

Contest corner: win a FareCard!

LAST ISSUE'S FARECARD WINNER We had 1022 correct entries in our last contest, and Maggie F. won the FareCard. The answer? TravelSmart our program to help people make smart travel choices.

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.



If you show your transit pass at Dr Sun Yat-Sen Chinese Garden, what discount will you get? (Hint: it's in this issue!)

Enter by **March 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!

1962 The March 9, 1962 Buzzer remarked on the convenience and magic of the new automated dishwashers.

A magician who could clean a large pile of dirty dishes by merely snapping his fingers would be regarded as a miracle man.

Yet that's virtually the same stunt that's performed every day by many home-makers. Instead of snapping their fingers, they just flick the switches on their automatic dishwashers. The savings in

most households is about 10.5 hours of monotonous work each week. That's equal to one full workday — time that can be put to better use.

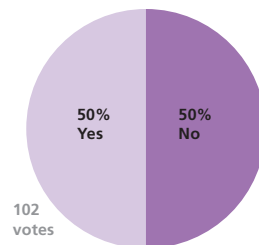


Bob Banks cartoon from the March 9, 1962 Buzzer

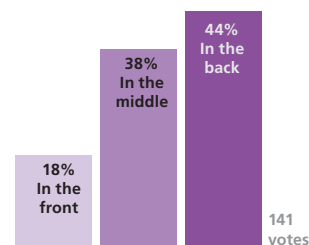
Ever turned in something to the lost and found?

Riders weigh in on this question and more!

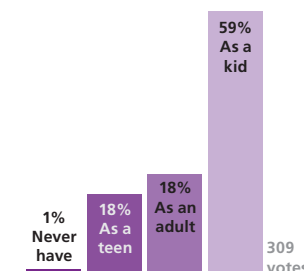
If you visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca, you may have noticed that we run regular Friday fun polls asking readers different questions transit! Here's some of what we've heard!



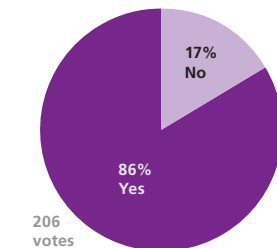
Have you ever turned something in to the lost and found?



Where do you like to sit on transit?



When did you first ride the SkyTrain?



Have you ever carried something really cumbersome on transit?

For more, visit buzzer.translink.ca and choose the "Transit Culture" category from the dropdown menu at right to see all the polls, plus reader comments on each poll!

March 13 is daylight savings

A reminder to spring ahead for daylight savings time on Sunday, March 13, 2011 at 2 a.m. Don't forget to turn those clocks forward one hour!



COMING EVENTS

- ✓ **Celebrate Tibet! Losar New Moon 2011:** An event to renew the heart in the spirit of joy and compassion. March 5, 7-10pm. St. Mark's Anglican Church, 1805 Larch St, Vancouver. Admission by donation, all proceeds to Tibetan charities. Call 604-788-1318.
- ✓ **21st Century Flea Market:** Boho chic to 50's kitsch, collectibles and memorabilia. Drop-in appraisals all day. March 20, 2011, 10am-3pm. Croation Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver. \$4 admission. Info: 21cpromotions.com or 604-980-3159.
- ✓ **Community Concert Band** seeks volunteer wind, brass and percussion musicians. Feeling rusty? We can help! No fee or audition; uniforms provided. Practices every Monday night. Call Brian at 604-789-1865 for info.
- ✓ **1st Annual Vancouver Bike Show!** Vancouver Convention Centre, March 19-20. Featuring new riding technology for all disciplines, including; mountain bikes, road cycling, commuter and touring bikes and even electric options. Free on-site bike parking. Info: vancouverbikeshow.com.
- ✓ Best Friends Theatre Co-op presents: **The Story of My Life**, an intelligent musical tale of friendship lost and found. March 2-19. Revue Stage on Granville Island. Tickets: vancouveritx.com or 604-629-8849.
- ✓ **Richmond Student Art Exhibition** Feb 26 – March 13, at the Artisan's Galleria, Garden City Shopping Centre, Richmond.
- ✓ **Discover Dance: JC Dance Co.**, showcasing the glamour and skill of Ballroom and Latin dance. March 31, 12 noon. Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, Vancouver. Tickets: 604-684-2787 or ticketstonight.ca. Info: thedancecentre.ca.
- ✓ **BC Personal Supports Network** offers an Equipment and Assistive Technology Initiative (EATI) providing a source of funding for assessment, acquisition and training with equipment and assistive devices for BC residents with disabilities and seniors on their journey to reach their employment goals. Learn more at bcpsn.org or call 1-877-333-7554.
- ✓ **Port Coquitlam's Sunday Coffee Concerts** are back with a superb line up of exciting performers. From country to classical and gospel. March 13 & 27, 1:30-3:30pm. Terry Fox Theatre, 1260 Riverwood Gate, Port Coquitlam. Tickets: \$10/adult; \$5/student; children under 12 are free admission. Info: portcoquitlam.ca/arts

Send your community events to thebuzzer@translink.ca



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THE BUZZER

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Happy spring, everyone!

In this issue...

- » Take transit and get a discount to Vancouver attractions!
- » Our TransLink Twitter service is now permanent!

Visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca

Take transit for discounts on Vancouver attractions!

