

Contest corner: win a FareCard!

LAST ISSUE'S FARECARD WINNER We had 730 correct entries in our last contest, and **Steven Ng** won the FareCard! The answer? www.facebook.com/translink.

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.

When will the majority of the service changes happen? (Hint: It's in this issue and is a single digit date.)

Enter by **December 19 at 9 a.m.** 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 is 95 years old. In honour of the season, we mine a back issue for a nugget of holiday Buzzer gold.

1936 In the December 18, 1936 issue, the Buzzer accuses Santa Claus of having a tendency towards "avoidupois," which is a fancy way of saying that the jolly old elf is overweight.

"We often wonder why one object prominently in the public gaze has resisted the universal tendency towards stream-lining, namely, Santa Claus. It is true that when Claus is through with your pocket-book, it is as thin as an excuse for not coming home for dinner, but by and large, mostly large, Claus himself would never qualify for the svelte form of the Thin Man."

And to punctuate the complaint about Santa's (and his impersonators') girth, the Buzzer adds this:

"We hope any amateur Claus who ride on the street cars during the next week don't go heavy on us."

Santa probably left nothing but a lump of coal in the author's stocking on Christmas morning!



The biggest transit pet peeve



Funky Ferret

VS



Blocking Bunny

Between November 17 and 28, we asked you to visit facebook.com/translink and take part in the Transit Pet Peeve Battle. Each weekday, two pet peeves faced off against one another until only one remained. Anyone with a Facebook account could vote for their biggest pet peeve. Every weekday, we gave away prizes like 3-Zone FareCards and gift certificates. On the last day, we gave away an unlocked iPhone 4S!

There were some close battles and some blowouts. In the end, it was Funky Ferret who narrowly edged out Blocking Bunny to be declared the biggest transit pet peeve!

We hear a lot about excessive body odour, or overdoing it on the perfume and the cologne. Please consider your fellow passengers when getting ready to ride transit. Take a sniff and adjust accordingly.

You can check out all of the transit pet peeves on facebook.com/translink. Thanks for voting, everyone!

Correction: In the November issue of the Buzzer, we incorrectly stated that the only animals allowed on transit are service animals. In fact, besides service animals, pets (including dogs, cats, rabbits and small fur-bearing or feathered animals) are allowed on transit as long as they are in small, hand-held cages. The cage or container must fit on your lap or at your feet. Visit <http://bit.ly/3jMzFD> for more info.

COMING EVENTS

- ✓ **Aladdin**, presented by the North Vancouver Community Players. Dec. 2-18, Fridays at 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday matinées at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. At the Theatre at Hendry Hall, 815 East 11th St., North Vancouver. A delightful tale for children in the best pantomime tradition, written by Peter Zednik. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 11 and under. Visit northvanplayers.ca for more information, or call 604.983.2633.
- ✓ **Vancouver Disabilities Day**, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. – 7 p.m. Roundhouse Community Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver. Please join us to celebrate the achievements of people with disabilities and the possibility of a world where everyone belongs. Everyone is welcome, admission is free! Visit vancouverdisabilitiesday.ca for more information.
- ✓ **Messiah by G.F. Handel**, presented by The Handel Society of Music. Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Church, 2250 150 St., Surrey. The Handel Society Choir in association with the Chilliwack Youth Orchestra and soloists conducted by Johan Louwersheimer. Tickets available at the door \$20/\$15 (seniors and students)/Free (kids 12 or under), or can be reserved by phoning 604.585.9102.
- ✓ **Fall Sample Sale at the Fashion Capsule Style Lounge**. Dec. 14, 4 p.m. – 9 p.m., 119 West Pender St., Vancouver. Fantastic fall finds by Gaya bags, Dahlia Drive, Sofia Clothing and Daub and Design all at guilt-free prices. Visit fashioncapsule.ca, or email sarah@fashioncapsule.ca for more information.
- ✓ **Cinderella**, presented by the Deep Cove Stage Society. Dec. 14-31. Deep Cove Shaw Theatre, 4360 Gallant Avenue, North Vancouver. This year's pantomime by Norman Robbins, directed by Damian Inwood. Tickets \$14. Visit deepcovestage.com, or phone 604.929.3200 for show times and additional information.
- ✓ **The Nutcracker**, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts, 777 Homer Street, Vancouver. Goh Ballet's critically acclaimed production of the beloved holiday classic, featuring principal dancers from the American Ballet Theatre. Visit gohnutcracker.com for more information.
- ✓ **Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge by Christopher Durang**. Dec. 15-Jan. 7, Bernie Legge Theatre in Queen's Park, New Westminster. A playful, giddy retelling of the Dickens Christmas Classic turned squarely on its head. Tickets \$13 - \$15, visit vagabondplayers.ca or call 604.521.0412 for information.
- ✓ **Blim Christmas Market**, Dec. 18, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Chinese Cultural Centre, 50 East Pender at Carall, Vancouver. For more info email info@blim.ca, or phone 604.872.8180.

