

SkyTrain Weekend Service Alert continues...



Weekend maintenance and construction on the existing SkyTrain line will be ongoing over the next few months, with service frequencies reduced to accommodate selected track closures. Depending on the location, trains may run every 5 to 18 minutes apart all day and evening on Saturdays and Sundays. Trains may also wait for a few minutes at a station. We suggest you allow an extra 10 to 15 minutes for your trip, although in many cases the delay will be less. Additional service may operate over part of the line. Please watch for signs, listen for announcements, and follow directions of SkyTrain staff. Check for information updates at SkyTrain stations, on the web at www.translink.bc.ca and in future issues of The Buzzer. Thanks for your continuing patience and cooperation as we undertake this essential work.

Bus crowded? Want to leave by the rear door?

The operator will know someone wants to get off when the signal cord is pulled, but in a crowded bus he/she may not know how many of those around the door actually want to exit. It would help if you called out and said you would like to get off.

The world is a puzzle with a piece missing

Renfrew Loop closed #9 Boundary/Broadway/Alma

Please note that the Renfrew Loop is now closed while the Renfrew SkyTrain Station is constructed. Most eastbound #9 Boundary buses continue to Boundary Loop; some, however, operate only to Broadway Station.

For your convenience, please check the destination sign before boarding.

For more information please call Len Dyer at 540-3449, Email: leonard_dyer@translink.bc.ca

Income tax official to taxpayer: "I'm afraid we can't allow you to deduct last year's tax as a bad investment."

White Rock/South Surrey residents: You're invited to an Open House on the proposed cancellation of the #357 & #358 routes

Without the implementation of the Transportation Levy or alternative funding, TransLink faces a budget shortfall. We therefore have no choice but to reduce costs for transit services and roadway maintenance, or to find other ways of raising money.

Our current plan is to cancel bus routes #357 *Crescent Beach/White Rock Centre* (except for school trips serving Elgin Park High School) and #358 *Seaside* in April. The ridership on these routes is low and the cost per passenger is very high.

Before taking this action, however, we are inviting your comments on these two routes.

**Please join us at Semiahmoo Shopping
Centre, by the Food Fair, Thursday,
March 1, between 9:30 am and 9:00 pm.**

*If all the cars in the world were placed end to end,
98 per cent would change lanes.*

COMING EVENTS

The Playhouse presents Shaw's timeless classic *Candida*, February 19 to March 17. Previews Feb 19, 20, 21. Opening Night Feb 22. Tx: \$32-43/\$28-36/\$18-22. 873-3311 or TM ✓ Ballet British Columbia presents The Royal Winnipeg Ballet in the Canadian premiere of David Nixon's *Butterfly*, Feb 22-24 at 8 pm and Feb 24 at 2 pm, as part of its dance *Alive!* series. \$54.50 to \$22.50 with discounts for seniors and students at TM, 280-3311. Groups call 732-5003, ext 215 ✓ EMBA Information Meetings. Meet the faculty, staff, students and alumni of SFU's executive master of business administration, Feb 28, 5-6:30 pm, SFU at Harbour Centre. Rsv: 291-5013 ✓ English Language/Canadian Culture. An information session on SFU's English language and culture program designed to enhance listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Specialized courses for seniors. Information/registration 604-291-5126 ✓ Confederation Centre in Burnaby offers seniors, 55 years and older, workshops, programs and special events. Membership fee is \$12.35 per year. Hot lunches are served from 11:30 am, Mon-Fri. ✓ Surrey Arts Centre Theatre presents a story of four modern women: *Under the Influence*, Feb 22-Mar 10 at 8 pm. Matinees Feb 24, Mar 3 and 10 at 4:30 pm. Tx at Box Office or by calling 501-5566 ✓ *Katimavik* is a national youth volunteer service that encourages the personal development of its young participants. Since its inception in 1977, over 25,000 young men and women, aged 17 to 21, have provided more than 2000 communities nationwide with millions of hours of volunteer work. Participants spend 30 weeks living in groups of about 11, working on community projects in three different locations (two predominantly Anglophone and one predominantly Francophone). They take part in a wide development of skills development training, and second-language learning. They receive room and board, \$3 a day and a \$1000 bursary upon completion of the program. *B.C. communities to enjoy the services of Katimavik volunteers in the 2001-2002 season:* Campbell River, Cortes Island, Hazelton. Keremeos, Osoyoos, Penticton, Prince George, Quadra Island, Quesnel, Smithers. Terrace and Williams Lake. For further information call 1-888-525-1503 or visit their website at www.katimavik.org ✓ Metro Theatre presents the delightful English farce *Will You Still Love Me In The Morning?*, Wed-Sat, Feb 24-Mar 17, 8:00 pm. 2 for 1 Preview Feb 23. Rsv: 266-7191, 1-4:30 Tues; 1-8 pm Wed-Sat during run

Feb 23/24 - St. Peter's Rum-Gray, 10-2. Clothing, house-
mage Sale at Dantenwill Hall, wares, books, toys, etc.
336 Agnes St, New Westminster. **Mar 3** - Flea Mkt/Rummage
Clothing, housewares, books, Sale/Ukrainian food,. 10-2, St.
refreshments. 9-noon Mary's Centre, 3150 Ash St.

