

Contest corner: Win a FareCard!

LAST ISSUE'S FARECARD WINNER We're waiting to draw our last contest winner on Dec 20! Stay tuned!

WIN A FREE FARECARD! For 1, 2 or 3 zones, based on where the winner travels. Email thebuzzer@translink.ca with the subject line "December Contest", and tell us your answer, your full name, your phone number and where you got the Buzzer (include your bus route number). Make sure to include everything—**entries missing required info are not entered to win!** One entry per person please.

When will the Reindeer Bus be part of the Toys for Tots run?

(Hint: It's in this issue!)

Enter by **Jan 3 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 has been published for over 96 years, and in this section, we mine the back issues for history treats. Huzzah!

1936 For the holidays, here's an edited excerpt from the Christmas Message in the December 18, 1936 Buzzer!

The thought of Christmas brings to a great many people's minds two words – peace and good will, but it is not always realized how closely these two things are linked together.

There is not nearly enough good will in the world, but what there is makes it possible for people to live together.

Good will starts with the individual, and the good will of any nation is the sum of the good will of the individuals who make up the nation. It is in everyone's power to show good will. The fortunate can show it by his kindness, helpfulness and consideration for the happiness of others, whilst a smile from the man who has nothing is a gift of great value.

To all our patrons, wherever they may be within the district which the B.C. Electric serves, I wish a very Happy Christmas.

— W.G. Murrin, President, B.C. Electric Railway



The Dec. 18, 1936 Buzzer cover.

Most fares will increase on January 1, 2013

There's really no easy way to say this: most of our fares will be going up as of January 1, 2013.

The table below shows the change in each fare type. Generally, almost all fares will rise except for all adult FareSavers and some AddFares. Most increases reflect the cost of inflation over the past five years, at a rate of 2% per year—monthly FareCards are increasing slightly more. Cash, DayPass, and short-term West Coast Express fares haven't increased since 2008.

This is part of a scheduled increase to fares, originally outlined in our 2010 Funding Stabilization plan, aimed at supporting our operations and keeping the system in a state of good repair. That plan was approved by the Mayors' Council in 2009 and the fare changes were reaffirmed by TransLink's Regional Transportation Commissioner in April 2012.

Put more simply, this increase helps sustain our expanded system, which includes services like the Canada Line, and service coming on line like the bus over the Port Mann Bridge, and new B-Line service on King George Boulevard.

Visit translink.ca/farechanges for all the details.

Cash Fares			
		ADULT	CONCESSION
Regular Fares <small>Weekdays from start of service to 6:30 p.m.</small>	1 ZONE	\$2.75	\$1.75
	2 ZONES	\$4.00	\$2.75
	3 ZONES	\$5.50	\$3.75
Discount Fares <small>Weekdays after 6:30 p.m. & all day Saturday, Sunday & holidays</small>	ALL ZONES	\$2.75	\$1.75
Prepaid Fares			
		ADULT	CONCESSION
Monthly FareCard <small>Monthly transit passes are eligible for federal tax credits</small>	1 ZONE	\$91.00	
	2 ZONES	\$124.00	\$52.00 <small>for all zones</small>
	3 ZONES	\$170.00	
FareSaver Tickets <small>Book of 10</small>	1 ZONE	\$21.00	\$17.50*
	2 ZONES	\$31.50	N/A
	3 ZONES	\$42.00	N/A
DayPass		\$9.75	\$7.50

*Concession FareSavers are available for 1 Zone travel only. Travel through 2 or more zones requires the purchase of an AddFare during the regular fare period.

