

TRANSIT OPERATOR SPOTLIGHT

B.K. Singh: actor!

We profile the operations staff who make your transit system go!



B.K. Singh, transit operator and famous actor!

B.K. Singh has been a transit operator since 1990 with BC Transit and now Coast Mountain Bus Company. But he's also a film, TV and stage actor!

How long have you been acting?

I've been acting since I was in high school. It was in 1974 that I turned professional.

What is it about acting that interests you?

It is my passion! I enjoy it. I love it! I really enjoy the stage and have been able to work with famous directors. If I could make enough money acting, I wouldn't have another job.

What productions have you been in?

I have had many lead roles in Punjabi (I'm sort of famous) and many supporting roles in English.

I played the lead in 40 episodes of a TV sitcom comedy: *Your and Me World* (or *Teri Meri Dunia*) aired on Shaw in 2001. In the Vancouver stage production of *Bollywood Wedding* I played the father of the groom for six shows. It was very successful. The show was sold out within hours.

I appeared in an episode of *Psych*, which aired in September, and in a non-speaking role in the movie *2012* which hit the theatres on Friday, November 13. There is a scene, set in India, where I am walking up a mountain - you can very clearly see it is me!

Thanks B.K. - break a leg! You can see B.K.'s acting portfolio at www.bksingh.weebly.com. And in his role as operator, you can see him driving routes in Vancouver. B.K. also provides support as a "defuser," helping fellow operators in high stress times, like witnessing or being involved in a major accident.

The Buzzer's contest corner!

MAY FARECARD WINNER We had 744 eligible entries and Julie H. won the FareCard. The answer? Owing to repairs, a shuttle train runs in Vancouver after 9:45 p.m. on weekdays every 12 minutes.



WIN A FREE FARECARD! It will be for 1, 2, or 3 zones, based on where the winner travels. E-mail thebuzzer@translink.bc.ca with the answer to the question below, your full name, daytime phone number, and where you got the *Buzzer* (include the route number if you got it on a bus). Make sure you include everything—entries missing any of this info will not be entered to win! One entry per person, please.

Conventional buses are replacing Community Shuttle buses at 6:17 and 6:47 p.m. on what route? (Hint: it's in this issue!)

Enter by **Mon. Jan. 4 at 9 a.m.**; we'll draw a name from all eligible entries if more than one is right. See who won in the **January** issue!

PRIVACY POLICY We use your personal info only for the contest and delete entries after we pick a winner. Here's the long version though: *Your personal information is being collected, pursuant to section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of tPrivacy Act, solely for the purpose of administering this contest; it will be destroyed upon the determination of a contest winner. Please direct any questions regarding this collection to the Buzzer Editor at TransLink, 1600-4720 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 4N2, or thebuzzer@translink.ca.*

BACK ISSUES

Back Issues is a feature that mines past issues of *The Buzzer* for nuggets of transit history. Huzzah!

2008 It was waaay back in 2008, that the Back Issues section was first introduced!

SINCE THEN...

We've covered many items from the past including the 1977 Bus Interior Cleaning Program, the 1994 launch of SkyTrain in Surrey, a peek at the transit information centre in 1984 and 1991, and street name puzzles from 1937!

E-mail the *buzzer* at thebuzzer@translink.ca if you've got an old favourite *Buzzer* story you'd like us to revisit, or if you have an old *Buzzer* you want to send in!



Our call centre in 1959 and 1984!

