

Contest corner: Win a FareCard!

LAST ISSUE'S FARECARD WINNER We had 871 correct entries in our last contest, and **H Jennings** won the FareCard! The answer? The name of the new Compass Card website is Ask Compass (we also accepted askcompss.ca).



WIN A FREE FARECARD! For 1, 2 or 3 zones, based on where the winner travels. Email thebuzzer@translink.ca with the subject line "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.

On what day do the December service changes start?
(Hint: It's in this issue!)

Enter by **Feb 3, 2014 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, 400-287 Nelson's Court, New Westminster, BC, V3L 0E7 or thebuzzer@translink.ca.

BACK ISSUES

The Buzzer has been published for over 97 years, and in this section, we mine the back issues for history treats. Enjoy!

1947 The December 5, 1947 edition of the Buzzer has some great advice for your Christmas shopping!

"Now that Christmas is only three weeks away or about fifteen shopping days, we suggest shopping in the immediate future. Make a list of what you hope to get and whittle away at it each time you are downtown."

We all know how busy the transit system is during rush hour, so here's a small tip:

You will find it more convenient to do your shopping in the off-peak hours, going home before the evening rush hours begin. The cars and buses will be less crowded then."

66 years later, and this advice is still very helpful to holiday shoppers today.

Happy holidays, everyone!



An illustration from the Dec 5, 1947 Buzzer.

Join Santa on the West Coast Express!



Ride the Santa Train! It's an annual tradition: The first train left on Dec 7, but the next and last train leaves Dec 14, 2013. Customers will receive a return WCE ticket for the day in exchange for a new, unwrapped toy!

All donations (including cash and canned goods) support the Christmas Bureau in Mission, the MRPM Hamper Society and the Share Society in the Tri-Cities. Donations can be dropped off at bins in Waterfront Station.

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 at 3 p.m.

Spot the Reindeer Bus!

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

Both the Reindeer Bus and Community 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 throughout Dec until early Jan across Metro Vancouver. **Keep your eyes peeled for both vehicles, and check out the Buzzer blog to enter a reindeer bus and shuttle photo contest!**



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COMING EVENTS

- ✓ **Vancouver Community Band.** Join the Vancouver Community Band! Monday nights at 7:30 p.m., adjacent to Stadium-SkyTrain station. Free including uniform. Contact Brian 604.789.1865.
- ✓ **Robson Square Rink.** Visit the Robson Square Ice Rink, open Nov 15-Feb 28. Skate rentals are \$4. Visit robsonsquare.com.
- ✓ **Christmas at Canada Place.** Visit Canada Place cruise ship terminal from Dec 1-31 for ice-skating, the holiday train, historic tours and more! Free fun for the family. Visit canadaplace.ca.
- ✓ **The Importance of Being Uncle Roscoe.** A delightful Christmas comedy presented by the Vagabond Players. Dec 4-21 at the Bernie Legge Theatre. Tickets \$15, \$13 for seniors and students. See vagabondplayers.ca for more details.
- ✓ **Jack and the Beanstalk.** Metro Theatre presents kid-friendly pantomime for the holiday season, held at 1370 SW Marine Dr, from Dec 13-Jan 4. Call 604.266.7191 or visit metrotheatre.com.
- ✓ **Breakfast with Santa at Kits Community Centre.** Join Santa for a scrumptious breakfast of pancakes, with berries and whipped cream, sausages, juice and coffee. Face painting, and a sing-a-long will be part of this fun-filled morning. Join the elves for fun crafts and activities and have your photo taken with Santa in the lobby. Dec 15, 9-10 a.m., and 10:15-11 a.m. \$6 per person. Kitsilano Community Centre, 2690 Larch Street, Vancouver, 604.257.6980
- ✓ **Vancouver's 6th Annual Christmas Caroling Event.** Join us on Dec 20 at the Vancouver Art Gallery to sing Christmas carols! All proceeds go to The Crash Society & One More Time Charity. Contact Don Epp 778.999.2243.
- ✓ **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. With music by the award winning group Destino, special dance and media presentations, this is a family event you won't want to miss! Admission and parking is FREE! December 22. Visit www.carpenterschristmas.com, info@coastalchurch.org or 604.684.8475.
- ✓ **Vancouver Multicultural Senior Singers.** Join the group from Jan 2-Apr 22 at Mount Pleasant Community Center, on Tuesdays 10am-noon. Contact mtpleasantcc@vancouver.ca.
- ✓ **Square Dancing.** Learn modern square dancing for fun, friendship and fitness. Swinging Singles Square Dance Club will offer New Dancer sessions Jan. 9, 16 and 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Burnaby Lake Pavilion, Roberts St., Burnaby. First two sessions FREE for new dancers. For more info, call Judy @ 778.298.8941.

Send your community events in at
translink.ca/buzzerevents



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Win a free FareCard!

THE BUZZER

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December service changes start Dec 16

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

- » Reindeer bus
- » Holiday Service hours
- » Compass Card update

Visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca

Bus service changes on December 16

We adjust our bus service four times a year to match the ebbs and flows of customer demand, and to ensure we’re using our resources effectively. Here are the changes coming into effect on December 16, 2013. Generally, these changes occur in April, June, September and December.