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COMING EVENTS

- ✓ **Vancouver North Pole Express.** A magic show on the train in the VIA Station. Live the magic of a scene from the Polar Express, a book by C. Van Allsburg. Matthew Johnson will amaze you with Christmas magic. A great family 1/2hr event before Xmas, Dec 8-23. Info: VancouverNorthPoleExpress.com.
- ✓ **Christmas at Canada Place.** Come down to Canada Place from Dec 8-30 to experience the nostalgia of the Woodward's Windows, the excitement of a Breakfast with Santa, and the magic of the Christmas Trail. Info: canadaplace.ca/christmas.
- ✓ **Vancouver Tap Dance Academy Christmas Show.** Dec 13 at the Hellenic Centre, 4500 Arbutus, Vancouver. Silent auction, bake sale and tap dancing! 7pm to 9pm. Tickets \$10 at the door. Info: vantapdance.com or tapinfo@vantapdance.com
- ✓ **Christmas Craft Fair.** Fundraiser for Riverdale Elementary PAC 9am - 4pm inside school gym. 14835-108A Avenue, Surrey on Dec 15. Tables are \$25 for a six foot, \$35 for an eight-foot table. Admission \$1/Adult and kids are free. Info: riverdale.pac@hotmail.com or 778.231.1926.
- ✓ **Caribbean Christmas, Parang Music and More!** Carnival Sensations hosts its 2nd Annual Caribbean Christmas event. Parang music, steelpan, dancing, arts, crafts, games for kids, face painting and food! Dec 15 at the East Richmond Community Hall from 1pm-5pm. Free. Info: carnival.sensations@gmail.com or 778.288.6640.
- ✓ **Breakfast with Santa at Kits Community Centre.** Join Santa and his little helpers to bring the Spirit of Christmas to our community Dec 15 with a breakfast, face painting, and a sing-a-long. After breakfast, join the elves for fun crafts and activities and have your photo taken with Santa in the lobby. Register now as this event will selout. Info: 604.257.6980.
- ✓ **A Carpenter's Christmas.** The traditional story of the Nativity will be retold through the eyes of Joseph, Mary's husband, this Christmas at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Dec 22 & 23. Free! Info: info@coastalchurch.org or 604.684.8475.
- ✓ **Tim Horton's Junior Provincial Finals.** Coquitlam Curling Club, 633 Poirier Street, Coquitlam is hosting the 2013 Tim Horton's Junior Provincial finals Jan 2-6, 2013. Three draws a day of best junior curlers in B.C. Info: coquitlamcurlingassn@gmail.com or 604.917.0102.
- ✓ **Square Dancing.** Swinging Singles Square Dance Club will offer New Dancer sessions Jan 9, 16, 23, 2013 at 7:30pm at Burnaby Lake Pavilion, Roberts St., Burnaby. First two sessions FREE for new dancers. Info: call Judy 778.298.8941.

Submit your community events at
translink.ca/buzzerevents

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Win a free FareCard!

THE BUZZER

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Bus service changes on December 3

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

- » Fare increases start on January 1, 2013
- » Holiday transit schedule
- » Santa Train and Reindeer Bus



Visit the Buzzer blog at
buzzer.translink.ca

Bus service changes on December 3

We adjust our bus service four times a year to match ebbs and flows in customer demand, and to ensure we're using our resources effectively. Here are the changes coming on December 3, 2012, which match the demand over the winter. In general, look out for bus service changes in April, June, September, and December.

This list is accurate as of our publish date: please check translink.ca/servicechanges or call Transit Information at 604-953-3333 for corrections or further assistance. Some changes are **SEASONAL**, **PERMANENT** or noted otherwise.

2 Macdonald-16th Avenue/Burrard Station **PERMANENT**

On weekday evenings, the schedule of the #2 will shift slightly to better stagger with the #22 schedule.

136 Brentwood Station/Lougheed Station **PERMANENT**

Monday-Friday: Buses will now run every 30 minutes (instead of every 20 minutes) from 6-9 a.m. and from 3-7 p.m.

153 Coquitlam Rec Centre/Braid Station **PERMANENT**

Saturday/Sunday/holidays: All trips will be served by community shuttle vehicles, instead of conventional buses.

157 Coquitlam Rec Centre/Lougheed Station **PERMANENT**

Saturday/Sunday/holidays: All trips will be served by community shuttle vehicles, instead of conventional buses.

340 22nd Street Station/Scottsdale **PERMANENT**

Monday-Friday: Route will be served by conventional buses, instead of highway coaches.

388 22nd Street Station/Carvolth Exchange **PERMANENT**

Monday-Friday: Route will change to terminate at the new Carvolth Exchange and provide a connection with the 555 Port Mann Express. Westbound customers at Carvolth Exchange board at Bay 7. Westbound passengers at the Walnut Grove Park and Ride board at Bay 2.

410 22nd Street Station/Railway **PERMANENT**

Monday-Friday: Service improved to every 10 minutes (instead of every 12 minutes) between 22nd Street Station and Steveston from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

501 Surrey Central Station/Langley Centre **PERMANENT**

Route will change to connect with the new Carvolth Exchange and 555 Port Mann Express. Northbound customers at Carvolth Exchange board at Bay 4. Southbound customers at Carvolth Exchange board at Bay 3.

502 Surrey Central Station/Langley Centre/Aldergrove **PERMANENT**

Monday-Friday: Two new trips are being added late in the evening, departing from Surrey Central Station at 9:15 p.m. and 9:45 p.m.

509 Surrey Central Station/Walnut Grove **PERMANENT**

Monday-Friday: Route will change to connect with the new Carvolth Exchange and 555 Port Mann Express. Westbound customers at Carvolth Exchange board at Bay 2. Eastbound customers at Carvolth Exchange board at Bay 8.

555 Port Mann Express - Carvolth Exchange/ Port Mann Express - Braid Station **PERMANENT**

This new service provides commuter-oriented express service on Highway 1 between Walnut Grove/Carvolth Exchange (Langley) and Braid Station. #555 will operate 7 days a week, as follows:

- » Monday to Friday from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.: service runs every 30 minutes for much of the day, but service improves to every 10 minutes from 5-9 a.m. and 3-7 p.m.
- » Saturday: Service runs every 30 minutes from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- » Sunday/holidays: service runs every 30 minutes from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Customers at Braid Station board at Bay 4.

