob Philip covered all the Staff Reports:

- Financially all indications are that we are doing better ... 2020 - Q1 will tell. Continue hopeful of Movie revenue – Still in the running for work from a Bat Girl project and possibly one for Hallmark before Xmas;
  - The Board Chair and the President met with CWB at the Bank's request . The bank is happy with how the finances are being handled and with our Strategic plans. They also explored the possibility of acquiring a \$100k Letter of Credit to help us get through tight times without resorting to Member loans;
  - Recent agreements permit us to use MP2 acquisition funds to build an enclosed shelter over the tracks on the east side of MP2 (old MP1 access tracks) to provide protection for 4 to 6 more cars;
  - #6503 – still on static display. Awaiting electrical parts that have been ordered;
  - In Fundraising, the lead donor supporting the 2860 restoration has met with both groups providing the estimates (\$40k – 50k). If an agreement can be reached the next step will be the boiler Assessment (incl stripping the cladding);
  - Still working to meet the two major Strategic Plan goals, Paying down the Debentures & Members loans in addition to building the WCRA endowment from \$1.6M to \$5.0m;
  - There are plans to close the Heritage Park to the Public for January/February & March 2020 but it will still be open to Members & Volunteers to do restoration work;
  - Website will be used more to communicate with the Members now Newsletter is quarterly ;
  - Work is still underway with the rebranding designating the Heritage Park as a Museum;
  - Question – Going forward how will MP2 Rent be structured? Ans - At Market rates.
- Food Bank ultimately relocating downtown which will put total site on an equal footing.

## **Other Reports:**

- George Game reported the 374 Pavilion noting that with the arrival of attendance is winding down ...now averages 140 visitors/day
- Jeremy Davy confirmed that the Vancouver Train Expo 2019 will be held at the PNE Forum Nov 9 (1000 - 1800) & Nov 10 (1000 - 1700). WCRA will take MiniRail and have 3 tables supporting Association activities
- Jeremy Davy REMINDED all that the OCTOBER General Meeting will be held one week earlier – October 22nd so as not to conflict with BCSME Halloween Train preparations
- Volunteers are needed for VTEX-19 ...event staffing and set-up/takedown. Sign-up sheets available tonite & at October Meeting
- Craig McDowall updated the GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE -there will not be a General Meeting in December 2019. Starting in January 2020, meetings will be bi-monthly on the last Tuesday of January (28th), March/AGM (31st), May (26th), July (28th) and Sept (29th). The Christmas Banquet will be in Nov or Dec depending on venue availability
- Craig also advised that the first edition of the new style/format Newsletter is now planned for release at the end of October.

**Update:** There will be a combination November/December News issue with the new style format for the newsletter in January 2020 and be published quarterly

Thanks to Eric Anderson, now living in Victoria, - for his donation of \$22.40 Canadian Tire Money in July

The 50/50 Draw was held

**SHOW & TELL** – Ryan Cruickshank continued Show/Tell from last month featuring Lionel Standard Gauge Locomotives manufactured after the 1920s

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

- Ryan Cruickshank supplied the entertainment, Paul Yules award-winning documentary 'Trains that Passed in the Night' which captures O Winston Links project in the to record the last days of mainline steam on the Norfolk & Western, and in America.

## Membership

Membership fees are:

**With Print Newsletter** - Senior \$50 (\$52.50), Individual \$55 (\$57.75), Family \$65 (\$68.25);  
**Electronic Newsletter** - Senior \$35 (\$36.75), Individual \$40 (\$42.00), and Family \$50 (\$52.50).

Other categories are:

- Sustaining Member add \$100 - GST not required (tax receipted) - to fee for membership above  
- Junior Member (age 18 and under) \$ 30 (\$31.50)  
- Life Memberships Individual - \$700 (\$735.00); Family - \$1,200 (\$1,260.00). **Please note that 5 % GST must be paid on all fees** – Amounts above in brackets include GST. All memberships include the quarterly newsletter, Heritage Park admission (except Special Events), MiniRail 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 Membership, WCRA, PO Box 2387 Stn Main, Squamish BC, V8B 0B6.

### PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If the date on your label 10/31/19 it is time to renew your membership ..... if it reads 7/31/19 this is your last issue of WCRA News. We need all of you as members, please renew today

### NEW MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP (June 13th to Oct 13th)

We welcome to membership .....

- Ivan Andrews of Surrey
- Marissa Berg and Family of North Vancouver
- Brittany Beggs and Family of Squamish
- Gary Buxton and Family of Garibaldi Highlands
- Erik Carleberg and Family of Squamish
- Andy Catton of Ladner
- Wayne Chiu of Richmond
- Robin Cote and Family of Squamish
- Nancy Dunn and Family of Vancouver
- Mallory Eddy and Family of Squamish
- David Godwin of Burnaby
- Joe Goodings and Family of Vancouver
- Cameron Gutjar of New Westminster
- Alli Hallett and Family of Squamish
- Melanie Hamilton and Family of Squamish
- Shawn Henshall and Family of Squamish
- Sara Kozik and Family of Squamish
- Anna LeGood of Squamish

**New Members (cont' d)**

- Amy Lim of Langley
- Stefan Lozingley and Family of Squamish
- Antonio & Aida Madrigal and Family of Garibaldi Highlands
- Leo Maksimovs and Family of Richmond
- Christine Matheson of Whistler
- Julia McLawsen and Family of Bellevue WA
- Joey Minhas and Family of Squamish
- Ken Mitchell of North Vancouver
- Drea Morin and Family of Whistler
- Lindsay Levison and Family of Garibaldi Highlands
- Jaclyn Ruptash & Kurt Anderson and Family of Squamish
- Vince & Laura Scott and Family of Squamish
- Paul Thomas and Family of Reefton New Zealand
- Cynthia Trachel and Family of Brackendale
- Susan vanVliet and Family of Surrey
- Kristen Walden and Family of Squamish
- Carrie Winstanley and Family of Squamish
- Alan York of Burnaby
- Miachua Zhang and Family of Squamish

**Welcome back to Membership .....**

- Aaron & Krista Breu and Family of Brackendale
- Elena Butler and Family of Garibaldi Highlands
- Michael & Michelle Carleton and Family of Churchville PA
- Jera Gunter and Family of Vancouver
- Jamie Kretsch and Family of Squamish
- Janelle Lucas and Family of Squamish
- Steve Miller and Family of Vancouver
- Tom Pan & Susan Back and Family of Vancouver
- Kristen Pilote and Family of Squamish
- Darren & Sheryl Roberts and Family of Garibaldi Highlands
- Mike & Erin Toljanich and Family of Vancouver
- David Walmsley of Vancouver

## **WCRA News - October 1979**

**From the Editors Desk** - Railfanning is:

-screeching to a halt (much to the chagrin of your passengers) because a headlight was spotted up the tracks that you just crossed

-spending four hours with your camera alongside a double tracked mainline that normally sees eight trains a day but not realizing it is a MOW window

-explaining to your passenger in the car that the route you are taking (parallel to the tracks) is really shorter and quicker to where you are going

-frantically driving while following a map in unfamiliar territory, only to get lost and therefore losing that one special photo you wanted to take but missed the train

-having to attend a family function on the same day as a rare or special consist you wanted to shoot

- sneaking around to the backside of the roundhouse to get access without the RR police seeing you

-risking your life by climbing a steep hill or hanging on the edge of a cliff to get that unique photo

### **WCRA Meeting Notes from September Meeting**

WCRA is participating in a special excursion to ride the last run of the Canadian from the CPR station on Cordova Street. We will ride the Canadian to Mission on Saturday Oct. 27th with return to Vancouver by chartered bus. Departure is at 16:00 hours with arrival in Mission at 17:10 and depart by return bus at 17:30. The trip is being co-sponsored by us, Transport 2000 and the CRHA. Fares are \$7.50 for adults and reduced fares for kids. Contact Andy Preddy at 943-9423 to reserve your seat(s).