COMING EVENTS

- ✓ **Canada Place's Donate & Win Holiday Contest** helps feed kids in need. Donate \$5+ online to Strathcona Community Centre's Food Security for Children program and enter to win a trip for two to Jamaica. Also see the Nightly Christmas Light Shows on the iconic sails from Dec. 4-31 and have breakfast with Santa on Dec. 12. Info on both events: www.christmas.canadaplace.ca. Proceeds go to Strathcona Community Centre's Food Security for Children.
- ✓ **Good Shepherd Church** presents *Messiah* by GF Handel, Dec 12 at 7:30pm, conducted by Johan Louwersheimer. 2250 150 St., Surrey. Adults \$20, seniors/students \$15. Info: 604-585-9102
- ✓ **Shiny Fuzzy Muddy Market** is Dec 12 at 11am-9pm and Dec.13 11am-7pm at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main St., Vancouver. info@shinyfuzzymuddy.com
- ✓ **3H Craftworks Society Christmas Craft Open House.** Decorations, and gifts, handmade by artisans with disabilities. Dec 1-24 - Mon-Thu. 10-6; Fri. 10-8; Sat-Sun 10-5, 2208 W 4th Ave., Vancouver. Info: 604-736-2113 sales@3hcrafterworks.com www.3hcrafterworks.com
- ✓ **Vagabond Players** presents *The Christmas Spirit*, Dec 13, 20, 23, 26, 28 & 29 at 2pm and Dec 22 & 27 at 7pm. Bernie Legge Theatre, Queens Park, New Westminster. Reservations: 604-521-0412
- ✓ **Deep Cove Stage Society** presents *Babes in the Wood*, a pantomime where the Sheriff of Nottingham plans to do away with his brother's children - but not if Robin Hood has anything to do with it! Dec 16-18, 21-22, 28-30 at 8pm, Dec 10-20, 26-27, 31 and Jan 2 at 4pm. Deep Cove Theatre, 4360 Gallant Ave., North Vancouver. All tickets \$13. Info: 604-929-3200 or www.deepcovestage.com
- ✓ **The Gallery Singers of Vancouver** host an eclectic programme of Christmas music on Dec 20 at Canadian Memorial United Church, 1806-W 15th Ave., Vancouver at 2pm. Tickets at the door \$18/13.
- ✓ **Local Volkssport Club** is hosting a 5K/10K walk in Central Park on Dec 27. Free for new participants. Info: Verni at 604-682-8390.
- ✓ Publishing Program Information Sessions Feb 3 and Mar 2 at 7pm at **Langara College**, 100 W 49 Ave., Vancouver. No registration. Info: 604-323-5430.
- ✓ **The VanDusen Botanical Garden** presents The Festival of Lights, Dec 11-Jan 3 (except Dec 25). It's a dazzling wonderland illuminated by more than 1.4 million lights displayed over 10 acres of the Garden. 5251 Oak Street, Vancouver: info and ticket prices at vandusengarden.org.
- ✓ **JOKE TIME!** Q: Where does Napoleon keep his armies? A: Up his sleeves!

Send your community events (and jokes!) to thebuzzer@translink.ca

Win a free FareCard!



BUZZER

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In this issue...

- » Profile: operator by day, actor by night!
- » December 14 service changes
- » Holiday service information

Visit the *Buzzer* blog at buzzer.translink.ca

Bus service changes on December 14

8 Fraser/Downtown

Longer 'articulated' buses will be scheduled for all trips to increase capacity and improve service reliability.



50 False Creek South/Waterfront Station

Returns to Granville routing: southbound between Nelson St and the Granville Bridge, northbound between the bridge and Robson St.

99 B-Line Commercial-Broadway Station/UBC

New stops in both directions at Fraser St and Arbutus St!

214 Blueridge/Phibbs Exchange Station

Conventional buses will replace the smaller Community Shuttle vehicles for trips leaving Phibbs Exchange at 6:17 and 6:47 p.m., to improve capacity.

C41 Meadowtown/Maple Meadows Station/Pitt Meadows Centre

Re-routed during middays Monday-Friday and all day Saturday to serve the Bonson South residential area. Peak-period trips will not be re-routed at this time.

N10 Nightbus Richmond/Downtown

Trips to YVR-Airport (during hours when Canada Line is not operating) will include service to Bridgeport Station.

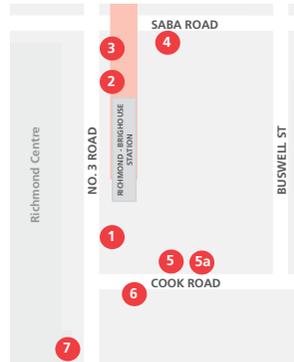
N15 Cambie/Downtown

Re-routed downtown to mirror 15 Cambie/Downtown service.

Richmond-Brighthouse Station bus loop changes

Six bus routes at Richmond-Brighthouse Station will be reassigned to new bus bays due to community concerns. Please check the revised bay assignments to know where to board your bus! (The six reassigned routes are in **bold**.)

Bay 1 (56546)	Bay 4 (61332)
301 Newton Exch	401 Garden City
430 Metrotown Stn	<i>Unloading Only</i>
480 UBC	301, 430, 480, C96
C96 East Cambie	Bay 5 (56480)
Bay 2 (56689)	402 Two Road
405 Cambie	Bay 5a (52075)
407 Gilbert	404 Ladner Exch
410 22nd St Station	Bay 6 (56451)
N10 Downtown	405 Five Road
Bay 3 (61334)	407 Bridgeport
401 One Road	Bay 7 (56549)
403 Bridgeport Stn	402 Two Road
C94 Richmond Oval	403 Three Road
	404 Ladner Exch
	410 Railway
	N10 Richmond-Brighthouse



Keep your eyes open for the reindeer bus!