Customers at Carvolth Exchange board at Bay 9.

590 Surrey Central Station/Langley South **PERMANENT**

Route will change to connect with the new Carvolth Exchange and 555 Port Mann Express. Northbound customers board at Carvolth Exchange Bay 4. Southbound customers board at Carvolth Exchange Bay 3.

595 Maple Meadows Station/Langley Centre **PERMANENT**

Route will change to connect with the new Carvolth Exchange and 555 Port Mann Express. Northbound customers board at Carvolth Exchange Bay 6. Southbound customers board at Carvolth Exchange Bay 5.

C40 Port Coquitlam Station/Meridian **PERMANENT**

Monday-Friday: Service is being discontinued on this route from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Holiday transit service

For **Christmas Day (Dec 25)**, service will be on a reduced holiday schedule to reflect lower demand. However, **Boxing Day (Dec 26)** will have an enhanced holiday schedule, especially on routes to shopping destinations, to reflect higher demand!

As always, rides will be free on **New Year's Eve (Dec 31)** from 5 p.m. until the end of service. And **New Year's Day (Jan 1)** will be a normal Sunday/holiday schedule.

Remember, for Sundays and holidays, only a single-zone fare is needed for travel in all zones all day!

For more information, visit translink.ca/holidayservice or call 604-953-3333 for our Customer Information team.

Join Santa on the West Coast Express!

Ride the Santa Train! It's an annual tradition: from December 8 to 15, 2012, customers will receive a return WCE ticket for the day in exchange for a new, unwrapped toy!

All donations (including cash) support the Christmas Bureau in Mission, the MRPM Hamper Society and the Share Society of the Tri-Cities.

The train departs Mission at 10 a.m. and stops at all WCE stations before arriving at Waterfront Station at approximately 11:15 a.m. Visit - translink.ca/santatrain for the most up-to-date details .

Santa will be onboard the westbound trip and available for pictures at Waterfront Station between 3-4 p.m.



Spot the Reindeer Bus!

The annual Reindeer Bus and shuttle will be donning their antlers again this year!

Both the Reindeer Bus and shuttle will be in service on a variety of routes throughout December. Santa, Mrs. Claus and the bus operating elf will be on the bus periodically and stopping at

mystery stops between December 10-13 throughout Metro Vancouver. The bus and shuttle will also be part of the Toys for Tots run on December 19-20.

Keep your eyes peeled for the bus, and send us your pictures of it to thebuzzer@translink.ca. We'll post them on the Buzzer blog!

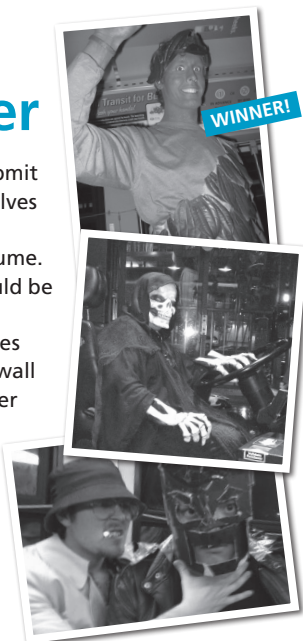


Santa, Mrs. Claus, the bus operating elf and the reindeer bus pose for a photo!

Halloween contest winner

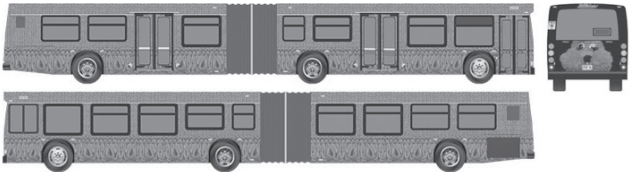
Last month we asked readers to submit Halloween photos of either themselves in costume on transit or a photo of themselves in a transit-related costume. One randomly selected winner would be awarded a FareCard.

We received some fantastic entries via email, posted on our Facebook wall and through Twitter. And the winner is...Jewels and her photo of Matt Gauthier in his Jolly Green Giant outfit on a bus. Thanks to everyone who entered!



Top: Contest winner, Jewels, sent in this picture of Matt Gauthier as the Jolly Green Giant. Middle: A spooky operator! Bottom: Hunter S. Thompson confronts the Caped Crusader.

New art on Main Street!



This December, some of the #3 Main Street buses may look a lot different. That's because the bus route is part of an installation called *Memento* by Gisele Amantea, a prominent visual artist!

Memento comprises a permanent public sculpture and a suite of temporary artworks conceived to reflect the historic and the evolving material culture of Main Street.

Untitled (Poodle), is a 7-foot cast aluminum representation of a porcelain poodle figurine perched on a platform atop a 25-foot steel pole. It's located on the west side of Main Street in Vancouver in the block between 17th and 18th avenues. The suite of temporary artworks, on display until the Spring of 2013, are installed on and in three articulated trolleys that service the #3 bus route (see above imagines and imagine them in pink).