Mar 1 - Thrift Shop Sale, South
Burnaby United, Rumble &

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New FareSavers now on sale

First new bus Fareboxes roll out February 17

New blue validators

now at SkyTrain stations
and SeaBus terminals to
handle new FareSavers

New \$10 bill

not accepted by SkyTrain, SeaBus and
West Coast Express ticket machines.

Details inside

New electronic fare collection system

The system, similar to those in several large cities in North America and around the world, is being introduced by TransLink in phases. The first phase will see improved handling of cash, transfers and FareSaver tickets with the use of new electronic bus fareboxes and SkyTrain/SeaBus validators.

These innovations will also ensure the correct fare is always deposited.

New bus fareboxes roll out Feb.17

The new electronic fareboxes are being installed on all 208 buses operating out of the Burnaby Transit Centre on the weekend of February 17 and 18.

These buses serve most of the Burnaby and New Westminster routes, as well as a number of routes extending into Vancouver. Some will be in service on Saturday and Sunday, with the full Burnaby fleet converted by Monday morning, February 19. The remainder of the TransLink bus fleet should be converted by July.

New format FareSaver tickets went on sale at TransLink FareDealer outlets on February 12, in conjunction with new ticket validators at all SkyTrain stations and SeaBus terminals

After March 1, any old, unused FareSaver tickets should be returned to TransLink for a refund. Tickets cannot be refunded at FareDealer outlets. Please send by mail to TransLink FareSaver Ticket Exchange, #1600-4720 Kingsway, Burnaby, B.C. V5H 4N2, and we will return a cheque for a full refund within a few business days. *Sorry, but we cannot exchange tickets for cash, or in person at any TransLink or subsidiary site.*

Ticket machines cannot accept new \$10 bills

We regret that SkyTrain, SeaBus and West Coast Express ticket machines are not able to accept the new Canadian \$10 bill at this time. Please watch for further information. West Coast Express machines accept Canadian \$5, old \$10 and \$20 bills; SkyTrain and SeaBus machines accept \$5 and old style \$10 only.



This is the top of one of the new electronic fareboxes to be installed in buses. Watch for further information in The Buzzer and in a special brochure.

How to use the new system

ON A BUS WITH A NEW FAREBOX

Paying cash

Coins only please: new fareboxes do not accept bills. **Need a transfer?** Please ask and obtain when you pay your fare. **Going more than one zone? Paying for more than one person?** Please advise the bus operator before you pay your fare. Retain your transfer as proof of zone payment.

New format FareSaver

Insert in the ticket slot on top of the farebox, arrow down, black stripe facing you. The ticket will be processed and returned to you. **Starting your trip:** if not previously validated, your FareSaver will be encoded from your starting fare zone, valid for 90 minutes. **Continuing your trip:** if previously validated on another bus, SkyTrain or SeaBus, the farebox will verify your ticket and return it.

Old format FareSaver (1st use)

If not previously validated, hand your old-format FareSaver to the bus operator; it will be exchanged for a new format transfer, valid for 90 minutes.

Other tickets and passes

including cash fare tickets from SkyTrain, SeaBus and West Coast Express; paper transfers; old-format FareSavers validated at SkyTrain or SeaBus; monthly FareCards, DayPasses, and other special passes: just show to the bus operator. **Do not insert in the farebox.**

Going more zones?

If upgrading a transfer or FareSaver for additional zones, please advise the operator **first**. When directed, insert the ticket/transfer and the additional cash. Your old ticket will be exchanged for a new transfer good for the upgraded fare, with the original expiry time.

ON A BUS WITH AN OLD FAREBOX

During the transition to new equipment, some buses will continue to have old-style fareboxes for some months. Please continue with existing procedures, depositing cash and unvalidated FareSavers (new or old) in the farebox, requesting a paper transfer if old style required. Transfers

and already-validated tickets (new or old) are still to be shown to the bus operator, validation print towards the operator, not deposited in the box.

When boarding with a new format transfer, show the validation imprint to the operator, then deposit in the farebox. Request a new transfer if required for an additional connection.

AT SKYTRAIN STATIONS OR SEABUS TERMINALS

Paying cash Continue to purchase tickets with coin/ and/or bills (\$5 and old-style \$10 only at this time) at existing ticket vending machines.

New format FareSaver (1st use) Validate in the new blue validators in the station. Insert as shown on the machine, with the arrow facing forward, black stripe down. Retain for inspection.

Old format FareSaver Validate in the lower left-hand corner of a ticket machine, and retain for inspection. Note that the free-standing red validators in many stations have been removed to make way for the new equipment. Old validators have been returned to some existing ticket machines. Look for a distinctive decal on the re-equipped ticket machines. Old tickets cannot be validated in the new validators and vice versa.

Passes, transfers and previously validated tickets (new or old formats)

Please ensure that your fare is still valid, and keep available for inspection at any time in the Fare Paid Zone. With new format FareSavers, you may optionally check the validity by inserting the ticket in a new blue validator; the ticket will not be altered.

Going more zones?

As before, if you are travelling beyond the zones allowed on your ticket, transfer or pass, please purchase a separate AddFare at a ticket machine. You will need to present both the AddFare and your other current fare for inspection or when transferring to another service.