Our region's filled with great attractions, and transit is a convenient way to get there—you'll not only avoid traffic and parking hassles, but you'll get a discount too! See the deals below, and visit vancouverattractions.com for more information.

NOTE These offers cannot be combined with any other offer, have no cash value and are limited to one per person.



Capilano Suspension Bridge capbridge.com

\$2 off a regular priced adult admission if you show a valid transit pass or transfer from the same day at time of purchase.

Stanley Park Horse-Drawn Tours stanleyparktours.com

\$5 off of regularly-scheduled tours if you show your transit transfer, monthly pass, or U-Pass.

Harbour Cruises boatcruises.com

Get a 10% discount on regularly scheduled tours when you show your transit pass or transfer from the same day.

Science World scienceworld.ca

\$1 off with a valid transit pass or transfer from the same day.

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Chinese Garden vancouverchinesegarden.com

\$3 off with a valid transit pass or transfer from the same day.

Vancouver Lookout vancouverlookout.com

\$1 off with a valid transit pass or transfer from the same day.

Vancouver Art Gallery vanartgallery.bc.ca

\$1 off for with a valid transit pass or transfer from the same day.

Burnaby Village Museum burnabyvillagemuseum.ca

10% off regular gate admission rates with a valid transit pass or transfer from the same day; not valid with any other offer, during Haunted Village, or on Tuesdays.

Minter Gardens mintergardens.com

\$2 off regular admission when a monthly pass is presented. Valid for our operating seasons only.

Hell's Gate hellsgateairtram.com

Show your valid transit pass or ticket from the same day and get \$3 off the regular adult fare or \$1 off regular senior fare.

SkyTrain historical photos and more!

SkyTrain is 25 this year! So we've asked riders to submit photos, videos, memories, and more to help us celebrate. Here's just some of the great items we've received! For more, visit the Buzzer blog's transit history section online: <http://bit.ly/gPX6Hp>



1 Cars being tested above Stewardson Way, 1985 **2** A BC Transit umbrella from SkyTrain's opening **3** SkyTrain's first snowfall in February 1986 **4** A four-car train operates in manual during a 1985 Open House event **5** The First Riders' Club certificate given to those who rode the 1984 demo line **6** A souvenir ticket from the demo line!

CREDITS 1, 3, 4 by Bob Webster & sent in by Alan M; 2 David Allen; 5, 6 sent in by Rob Chew

St. Patrick's Day Parade reroutes

Look out for CelticFest Vancouver, presented by Edgewater Casino, delivering five days of entertainment downtown from **March 16 to 20, 2011**.

Over 60 free and ticketed events are planned, including the big St. Patrick's Day Parade, presented by Pacific Centre, running at 11 a.m. on **Sunday, March 20**.

The route starts at Howe & Drake, runs along Howe and ends at Georgia and Granville. For more info, pick up a CelticFest program guide at Blenz Coffee outlets, or check celticfestvancouver.com.



STREET CLOSURES AND BUS REROUTES FOR THE PARADE

On **Sunday, March 20, 2011** the following streets will close to vehicle traffic for the St. Patrick's Day Parade:

8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- » Howe Street, from Drake St to the Granville Bridge.
- » All southbound traffic on Granville Bridge and Granville Street (except buses), from Drake St to West 5th Ave

10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

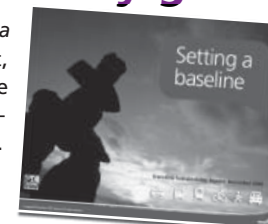
- » Howe Street, from Drake to Georgia.
- » Georgia Street, from Hornby to Seymour.
- » Granville Street, from Georgia to Dunsmuir.

The closures mean reroutes for the **4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 16, 20, 50, 240, 242 and C23**. Please visit translink.ca/alerts or call 604-953-3333 for more details!

TransLink tracks its progress towards sustainability goals

TransLink has released *Setting a Baseline*, its first sustainability report, which measures how well we are delivering Transport 2040 (our 30-year vision) and manage our business.

View the report at translink.ca, under "About TransLink."



Our TransLink Twitter service is now permanent!

Great news —our TransLink Twitter pilot is now a permanent service!

For anyone who doesn't know, the Twitter pilot was a test project to deliver ramped up customer service through the TransLink Twitter account (twitter.com/translink).

Since November 1, 2010, call centre workleaders have sent out system updates and

answered customer questions from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. every day—giving us 7,000+ followers, a huge number of customer compliments, and increased morale at our call centre!

So we're happy to announce that the Twitter pilot has now gained permanent funding, allowing a call centre workleader to staff our Twitter service every day from now on!

Many thanks to all the staff members involved who made this project such a huge success and such a valuable tool for our customers. And another huge thanks to all the customers who interact with us online, especially those who sent in

such supportive notes for the pilot. We received more than a hundred formal commendations, and countless supportive tweets!

For more stats from the project, search for "Twitter" at buzzer.translink.ca. And go to twitter.com/translink to follow us!



Yay! I really, really appreciate the twitter feed from you guys. It's made my commute so much better & I hope it sticks around.

—@JennaTweets

February crossword answers

Here's the answers to the February 2011 Buzzer crossword!

ACROSS 1 SeaBus 4 FareCard 6 Sapperton 7 SkyTrain 9 Bridgeport 11 Stadium **DOWN** 2 Buzzer 3 Trolleys 5 TravelSmart 8 Metrotown 10 Tube

Although we're sure you didn't need this: you got them all right on the first try, right? :)