

Contest corner: win a FareCard!

LAST ISSUE'S FARECARD WINNER We had 616 correct entries in our last contest, and **Hugh M.** won the FareCard. The answer? Each of our original 114 SkyTrain cars has travelled an average of 4 million kilometres!

WIN A FREE FARECARD! It will be for 1, 2, or 3 zones, based on where the winner travels. Email thebuzzer@translink.ca with the answer to the question, 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.



Name our program that helps people make smart travel choices for getting around our region. (Hint: it's in this issue!)

Enter by **Feb. 24 at 9am**; we'll draw a name from all correct entries! The winner will be notified by phone shortly after the draw.

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

BACK ISSUES

The Buzzer has been published since June 2, 1916! So in this section we mine our back issues for nuggets of transit history. Huzzah!

1946 The July 14, 1946 Buzzer paid homage to Vancouver's early street car for providing transportation along



A cartoon from the July 14, 1946 Buzzer

what was back then mostly dirt roads and forest!

"[The street car] went through mainly solid bush, punctuated with a trail here and there.

Not so long ago the Oak Street line ran through a cleft in the timber with nary a trace of a roadway...

Dunbar Street line was a singly track that ran along-side a bare streak of dirt that passed for a street.

So we say all honor to the street car, which pioneered transportation in these parts!"



SkyTrain Attendants lend a helping hand!

The following email comes from **Nathan Sackrison**, a visitor to Vancouver, who was separated from his wife on the SkyTrain. Luckily, SkyTrain Attendants **Ron Frenette** and **John Evelyn** saw what happened and reunited the pair!

To John and whomever else it may concern,

On a recent trip to Vancouver, a man butted in between my wife, my baby, and I while we were boarding a train the doors began to close. It was our first time using the train, and we quickly learned the signal for "the doors are about to close so we had better get a move on if you want to ride this train together." My wife stood on the other side of the doors with disbelief as the train sped away with me and our baby.

John and a coworker quickly noticed the situation and realized my wife was left behind. Since she wasn't small enough to fit in the lost and found, they decided it would be easier to reunite us. John caught up to me at the next station and helped me get back the original station.

I'm the guy he called "California" and I wanted to say thanks again for the help.

—Sincerely, Nathan Sackrison

COMING EVENTS

- ✓ **Year of the Rabbit Chinese New Year Parade.** Chinatown's signature event, returns Feb 6 at 12 noon. With lion dances, dance troupes, marching bands and more, this parade is a cultural extravaganza not to be missed. See the parade route at cbavancouver.ca
- ✓ **2011 CIBC LunarFest.** See Vancouver Art Gallery Plaza transformed into the world's first Lantern Aquarium. Feb 3 - 13, 4pm - 11pm. For information about the New Year concert, lantern workshops, processions and exhibit hours, visit lunarfest.org.
- ✓ **ROOTS – Celebrating the International Year of the Forest:** nature inspired art from the Blackberry Artist's Society & Guests. Leigh Square Community Arts Village, Port Coquitlam. Jan 21-Feb 28. Opening Reception: Feb. 12, 2-4pm. Info: portcoquitlam.ca/arts
- ✓ **UV Screenprints by J.C. Heywood.** An exhibition of the Ultraviolet screenprints that have been a major part of J.C. (Carl) Heywood's work since 1995 presented by The Burnaby Art Gallery. Jan. 11 - Mar. 7 at the McGill Library.
- ✓ **Bridal Swap!** Connecting past brides & brides to be in a fun atmosphere to buy and sell gently used wedding items. Plus a silent auction to for sample wedding & bridesmaids dresses from Frocks Modern Bridesmaids & Isabelle's Bridal. Feb. 20. Info: bridalswap.ca
- ✓ **Retro Design & Antiques Fair.** Fabulous finds for you and your eclectic abode! Feb. 20, 10am-3pm. Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive. \$5 admission. Info: 604-980-3159 or 21cpromotions.com
- ✓ **Lorita Leung Chinese Dance Company.** Feb. 24 at 12 noon. Scotiabank Dance Centre, Vancouver. Tickets \$10/\$8 students, seniors and children from Tickets Tonight 604-684-2787 or ticketstonight.ca. Info: thedancecentre.ca
- ✓ **Miniature train rides!** Book your birthday parties & private functions. 120 Willingdon, Burnaby. Info: 604-291-0922 or burnabyrailway.org
- ✓ **Nominations are open for YWCA Woman of Distinction Awards.** The Awards honour women whose achievements contribute to the well-being of our community. Info: ywcavan.org or 604-895-5768.
- ✓ **Dance the winter blues away at Bonsor Complex's 55+ dance programs.** Tuesdays 12 noon-3pm and Thursdays 7:30-10:30pm. Live band and refreshments. Info call: 604-439-5510.

