



The Burrard Chinook SeaBus sails maiden voyage

TransLink's newest SeaBus, the Burrard Chinook, sailed its maiden voyage. The SeaBus operates on the shared unceded territories of xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (the Musqueam Indian Band), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (the Squamish Nation), and səliwətaʔ (the Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

The SeaBus vessel's name is a tribute to the Chinook salmon, one of the most iconic species in Pacific waters. The Chinook salmon has played a central role in life on the West Coast for generations and is a critical part of the ecosystem in the Burrard Inlet and the Pacific Ocean.

The vessel is also adorned in art designed by local Indigenous artists Kelly Cannell, Siobhan Joseph, and Angela George, who are from the three local First Nations. It surrounds the exterior of the vessel, illustrating the lifecycle of the Chinook salmon as well as its historical significance to the ecosystem.

BACK ISSUES

The Buzzer has been published for over 100 years! In this section, we mine through our archives for some fun historical finds!

2016 The Dec. 16, 2016 issue of The Buzzer celebrated the Evergreen Extension's opening on Dec. 2. This means the extension celebrated its fifth anniversary this year.

People across the Tri-Cities now have a fast and convenient way to seamlessly connect to the Metro Vancouver transit network. That means MORE transit choices and fewer people in their cars – something that will benefit drivers, residents and goods movers. The opening of the Evergreen Extension is a major milestone in the region's history and a significant expansion of our integrated transit network.



As part of the 10-Year Vision, the SkyTrain network continues to expand with the Broadway Subway Project. This 5.7-kilometre extension of the Millennium Line from VCC–Clark Station, along Broadway, will include six new underground stations.

Enter the Tap In to Win sweepstakes

Riding transit can be rewarding — literally!

From now until March, every transit trip you take with a Compass Card registered for sweepstakes is your entry to Tap in to Win!

Prizes include a range of travel and transportation-related items from our partners at Destination Vancouver, Rad Power Bikes, BC Ferries and YVR, just to name a few.

You could win:

- » 2 electric bikes
- » 5 Compass Cards, each with a Monthly Pass loaded for 12 months
- » BC Ferries vacation package
- » 15 Stay + Play packages, including hotels, restaurants and attractions
- » Sports fan experience package
- » Uniglobe flight voucher

Prizes will be drawn each month during the sweepstakes period. Customers must register their Compass Card for Tap In To Win in order to be eligible to win. For a full list of details, rules and how to enter and win, visit our website.



Register now at translink.ca/tapintowin

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KIDS 12 AND UNDER RIDE FREE

Children 12 and under can now ride TransLink services free as part of a new provincial program. This change makes it easier and more affordable for families in and around Metro Vancouver.

Get on board!

KIDS 12 & UNDER RIDE FREE



While travel for children 12 and under is free, parents and guardians are responsible for educating and making decisions about the safety and care of their children whenever travelling on transit.

Discover the Transport 2050 draft strategy

The Transport 2050 draft strategy has arrived. It's been three years in the making after multiple rounds of public engagement, hundreds of events, and 40,000 survey and idea submissions,

Transport 2050 will be the blueprint for our transportation future, shaping future investments, policies, and services.

The final Regional Transportation Strategy will be taken to the Mayors' Council for adoption in early 2022.

Read the draft strategy at transport2050.ca.



Read *The Buzzer* blog at buzzer.translink.ca

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Register for Tap In to Win!

THE BUZZER

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by Celyn Barker

Taking transit can be rewarding!

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

- » Braille signage to come to every bus stop
- » Burrard Chinook SeaBus sails maiden voyage
- » Transport 2050 draft strategy arrives....and more!

buzzer.translink.ca



Braille signage to come to every bus stop

TransLink's taking a major step forward towards improving the transit system for people who are blind or partially sighted. We've begun installing braille signage with raised tactile letters at every bus stop in Metro Vancouver.

"People who are blind or partially sighted, we rely almost 100 per cent on the public transit system to get around our community," says Rob Sleath. He's an advocate for people with sight loss and Access Transit's Users' Advisory Committee Member.



Rob Sleath

"Now, we are able to — with these signs installed on the ID poles — travel even further than we did in the past. This is more than just a fancy sign on a pole, it's really our gateway to further independence in using the public transit system."

By the end of 2022, all 8,400 Metro Vancouver bus stops will have signage installed containing:

- ✓ Information written in both Unified English Braille and raised tactile letters
- ✓ Bus stop ID numbers
- ✓ Bus route numbers serving that bus stop
- ✓ Bay or bus stop indicators
- ✓ Customer Information phone number

"Accessibility is imperative to a quality transit system, and I am very proud of this major step forward for our customers who are blind or partially sighted," says Kevin Quinn, TransLink's Chief Executive Officer.