The cab of locomotive #16 has been boarded up to prevent any further deterioration. Also storage track with suitable connections has been located and the executive is following up on this lead.

Meeting was held with BC Hydro Rail officials on Sept. 27th re: the possibility of an excursion up their Valley Line next spring. Initial response has been encouraging with further details to be ironed out.

### **CN**

The 24,000 ton Japanese freighter ' Japan Erica' struck CN' s Second Narrows bridge crossing at Burrard Inlet at 19:58 hours on Oct. 13th, severing the access to rail traffic on the North Shore. The freighter missed the lift span and instead nosed into the span immediately



north of it, knocking it into the water. In addition, the north tower of the lift section was knocked out of alignment and damaged. Preliminary estimates have the repairs taking 3 to 4 months to complete

### **BC Hydro**

#942 (their GE 70 toner) sent to Carrall to replace SW 900 #901 which had an electrical fire on Feb. 12th. #942 received new paint last year.

### **BCR**

Ex LS & L RS-3 #559 involved in a wreck on Jan. 15th out of Prince George is probably a write off.

### **CN**

The GP-38-2/HBU4 set #213/278/277/215 that tested here in January have been returned to Edmonton's Calder Yard. Comments heard that the set was not well suited for transfer work as they didn't have enough horsepower on the heavy grade WB out of New Westminster and the train would stall with a heavy train of 100 cars. The usual set of three SD-40-2's was much preferred. The usual run was from Thornton Yard to NV's Lynn Yard but sometimes the four unit set was split up and one set would run into Vancouver.

GP9 #4151 & GP-38-2 #5992 that were involved in the Skeena River wreck are stored unserviceable and are likely retirement candidates

### **VIA**

In addition to units on order or contemplated, they will rebuild the 2 E8A's with 12-567BC engines and rated at 2500 HP. Also to be upgraded are CN's FP7's to FP9 rating. #'s in the program are #1402,1403, 1416, 1423 & 1432.

### **MLW**

Montreal Locomotive Works will be discontinued in name and replaced by Bombardier. They are booked solid for 1979. The first of 2 Amtrak LRC's should be delivered shortly and will initially be used out of Washington D.C. until the fall when the matched coaches are ready for delivery. The VIA Rail LRC's will be known as model LRC-2 (M437) and are due for late 79 through mid 1980. And similar models will be delivered four off shore countries plus 10 M420's for CN.

## **POLAR EXPRESS NOW ON SALE!**

**A total of 36 departures on four weekends from Nov 23rd to Dec. 15th. Make sure you wear your PJs! Tickets and info at [wcra.org](http://wcra.org).**

## COLLECTION

### BCER 960 Report

Over the past number of months we made great progress on 960. In part we were motivated knowing the HRA delegates were going to be looking us over in September, but also, it just happened that a few critical aspects were just needing a push to be finished up.

1...The new t&g cab flooring is installed, stained and has multi layers of semi gloss hard coat.

2...Finally, there's no mistaking 960 for anything but an electric steeple cab freight engine, as her two vital trolley poles, with respective hardware, are installed on a new wooden rack, with this full assembly, now secured up on the cab roof.

A historical note ... when Bill and I, many moons back, hoisted the old rack and bits off the cab, we discovered the rack through cab roof fasteners were corroded and missing backing nuts. Gravity was indeed playing an important part in keeping 960 together in her last operational days back in 1970.

3...The two heavy cab seats were re-upholstered and all their respective mounting fittings reworked. We are keeping them out of the way till later.