Send your community events to thebuzzer@translink.ca



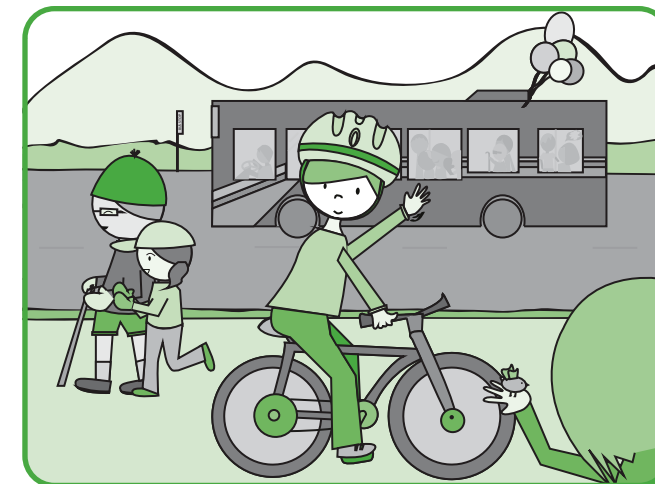
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THE BUZZER

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TravelSmart: join the movement!

Also in this issue...

- » Olympic Games anniversary celebrations
- » Princess Diana's 1986 tour of SkyTrain
- » A transit crossword!

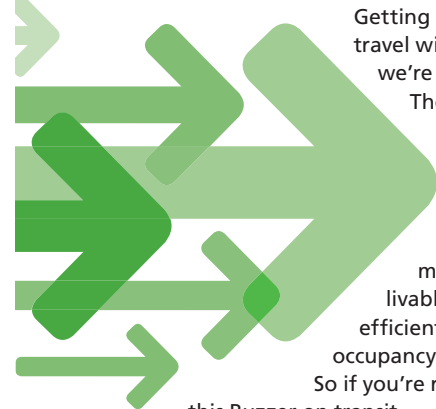
Visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca

TravelSmart: join the movement!

This February, we're launching a new program called TravelSmart!

Through TravelSmart, we'll be trying to help people make smart travel choices for getting around our region. We're launching a new website on Feb. 11 at travelsmart.ca with tools, articles, and more to help you travel more efficiently—you'll learn all

about ride-sharing, teleworking, cycling, walking, and more!



Getting Metro Vancouver to travel wisely is a big goal, but we're excited to take it on!

The TravelSmart program is really a key part of building a healthy, sustainable region over the next 30 years. We want to make our region a more livable place by using more efficient alternatives to single occupancy vehicle travel.

So if you're reading this Buzzer on transit—you're probably already part of the TravelSmart movement! But we'd love for you to make it official: come and join us at travelsmart.ca on Feb. 11 to sign up and learn more!



Celebrate the Olympic Winter Games' one-year anniversary!

February marks one year since the 2010 Olympic Winter Games! Here's a rundown of the major celebrations around town. If you're planning on attending, we encourage you to TravelSmart—take transit, cycle, walk, or rideshare to your destination!

Key transit info: on Feb. 12, all SkyTrain lines will operate extra trains, and more SkyTrain staff will be on-duty to assist the public. SeaBus will run 15-minute service.

On Feb. 12 through to the morning of Feb. 13, Granville Street between Smithe & Dunsmuir, and Robson between Howe & Seymour will be closed to vehicles. Buses on these streets will be rerouted. See translink.ca to plan your trip and know before you go!

Downtown Vancouver

Olympic Glory Relived on Granville Street Feb 12, noon–9 pm
Granville Street from Smithe to Dunsmuir will feature buskers, street hockey and the Lunar Festival parade.

2011 CIBC LunarFest Feb 12-13, 4pm–11pm
Look for beautiful lanterns and other expressions of Asian arts and culture near the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Robson Square Feb 12, 11am - 11pm
Free skating, music and entertainment all day.