Send your community events to thebuzzer@translink.ca



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THE BUZZER

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Service Changes December 5

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Visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca

December service changes start December 5th

The additional funding approved by the TransLink Mayors' Council in October has allowed for service improvements. While the actual funding increase will not take place until 2012, certain bus routes that are in dire need will see rush-hour increases beginning Monday, December 5.

25 Brentwood Station

Additional trips on the eastbound section from Granville to BCIT (Goard Way), starting from Granville between approximately 7:15–7:45 a.m. and arriving at BCIT between approximately 7:50 – 8:15 a.m.

84 UBC

Additional westbound trips leaving VCC-Clark Station between approximately 8:10–8:35 a.m.

125 Patterson Station/BCIT

Additional northbound trips to BCIT between approximately 7:45–8:30 a.m. Additional southbound trips to Patterson Station between approximately 4:30–5:30 p.m.

320 Fleetwood/Guildford/Surrey Central Station

Additional westbound trips starting from Fraser Highway at 156 Street between approximately 6:45–9 a.m., travelling to Surrey Central Station. Additional eastbound trips starting from Surrey Central Station between approximately 3–5 p.m., travelling to Fraser Highway at 156 Street.

410 Railway/22nd Street Station

An additional trip in each direction in the AM peak.

502 Langley Centre/Surrey Central Station

Additional westbound trips leaving Langley Centre between approximately 6:30–8:30 a.m. Additional eastbound trips leaving Surrey Central Station between approximately 3–5 p.m.

C45 Cottonwood/Haney Place

An additional trip added in each direction in the AM peak.

These additional trips are listed in the online timetables and trip planner, and will be included in the printed timetables in April, 2012. Where noted in some cases, the extra trips will serve only a specific section of the route where ridership is particularly strong.

231 Harbourside/Lonsdale Quay (renumbered from 236)

Effective December 12, the 236 Harbourside/Lonsdale Quay service will be renumbered as 231 Harbourside/Lonsdale Quay. No impact to the routing or schedule (Note: 236 Grouse Mountain trips and 236 Pemberton Heights trips are not included in this renumbering).

Holiday season transit service adjustments

Transit services during the holiday season will run according to their normal schedules and fares for the particular day of the week, except as noted (information may be subject to change). Check TransLink's online trip planner or call Customer Information at 604-953-3333 for more details.

Saturday, December 10 and Saturday, December 17

West Coast Express special "Santa Train" departs westbound from Mission at 10:00 a.m., arriving at Waterfront around 11:15. Eastbound train leaves Waterfront at 5:00 p.m., arriving in Mission around 6:15. (Open House at WCE Waterfront, 2:30 – 5 p.m. Includes visits with Santa!).

Friday, December 23

West Coast Express afternoon trains depart from Waterfront at 1, 3, 4:20, 5:30 and 6:20 p.m. No 12:55 TrainBus; all other TrainBus trips depart at their regular times.

Saturday, December 24

More frequent SkyTrain Expo and Millennium Line midday service for the last-minute shopping rush.

Sunday, December 25

Some bus schedules will be adjusted from their normal Sunday/holiday schedules to reflect ridership levels on Christmas Day.

Monday, December 26

Boxing Day statutory holiday: one-zone ticket is good for travel across all zones.

SkyTrain Expo/Millennium Line service will run on a "Saturday" schedule—beginning one hour earlier and ending one hour later than the normal Sunday/holiday schedule—and will run more frequently during midday.

SeaBus will sail on a Sunday/holiday schedule but with extended evening service—last sailings leave Lonsdale Quay at 1 a.m. and Waterfront at 1:22 a.m.

Some bus routes will run more often than their normal Sunday/holiday schedules. Additional late-evening trips on some routes to connect with the last SeaBus and SkyTrain departures.

No West Coast Express service.

Tuesday, December 27

Regular weekday hours and fares for buses, SkyTrain and SeaBus.

No West Coast Express service.

Saturday, December 31

After 5 p.m., all transit services are free!

More frequent evening trains on SkyTrain Expo/Millennium Lines and Canada Line. Service will be extended by one hour—last Expo Line train to King George leaves Waterfront at 2:16 a.m. while the last Canada Line trains leave Waterfront at 2:05 a.m. (to YVR) and 2:15 a.m. (to Richmond-Brighouse).

SeaBus service will be extended by about one hour with the last sailings leaving Lonsdale Quay at 2:06 a.m. and Waterfront at 2:20 a.m.

Some bus routes will run additional evening/late-night trips after their normal Saturday schedule.

Monday, January 2

Regular weekday hours and fares for buses, SkyTrain and SeaBus.

No West Coast Express service.

Visit translink.ca for updates.

Remember to plan ahead for winter conditions. We hope you have a happy and safe holiday season!