"These signs may seem like a small addition to some, but we know through years of engagement and listening to the community that these signs will make a big difference in giving people with sight loss confidence and independence in taking transit in Metro Vancouver."

We're also installing tactile walking surface indicators at every bus stop that is on property that TransLink owns or leases. These raised surface indicators will be mounted on the ground to help customers who are blind or partially sighted find the bus stop pole and bus boarding area.

Supporting COVID-19 immunization

We are the region's people mover and it's a duty we wear proudly on our sleeves. When it came to COVID-19 immunization, it was no different.

In partnership with local health authorities, the Mobile Vaccine Bus rolled its way throughout the region, making it easier for people to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. We also made our Park and Ride lots available for COVID-19 testing and immunization clinics.



- » The Mobile Vaccine Bus made 12 stops, including White Rock, Surrey, Burnaby and Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal – 45 per cent of doses given at these stops were first doses.
- » More than 100,000 people were vaccinated by health care workers at the Coquitlam and South Surrey Park and Rides.
- » Close to 160,000 COVID-19 tests were provided at the Coquitlam and South Surrey Park and Rides since September 2020.
- » 3,200 trips booked through HandyDART to help individuals get to and from their vaccination appointment.
- » ...and countless others who rode transit to their appointment.

THE BUZZER TURNS 105

First published on June 2, 1916, the year 2021 marks the 105th year *The Buzzer* has been in publication. It's one of Metro Vancouver's longest-running publications. *The Buzzer* has been transit's watcher, observing on every transit vehicle. What has it learned and taught us?

Transit is resilient and it's there when the people of Metro Vancouver need it most, during our most challenging hours. It kept the region moving through the 1918 flu pandemic, the world wars, and the Great Depression. Transit persevered each time, coming out stronger and even better. We look forward to welcoming you back transit and taking our rightful place as part of your commute to the people and places you love.

Happy holidays to our readers and customers!

— Sarah Kertcher and Allen Tung, *The Buzzer*



WINTER TRANSIT SERVICE CHANGE STARTS JAN. 3

We're adjusting bus service levels around the region to better match customer demand.

Learn more at translink.ca/servicechanges.

Bus operator realizes Christmas dream

Eyes full of wonder and delight like a child on Christmas morning, rookie bus operator Erika Jensen's face lights up no differently each and every time she spots a Reindeer Bus on the road.

It was love at first sleigh. Erika recalls seeing the Reindeer Bus as a child, long before she ever considered stepping aboard a transit vehicle as an operator.

Once she became a fully fledged transit operator less than a year ago, taking the reins of the Reindeer Bus was at the top of her bucket list.

In a "Dear Santa" letter, penned to staff responsible for assigning operators to their buses each shift, Erika detailed her dream to drive the Reindeer Bus.

Turns out Santa checked his list twice, and hopeful reindeer-operator Erika was in fact on the nice list this year. Before she knew it, Erika was pre-tripping her very own Reindeer Bus, and her excitement for the shift couldn't be anymore wholesome!

When asked if her shift at the helm of the Reindeer Bus lived up to her expectations, Erika giggles excitedly and says it was way better than she ever could have imagined.

"I couldn't believe it! While laying over the 19 Metrotown, customers asked where the bus went. I told them Stanley Park and they shrugged and said, 'I guess we can go to Stanley Park!' before paying their fare and hopping on board for a scenic ride."



Word Search

Complete this word search by locating all the words listed below in the grid, running up, down, forward and backward (not diagonal). Once all words are found, 10 letters will remain to form a hidden message.



T	H	C	A	N	E	B	I	K	E	BCFERRIES
T	A	A	P	O	S	I	N	R	B	CANUCKS
R	N	N	S	I	K	P	T	E	C	EBIKE
A	D	U	U	T	Y	R	R	Y	F	HANDYDART
N	Y	C	B	A	T	I	A	L	E	NEWFLYER
S	D	K	D	C	R	Z	N	F	R	PRIZES
P	A	S	I	Y	A	E	S	W	R	RAPIDBUS
O	R	T	P	A	I	S	I	E	I	SEABUS
R	T	O	A	T	N	W	T	N	E	SKYTRAIN
T	I	N	R	S	U	B	A	E	S	STAYCATION
										TRANSIT
										TRANSPORT



THE "MARK V" SKYTRAIN CAR

To meet the ever-growing needs of transit in Metro Vancouver, the SkyTrain fleet is expanding. An interior mock-up of the new SkyTrain car, which carries the Mark V model designation, was created to assist with the design process.