

Denham sets his poem closer to home on the Granville Street of jewellery vendors and tattooed movie-goers. The poems in this year's project, feature themes as diverse as hip hop, marriage, contemplation, the death of a friend and the fate of a runaway dog. The organizers of Poetry in Transit strive to introduce a range of poetic genres as well as old and new voices to transit riders. The response to the project over the years has been overwhelmingly positive. "The project is a wonderful community partnership that brings enjoyment to thousands of passengers riding public transit every day," said TransLink chairman Doug McCallum. "The poetry is thought-provoking and often amusing. It's a great way to enliven people's commute to work or school in an unexpected and delightful way."

Poetry in Transit is sponsored by the Association of Book Publishers of BC, BC Transit and TransLink. It is designed to increase public awareness and appreciation of contemporary BC poetry published in Canada. The project is open to BC poets, published in book form. Submission is made by their publishers. Financial support is made available by The Canada Council for the Arts and the BC Arts Council.

SkyTrain Saturday morning trackwork to take place September 18 and 25

Work is being concentrated in the Twenty-Second Steet area, but affects services system wide until approximately 10 am each Saturday.

- Millennium line trains will operate only between Commercial Drive and Columbia Stations, approximately every 8 minutes. Passengers must change to or from the Expo Line at Columbia Station.
 - Expo Line trains (Waterfront - King George) every 10-15 minutes, and may be held at a station for up to five minutes before or after the work area.
 - Additional trains will be in service between Waterfront and Edmonds, to maintain near normal service on the western portion of the line.
- The work is part of SkyTrain's commitment to long term preventive maintenance. Thank you for your patience.

SpaceFest Vancouver - The Place for Space, October 4-8, as a major gathering of top space experts, scientists, astronauts, agencies, and industry make Vancouver their space port at the 55th Annual International Astronautical Congress. Throughout the week at the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre enjoy a variety of fun-filled and informative activities. For more information, visit www.iac2004.ca ✓ Vancouver Women's Musical Society presents Quatuor Piano - Piano Quartet, four young men playing on two pianos a selection of entertaining pieces for two pianos, Sept 22, 11 to noon. Gen. adm \$10, Seniors \$8. Students \$5 Unitarian Church, 949 West 49th & Oak Tea, 11 am - noon ✓ "Antiques Roadshow" appraisals, Sat, Oct 30, Tea at noon. Appraisals, 1-3 pm by Mr Al Bowen at the Old Hastings Mill Store Museum, 1575 Alma St & Point Grey Rd. Advance tickets required 604-263-4097. Ask for details on charges ✓ Does public speaking stress you out? Positive Thinkers Toastmasters can help you master the art with opportunities to practice, learn and have fun. 876-3452 ✓ Thrift Sale at St. Faith's Church, West 57th Ave & Cypress St (Arbutus bus route). Friday, Oct 1, 6 to 8 pm and Sat, Oct 2, 10 to noon. ✓ The old Hastings Mill Store Museum, 1575 Alma at Point Grey Road, occupies the oldest building in Vancouver, is open Tuesdays to Sundays 11 am to 4 pm during the summer and has a wide selection of articles from Vancouver's history ✓ Volunteers needed for social-recreational program for adults with physical disabilities. Group meets Wednesdays, 3 to 7 pm at Douglas Park, 801 West 22nd Ave, Vancouver ✓ Over 25 of the world's top Jewish authors are participating in the 20th anniversary of the Vancouver Jewish Book Festival, November 2-25. Info: 604-257-5111 ✓ Louise Rose sings Jazz and Gospel, Canadian Memorial United Church, 1806 West 15th Ave at Burrard, Sept 26, 2 pm. Fundraiser for South African Townships Micro-lending Project. Tx Advance sales \$18/13. 604-263-3920. At the door, \$20/15. ✓ 21st Century Antiques Fair, with 175 tables and booths of 19th & 20th Century Antiques and Collectibles. Decorative arts, vintage & estate jewellery, country collectibles, mid-century Modernist decor, primitives, old toys & dolls, Christmas accessories, Native crafts, hand-painted china, art pottery & glass, textiles and linens, depression-era kitchenware, tins, records & memorabilia, old books, nautical, period lighting & fixtures, militaria. Sunday, Oct 17, 10 am to 3 pm, Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive at 16th. Adm \$3 at door. Children 12 & under free with adult. Free parking, Cafe & Snack bar. ✓ Christian Bible Study and Social Group. Info: 604-939-6863 ✓ VANPEX, Western Canada's largest national-level stamp exhibition sponsored annually by the British Columbia Philatelic Society, Oct 8-10, will have 175 frames of competitive exhibit, a 30-table bourse, a postal auction and Sunday morning awards breakfast at the Best Western Richmond Hotel, 7551 Westminster Hwy. Free adm for kids. \$2 a day for adults. 604-694-0014 ✓ St. Francis de Sales Fall Fair, 6610 Balmoral St, Bhy., Sat, Oct 2, 9:30 to 2:30, Octoberfest to follow at 6 pm. Free adm, live band Jambalaya ✓ Sudan Crisis: Doctors Without Borders give first hand report, Sept 22, 7 pm, Unitarian Church, 949 West 49th Ave, Corner of Oak. Everyone is welcome; adm is free. For more information call Brock at 604-734-8727 ✓ St. Philip's Fall Rummage Sale, Sat, Oct 2, 9 am to noon. 3737 West 27th Ave, Van. Lots of good stuff ✓ Annual North Shore Chorus Garage Sale, Sept 25, 9 am to 1 pm, St. David's United, 1525 Taylor Way, West Van ✓ Volunteer as School Program Leader at Richmond Nature Park. Must be available one morning per week, speak fluent English and be eager to learn about natural history. Info: Call Lori at 604-718-6188

BUZZER

THE

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Unusual Choices for 8th Year of Poetry on Transit

The popular Poetry in Transit project launches its eighth year at The Word On The Street festival, September 26 at Library Square in Vancouver. Sponsored by TransLink and the Association of Book Publishers of BC, Poetry in Transit annually features sixteen new poems from BC's talented pool of writers on SkyTrains and buses throughout the Lower Mainland.