Re-lighting of the Olympic Cauldron Feb. 12, 4pm

Illuminate Yaletown Feb 11-12
A free, entertainment-filled street party featuring spectacular light installations from local artists.

Creekside Community Recreation Centre Feb 12, 11am - 3pm
Free family-friendly Olympic and Paralympic themed activities including a hockey sledge race, winter sports on Wii, pin trading, and 2010 memorabilia on display.

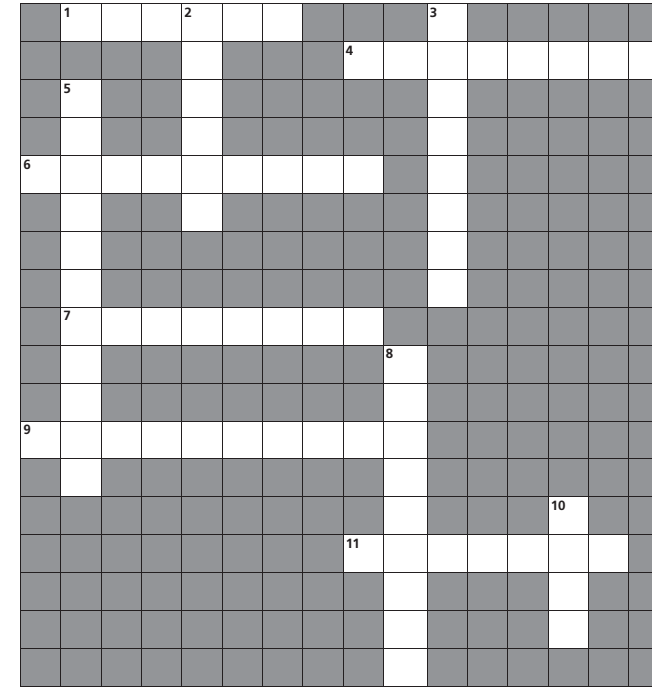
Surrey

Winterfest Feb 26, noon
Free family event at Central City Plaza (next to the Surrey Central Station). Special Olympic Flashback Celebration at 6pm, and Hot Hot Heat take the stage at 8:45pm. Plus free public skating, simulated curling centre, and two toboggan runs. See surrey.ca for details.

Richmond

Winterfest Weekend, Feb 12-13
Free public skating, ice sport demonstrations, sport activities, cultural presentations, art displays, and children's activities at the Richmond Olympic Oval. Visit richmondwinterfestival.ca for details.

A transit crossword!



ACROSS

- Every fifteen minutes, this vessel sails between downtown Vancouver and Lonsdale Quay
- What is TransLink's name for a monthly transit pass?
- This station is between Columbia and Braid
- The name of our elevated train system!
- This station marks where the Canada Line branches into two lines
- Lose an umbrella? Go to this station to find our Lost Property office!

DOWN

- This is the name of the newsletter you're holding!
- These buses are powered by electric wires hung above our roadways
- What's the name of TransLink's new travel choices program?
- This station is right next to TransLink headquarters
- Nickname for the London Underground subway system

Answers in next month's Buzzer!

A royal visit to SkyTrain

Here's a special SkyTrain 25th anniversary historical gem! Prince Charles and Diana, Princess of Wales visited Expo in May of 1986, and rode the brand new SkyTrain to Patterson Station. SkyTrain Attendant **Ven Rao** recounts his fond memory of being selected to ride the train during their visit:

It was one of those anxious moments when we waited at Patterson inbound hoping our train will run without any problems...The very moment as they were coming up the escalator, we could hear all the clicking of the cameras by the news media people. Once on the platform they were greeted by the then-President of BC Transit, Mr. Stu Hodson. Indeed it was a moving experience to see the young royalty from close-up.

We were given the protocol not to extend our hand, unless they extend to do the handshake. I recall Prince Charles was dressed in a suit and tie, while Diana was wearing a pearl white dress. I believe they only rode from Patterson to Joyce.

Flowers that were given to Diana during the ceremony at the park were left on the train, we all shared and took them home. I remember taking a yellow rose and giving it to my wife.

Thanks Ven, for sharing such a wonderful memory!

More anniversary stories and photos can be seen, at buzzer.translink.ca.



Photos from left to right: Charles and Diana greeting people at Patterson Station; the royal couple on the escalator at Patterson; Diana and Charles beside SkyTrain car 014