4...Rear truck assembly was started (this took a lot of gear up off the shop floor before the HRA walk around) , and just this past week, the traction motors plus truck frame received their last coat of paint.. We should have rear truck rebuild pretty much completed by month end October.

5...Both front and rear partially mangled stanchions and railings are all repaired... so we (ok, those other guys) have little excuse for falling off now.

6...We are cleaning up and repainting the 4 large heavy duty screens that enclosed the in cab Westinghouse high voltage electrical switching components.

7... Lots of misc work underway on components in the shop and home, that require cleanup, repair and painting.

For the HRA folks, we had both interurban headlights operating, the polished brass horn and two different whistles mounted. Refurbished ALCO GE builders plates were in place. One of the said plates was a 960 original, recovered for us, by Don Evans .

‘She looked grand, even without trucks’, said one observer.

Hope to have some completed rear truck pictures next go round, and please, please, give some warming thoughts out to Bob, Bill and myself these coming winter months, as we toil away in an ever cooling MP2.

Mike McGaw

Before



Grinding away rust



Primer paint stage

## Message from the Chief Financial Officer

I joined West Coast Railway Association two years ago. Over that period, we have improved systems, processes and controls to ensure WCRA operates efficiently as possible. We've developed a strong relationship and managed to negotiate favorable terms with our vendors and suppliers. In addition, we have been reviewing costs and making efficiencies where possible, which has resulted in new exhibits and projects around the park. It goes without saying that these exhibits and projects would not be possible without our loyal and valued volunteers. I personally want to thank each and every one of the volunteers for all their contributions, it is truly appreciated. As we continue to make improvements and efficiencies at every level (this newsletter is just one example), you will hear about them in future newsletters and at volunteer appreciation events; and see improvements at the park.

On that note, as a part of our compliance as a Registered Charity, we must ensure all donations whether cash or in-kind are documented and recorded in a timely and accurate manner. Therefore, please note the following -

### Volunteer Hours and Mileage Claims

To ensure we meet the CRA requirements and timelines we have to make some changes on how these are managed.

- Claims period will run from October 1 to September 30, for 2019 it will be a short period for January 2019 to September 2019.
- Claim forms must be filled out and signed.
- The claim form can be accessed on the website (to be added) for printing or come to the park and collect a printed copy
- The claim form along with a mileage log and supporting receipts must be received by WCRA by November 7th each year.
- WCRA will issue payment for the claims in November
- For those who have kindly donated their expenses back to WCRA, you will receive a tax receipt for the expense amount excluding taxes once we receive the cheque.

### Donations and Tax Receipts

Donations can be made by online using Gifttool (accessed from our website, [www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org) – then click on ‘Donations’), or by Paypal, or by mail to West Coast Railway Association PO Box 2387 Squamish BC V8B 06B.

Donations of Gifts other than money are accepted; however, these require prior approval: please contact [donations@wcra.org](mailto:donations@wcra.org).

Receipts are issued twice a year, once in July/August covering January to June and in January/February for July to December donations. However, donations made on Gifttool are receipted immediately.

Any questions please let us know at [finance@wcra.org](mailto:finance@wcra.org). Thank you for your contributions and on-going support.

Hardeep K. Khangura, CPA, CGA

## VANCOUVER TRAIN EXPO 2019

### THE SHOW ...

Will again be held at the PNE in the Forum Bldg ... Located 2901 East Hastings at Renfrew.

This year's show dates are November 9th & 10th.

The 2019 Public Show opens at 10am both days and closes at 6pm Saturday and 5pm Sunday.

