

Did you miss your GoCard photo session?

Apple Photographic Services' mobile service will be parked at the following locations for Grade 8 to 12 students who missed their school GoCard photo session:

Sat., Oct. 20

- Main Street SkyTrain (street level) 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- Vancouver Transit Centre
9149 Hudson St., Vancouver Noon - 2:00 p.m.
- Lougheed Town Centre SkyTrain
Station (bus exchange level) 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 27

- Coquitlam Centre Bus Exchange 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- Scott Road SkyTrain Station
(bus exchange level) Noon - 2:00 p.m.
- Staples Business Depot parking lot
20055 Willowbrook Drive, Langley 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 3

- Edmonds Station Bus Exchange 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- Brentwood Mall Bus Exchange Noon - 2:00 p.m.
- 22255 Dewdney Trunk Road,
Maple Ridge (Liquidation World parking lot) 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

What students must bring to GoCard photo session:

- A completed 2007/2008 GoCard application that has been signed by a school official
- Proof of age (birth certificate or passport)
- \$11 to cover the cost of the photo

Apple Photographic Services' mobile photo sessions are available until the end of November. The schedule for upcoming photo sessions will appear in future issues of *The Buzzer*.

Keep it safe on Halloween

The perfect weather conditions for a spooky Halloween can also be ideal conditions for accidents. Dark and rainy weather demands extra attention from everyone. TransLink would like to wish you a fun and safe Halloween and offers the following safety advice:

Drivers

If you can, stay off the roads after dark on Halloween. Otherwise, drive with extra caution and avoid side streets where trick-or-treaters could be lurking.

Parents

Make sure children are accompanied at all times. When assembling costumes, make sure visibility comes first. Before you leave the house, advise children to stay near you, to walk on sidewalks if possible, and to cross streets at corners when it's safe. And don't forget to bring along a flashlight.



COMING EVENTS

Halloween Hiss-teria, Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre, West Coast Society for the Protection and Conservation of Reptiles invites you to the Ecology Centre to learn about reptiles, Sun., Oct. 28, noon to 4 p.m., free, for event info ph: 604-981-3103 ✓ Burnaby Fair Haven Homes, annual Christmas craft sale, Sat., Nov. 17, 1:30 to 3 p.m., plus tea for \$4, crafts, baked goods, white elephant table and raffle prizes, 7557 Sussex Ave at Rumble, Bby, for info ph: 604-433-4547 ✓ Flea Market, Swedish Canadian Auditorium, Sat., Oct. 27, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1812 Duthie Ave., household items, craft materials, records, books, paintings, plants and more, for info ph: 604-420-3222 ✓ 6th Annual Wild Things Event, Sat., Oct. 20, 5 to 8 p.m., Richmond Nature Park, the family event features a walk through the "haunted" forest where brave souls encounter the Nature Park's costumed forest creatures of the night, admission \$3/child, \$4/adult, \$10/family of four, rain or shine, for info ph: 604- 718-6188 ✓ Confederation 55+ senior's community centre, Halloween Ghost Ride, Mon., Oct. 29, 4 to 8 p.m., \$17.75 ✓ Vancouver Art Guild Winter Salon, guild members exhibit and sell their work at this popular event, more than 600 original paintings at affordable prices, small paper works for as low as \$15, Sun., Nov. 4, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jericho Hill Centre, 4196 W. 4th Ave., Vanc., for info visit www.vancouverartguild.com

Send your items for
Coming Events to thebuzzer@translink.bc.ca



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BUZZER

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New rapid bus service across Port Mann to benefit commuters and the environment

New rapid bus service across the Port Mann Bridge will enable commuters to travel all the way from Langley to Coquitlam or Burnaby in less than 25 minutes. The service should encourage people to get out of their cars, reducing pressure on roads and helping the environment.

On Oct. 5, an agreement was signed between the Province of British Columbia and TransLink which outlines the terms for the \$180 million cost-sharing project which will benefit 21,600 commuters daily.

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Rapid bus service continued

The agreement is part of a broader vision for rapid transit throughout Greater Vancouver. It will provide reliable, fast and frequent bus service between Burnaby, Coquitlam, Surrey and Langley, with connecting buses to Abbotsford and communities north of the Fraser River via the new Golden Ears Bridge.

"An effective, efficient transit system is vital to ensure we are able to develop sustainable communities. This agreement is another step towards providing people with an option to get out of their vehicles and to get to and from work quickly, with a reduced impact on the environment," said Premier Gordon Campbell.

The new, eight-lane Port Mann Bridge will restore transit service across the bridge, as well as expand networks for high-occupancy vehicles (HOV), cyclists and pedestrians, for the first time ever. The express bus service will be connected directly to HOV lanes and will not mix with general traffic, so travel time for the full trip between Langley and Burnaby will be less than 25 minutes – as fast, or faster, than by car.

"Bringing transit back to Highway 1 after 20 years will be a significant improvement to our rapid transit network, providing quality service that will give thousands of people an effective and efficient public transit option for their commute," said TransLink Chair Malcolm Brodie.

Government is contributing \$150 million, and TransLink is contributing \$30 million for buses and facilities needed for the project, which will include:

- Initially, 20 buses, providing 10-to-15 minute frequency during rush hours (increasing over time as ridership increases)

- A transit-only priority two-way access ramp to/from the median HOV lanes via Government Street, for access to Lougheed Town Centre Station in Burnaby
- Median on/off ramps for HOV and buses at the 156th Street interchange in Surrey
- A transit loop either within or in the vicinity of the 156th Street interchange in Surrey
- Median on/off ramps for HOVs and express buses in the vicinity of 200th Street to 204th Street in Langley
- A transit loop in the vicinity of the 200th Street interchange in Langley
- A minimum of 1,000 park-and-ride spaces south of the Fraser River

The announcement reinforces the province's commitment to improving quality of life for all British Columbians – economically, environmentally and socially. Rapid bus service over the new Port Mann Bridge is an important part of the province's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 33 per cent by 2020, to 10 per cent below 1990 levels.

The new express bus service will be an integrated component of the overall transportation network, with connections to SkyTrain, West Coast Express, other bus routes via transit hubs and loops, and new park-and-ride facilities. If you would like to see a map of these linkages, visit www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca

Sunday special privileges for monthly pass holders

Customers are reminded that a transit monthly pass is not only convenient and saves you money too, but it also offers a weekend perk:



If you are an Adult FareCard, West Coast Express 28-Day Pass or Annual Employer Transit Pass holders you're entitled to bring along up

to six people on a single pass on any Sunday or statutory holiday.

On these days, pass holders can take up to two adults (14 and older) and up to four children along for free.

Take advantage of the savings!

Please note: Weekend pass holder privileges do not apply to concession pass holders.

2008 Haiku invitational invites you to pen a poem by Dec. 19

The third annual Cherry Blossom Festival, which takes place March to April 2008, is just a season away. While the trees are resting over the winter, it's no time to let your creative writing skills go dormant.

If you're feeling the budding urge to express yourself, break out your quill – try writing a Haiku and enter it in The Haiku Invitational 2008.

The international contest is open to everyone. You're invited to submit one unpublished haiku on the theme of cherry blossoms.

The winning haiku will be inscribed in stone along with 2006 and 2007 poems on the Haiku Rock at VanDusen Botanical Garden, in Vancouver.

Selected haiku entries will also be displayed on buses and SkyTrain cars, and other works of merit will be published on the festival's website and featured in readings during the festival.

The haiku submission deadline is Dec. 19. For further details, please visit the festival's website at www.vcbf.ca