Watch out for the reindeer bus on the streets this holiday season! On board you'll find Santa and Mrs. Claus with their team of helpers as they travel throughout the system on random routes. They will be handing out candy canes and offering great holiday cheer to those who join in the carolling.

Tell us: what do you want to see in the Buzzer?

We want to know what you want to see in the Buzzer!

Curious about something you see on transit? Interested in hearing more about our operations? Or just something else entirely?

Send us an e-mail at thebuzzer@translink.ca and tell us all about it — we want to get it into the Buzzer!



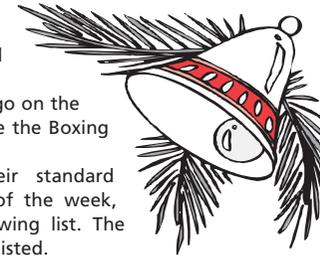
Holiday season transit service and fares

During the Christmas–New Year's period, we're adjusting our transit service to help you get around during the holiday season!

We know you've got places to go on the holidays and for special events like the Boxing Day midday shopping rush.

Transit services will run their standard schedules according to the day of the week, except where noted in the following list. The applicable fare for each day is also listed.

Visit translink.ca or call 604-953-3333 if you need more details.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Regular weekday fares.

West Coast Express afternoon trains depart downtown at 1:00, 3:00, 4:20, 5:30 and 6:20, plus the regular TrainBus service.

West Vancouver Transit will offer additional bus service for Horseshoe Bay ferry connections.

Expo and Millennium Lines will adjust service to accommodate midday office closures and earlier afternoon commuting peaks.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

Sunday/holiday fares—only a single-zone fare is needed for travel in all zones all day.

Most bus routes will run according to their Sunday/holiday schedules; however, some routes will run less often due to lower Christmas Day demand.

Expo and Millennium Lines and **SeaBus** will run according to their Sunday/holiday schedule.

Canada Line will operate regular Friday service hours.

There will be no **West Coast Express** service on Christmas Day.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

Sunday/holiday fares.

Most bus routes will run according to Sunday/holiday schedules, with extended evening service on some routes to connect with the final SkyTrain Expo and Millennium Line trains and final SeaBus departures. Service will be enhanced during the day for some routes that serve major shopping destinations and entertainment venues.

Expo and Millennium Line service will start and finish according to its Saturday schedule - first train from King George at 6:08 a.m.; last train from Waterfront at 1:16 a.m. - and will feature more frequent service during midday to accommodate Boxing Day shopping crowds.

Canada Line will operate regular Saturday service levels with additional train service as required.

SeaBus will operate according to a Sunday/holiday schedule, but will extend late-night service according to a Saturday schedule.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

Regular weekday fares.

Expo and Millennium Lines will adjust service frequency during daytime to reflect increased midday demand and reduced rush-hour commuter travel.

No **West Coast Express** service on Monday, December 28.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29 AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Regular weekday fares.

Expo and Millennium Lines will adjust service frequency during daytime to reflect increased midday demand and reduced rush-hour commuter travel.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

Regular weekday fares until 5 p.m., then free service.

A number of bus routes will provide extended late-night service.

Expo and Millennium Lines and **SeaBus** will extend late-night service by one hour, with the last train and ferry leaving Waterfront Station at 2:16 a.m.

Canada Line service will be extended by one hour, ending at the last train leaving Waterfront Station at 2:05 a.m. towards YVR and 2:15 a.m. towards Richmond.

West Coast Express afternoon trains depart downtown at 1:00, 3:00, 4:20, 5:30 and 6:20, plus the regular TrainBus service. Please note, there will not be a 12:55 TrainBus, but all other TrainBuses will run on schedule.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

Regular Sunday/holiday fares.

Buses, SeaBus and SkyTrain, including **Canada Line** will operate on Sunday/holiday schedules.

There will be no **West Coast Express** service on New Year's Day.

Again, for more information, please visit translink.ca or call 604-953-3333 to reach our Customer Information centre.

Check out the Buzzer blog!

Visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca for more transit news!

In December, the blog will have the inside scoop on the new SeaBus launch, holiday service reminders, the proposed Canada Line YVR Addfare, and more.



The new SeaBus will launch this December (pending approval from Transport Canada!)