### WCRA at the SHOW

As in past WCRA will have a booth where we will be promoting the Association, the Heritage Park, 374 Pavilion, Polar Express, and other Special Events, as well as selling surplus books and artifacts as a fundraiser for the Archives and the MiniRail will also be operating.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We need assistance with set-up of the Booth on Friday Nov 8th in the early evening and with staffing it on Nov 9th and 10th during the show hours. If you have time you can donate on any or all of the days please let Jeremy know your availability by emailing jeremy.davy@wcra.org or by phone to 604.484.2791 (Has v/m, pls leave message if no answer). There will also be a sign-up sheet at the October General Meeting. (JD)

### MEETING DATES and LOCATIONS - November & December

Please note the following:

- **Annual Festive Dinner** will be held Tuesday November 26, again at the Accent Inn 3777 Henning Dr in Burnaby. Details below. Note the Annual Awards will be presented at a later date.
- **The December General Meeting is CANCELLED;**

### ANNUAL FESTIVE DINNER—Tuesday November 26, 2019

The Annual Festive Dinner for 2019 has been set for Tuesday, November 26, 5:30PM at the Accent Inn in Burnaby. This great seasonal event will again feature a sumptuous hand carved Roast Turkey buffet dinner and great time to chat with friends. No host Bar.

Come out and enjoy a wonderful Christmas dinner. 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 hotel has free parking or easy access via #28 bus which connects to SkyTrain at Collingwood/Joyce (Expo) or Gilmour (Millennium) Stations.

The price is in line with last year ... \$42.00 (incl Tax and Gratuities) to permit as many Members as possible to enjoy this wonderful evening. The extra toonie only covers the increased cost of the food and Service Charge.

**Friday Nov 22nd is the deadline** for advising the Hotel of the number of attendees, for which they will bill us. You must have RESERVED by Friday Nov 22nd in order to attend ... YOU MAY PAY AT THE DOOR if you wish.

Please Note - Once we advise the Hotel of our FINAL number on Nov 22nd, it is a Guarantee and we will be billed that number even if a lesser number attend. If you reserve but find after the cut-off you can't attend please consider sending payment equal to the amount of your reservation.

To reserve please contact Jeremy, by email jeremy.davy@wcra.org, or phone 604.315.5349 (Has v/m please leave a message if no answer) or phone the Heritage Park 604.898.9336. You will also be able to make your reservations at the October General Meeting. (JD)

# Our Annual NON SCARY Halloween Event for Kids!!!



**OCTOBER 27TH - 31ST 2019**

WEST COAST RAILWAY HERITAGE PARK

## **MYSTERY OF THE MAGIC PUMPKIN**

11AM- 1PM

TICKETS: \$15 EACH CHILD | ADULTS FREE  
604 - 898 - 9336 | WCRA.ORG

Includes a ride to the magical pumpkin patch  
where each child will pick their pumpkin and  
have it carved plus many more activities and  
games!



# **WEST COAST RAILWAY ASSOCIATION**

**Annual Festive Dinner  
Tuesday  
26 November 2019**

Accent Inn – Banquet Room  
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*

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

**Tickets \$42 per person**  
*(Our costs increased \$2.00 this year)*

**You may pay at the Door but ... RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

## **Credit Lines:**

Editor: Craig McDowall

Distribution: Jeremy Davy and Donna Simon

Contributors: Mike McGaw, Hardeep Kangura, Jeremy Davy


Send news contributions to the WCRA PO Box, direct to the editor at 404 Bury Lane, West Vancouver, B.C. V7S 1K3, on the Internet to <news@wcra.org>, phone news to 604-926-9208 (res). Check us out on the Internet at <www.wcra.org>

Contact us: 1-800-722-1233 Heritage Park 604-898-9336 CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre 604-898-9336 wcra.org

Photo #1 -Paul Roy on his brand new M420 at the BCSME Railway Park in Burnaby. The unit is now owned by Donna Simon and Jeremy Davy and runs at our park in Squamish - Photo #2 - dedication of the Paul D Roy coach



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Published monthly by West Coast Railway Association ISSN 1204-072X  
PO Box 2790 Stn. Term., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3X2 Vol. 59 Issue 7  
[www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org)  
Canada Post, Canadian Publications Mail Sales Product Agreement #  
40007853