This year marks a departure from Poetry in Transit's traditional fare with the inclusion of a poem by a seventeen-year-old Abbotsford girl, Jillian Bleackley, who wrote her book entirely on a voice-activated computer. Jillian's work will appear alongside established poets such as bill bissett, Esta Spalding and Wayne Compton. Jillian is delighted, as are the organizers, for the opportunity to showcase her young talent. In another departure, the selection committee this year chose the translation by BC poet, Colin Browne, of a poem by Li Po, a renowned eighth-century Chinese poet. Further voices reflecting the diversity of our community include Marusya Bociurkiw's reflections on her parent's emigration from the Ukraine, while Joe

In August 2001, the Big Slough Bridge on Ladner Trunk Road (Highway 10) between Highways #91 and #99, was closed to all vehicles over 10,000 kilograms GVW, until further notice.

This emergency weight limit was required due to structural inadequacies that were found in the bridge. This closure required the re-routing of the #311 Scottsdale/Vancouver and the #318 Ladner Exchange/Scottsdale routes.

The weight restriction has now been lifted, allowing buses to return to regular routings over the bridge.

Effective Monday, September 13, the #311 and #318 routes began operating via their regular routings over the Big Slough Bridge on Highway #10 as follows:

311 Scottsdale/Vancouver

Downtown Vancouver to Scottsdale Exchange via Melville, Thurlow, Pender, Howe, Granville, S.W. Marine Drive, Hudson, 71st Ave, Oak, Oak Street, Highway 99, Matthews Exchange, Highway 10 (Ladner Trunk Road), Scott Road (120th St), 74th Ave to Scottsdale Exch.

Scottsdale Exchange to Downtown Vancouver via 74th Ave, Scott Road, Hwy 10 (Ladner Trunk Road), Matthews Exchange, Highway 99, Oak Street Bridge, S.W. Marine, Granville, Seymour, Dunsmuir, Melville to Burrard Station.

318 Ladner Exchange/Scottsdale:

Ladner Exchange to Scottsdale Exchange via Harvest, Ladner Trunk, Matthew's Exchange, Hwy 10 (Ladner Trunk), Scott Road (120th St), 74th Ave to Scottsdale Exchange.

Scottsdale Exchange to Ladner Exchange via 74th Ave, Scott Road, Hwy. 10 (Ladner Trunk), Matthew's Exchange, Ladner Trunk, Harvest to Ladner Exchange.

Transit ridership continues to soar in 2004

TransLink released statistics recently that show transit ridership continued to increase dramatically during the first six months of 2004, maintaining the red hot pace set last year.

To the end of June, TransLink recorded 136.6 million passenger boardings...a 9.5 percent increase over the first six months of 2003 and a 24.6 percent increase over the same period in 2002.

Compared with the first half of 2003, bus ridership is up by 11.1 percent, SkyTrain is up by 5.4 per cent, SeaBus by 5.5 per cent and West Coast Express by 6 percent.

The numbers show that the demand for public transit continues to grow in response to the significant expansion of services TransLink has introduced since it took over the system five years ago, said TransLink Chair Doug McCallum.

The new Millennium SkyTrain Line, the 97 and 98 B-Lines, new Community Shuttles and expanded regular bus service have all generated more ridership.

In particular, the introduction and promotion of TransLink's U-Pass and OnBoard programs are making transit more accessible and affordable for students and commuters alike. As we'll see in the first part of

The following bus stops have been reintroduced:

Westbound on Ladner Trunk Road:

- nearside 12th Street
- farside 104th Street

Eastbound on Ladner Trunk Road

- farside 96th Street
- farside 104th Street
- farside 112th Street

No change to schedules or to stopping procedures.

The #318 will continue to serve Boundary Bay Airport on select trips. A Rider Alert and Operators Bulletin has been issued.

September, the success of these programs is continuing to put pressure on the system.

McCallum noted that TransLink will invest close to \$1 billion in the transit system from 2005 through 2007 to update and expand the bus and rapid transit system. A total of 228 new trolleys, construction work on the RAV and Northeast Sector rapid transit lines, more conventional buses and HandyDARTS are all in our next Three Year Plan. "We've recently taken delivery of 95 new buses and are in the process of ordering about 190 more over and above the new trolley fleet" he said.

Over the estimated three years of construction, it is anticipated the new crossing will create an average of 2200 jobs per year as well as 2300 jobs in industries supplying the construction effort.

That equates to \$312 million in total wages and salaries over the construction period.

Expected to open in 2008, the new bridge will improve the movement of goods and people between the north and south sides of the Fraser River. It will provide a vital link between Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows and Surrey/Langley and reduce travel times across the river by 20 to 30 minutes or more.

The Co-Operative Auto Network (CAN)

has a practical solution to high vehicle operating costs that can save you money.

Their vehicles are easily accessible in residential neighbourhoods throughout the Lower Mainland. Fees include use of the vehicle, gas, maintenance, insurance, BCAA membership and designated parking at several SkyTrain stations.

For information on CAN, call 604-685-1393, Fax 604-685-1353 or visit www.cooperativeauto.net

Join the Mother Daughter Northshore Walk for Heart & Stroke, Sunday, September 26, Ambleside Park, West Vancouver at 10 am. 604-983-8492