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

106 Metrotown Station/New Westminster Station **PERMANENT**
On weekdays, service between 4-6 p.m. will now run every 7-8 minutes to better match rider demand and reduce overcrowding.

159 Port Coquitlam Station/Braid Station **PERMANENT**
This service will be rerouted to provide a more reliable service.

178 Coquitlam Station/Port Moody Station **PERMANENT**
On weekdays, this new service will be running in addition to the C28 in the AM and PM peak periods. There will be eight new stops along David Ave. with new section routes on David Ave.

179 Johnson/Coquitlam Station **PERMANENT**
Due to low ridership, this service will be discontinued. For alternative service, see routes 178, 188, C28 and C29.

188 Port Coquitlam Station/Coquitlam Station **PERMANENT**
This new service will provide direct connections between Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam extending service to the Burke Mountain area.

189 Coast Meridian/Coquitlam Station **PERMANENT**
Due to low ridership, this service will be discontinued. For alternative service, see routes 188 and C38.

227 Lynn Valley Centre/Phibbs Exchange **PERMANENT**
This new service will operate with a community shuttle between Lynn Valley Centre and Phibbs Exchange via Lynn Canyon Park, seven days a week to better match ridership demand.

229 Lynn Valley Centre/Lonsdale Quay **PERMANENT**
This service will be renamed to “Lynn Valley Centre/Lonsdale Quay” and will end at Lynn Valley Centre along Lonsdale Ave., 29th St. and Lynn Valley Rd. A portion of its former route travelling between Lynn Valley and Phibbs Exchange will now be serviced by the 227 Community Shuttle.

335 Surrey Central Station/Guildford Exchange **PERMANENT**
On weekdays, two additional AM peak period trips will be added leaving Guildford Exchange to Surrey Central Station at 4:45 a.m. and 5:15 a.m. From Monday to Saturday, two additional evening trips will be added leaving Surrey Central to Guildford Exchange at 12:40 a.m. and 1:10 a.m.

531 Willowbrook/White Rock Centre **PERMANENT**
On weekends, this route will be serviced by a community shuttle to better match ridership demand.

620 Bridgeport/Station/Tsawwassen Ferry **PERMANENT**
Service has been modified to better align with the Victoria (Swartz Bay) BC Ferries schedules.

C18 West Mall/UBC Loop **PERMANENT**
Service will operate every 30 minutes, seven days a week with a new route expanding the existing UBC service to the South Campus neighbourhood.

C20 Marine Drive/UBC Loop **PERMANENT**
Service will operate every 30 minutes, seven days a week with a change in routing to service the South Campus neighbourhood.

C21 Yaletown/Beach **PERMANENT**
Service will operate every 15 minutes, seven days a week with a slight change in routing to service between Yaletown Station and Denman St.

C22 Hampton Place/UBC Loop **PERMANENT**
Due to low ridership, this service will be discontinued. For alternative service, see routes C18 and C20.

C23 Main Street/Yaletown/Davie **PERMANENT**
Frequency for this service will be increased to meet ridership demand while reducing overcrowding, pass ups and wait times. Some trips will operate between Davie and Yaletown, while other trips will continue the extended routing to Main Street Station.

C28 Coquitlam Station/Port Moody Station **PERMANENT**
This service will change to a community shuttle vehicle in the weekday AM and PM peak periods. This is possible with the introduction of the new 178 which will reduce crowding on the C28 during these times.

C29 Parkway Boulevard/Coquitlam Station **PERMANENT**
This service will be rerouted via Johnson St. to improve service reliability by reducing wait times. For service travelling along Pinetree Way to and from Coquitlam Centre and Guildford Way, see routes 188 and C28.

C30 Lafarge Park/Coquitlam Station **PERMANENT**
This service will be rerouted via Westwood St. between Glen Dr. and Lincoln Ave. to improve service efficiency and reduce delays. An additional five stops along Westwood St. will be added to extend a portion of the route. Stops along Pinetree Way are serviced by routes 188 and C28.

C38 Port Coquitlam Station/Prairie/River Springs/Coquitlam Station **PERMANENT**
This service will be rerouted via Dewdney Trunk Rd. between Westwood and Lougheed Hwy. to improve service efficiency and reduce delays. Service will no longer route around Coquitlam Centre via Westwood St. To access Coquitlam Station, see routes 97, C27 and C28. Alternative service along Johnson St. to Coquitlam Station, see route C29. For an alternative route option along Westwood St., see routes C30 and C38.

C41 Meadowtown/Maple Meadows Station/Pitt Meadows Centre **PERMANENT**
Service will operate every hour, Monday to Friday with service changing from a single direction route to a two-way circular service with 20 new stops travelling between Pitt Meadows Centre and Meadowtown Centre. .

C48 Thornhill/Haney Place **PERMANENT**
Service will operate every two hours, Monday to Saturday. On weekday mornings, the C48 will connect with the West Coast Express train leaving Port Haney Station at 6:44 a.m., as well as to the 10:49 a.m. TrainBus. On weekday afternoons, the West Coast Express trains leaving downtown at 3:50 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. will connect with the C48 at Port Haney Station.

A number of changes to bay assignments will occur:

Brentwood Station Bay Assignment Changes **TEMPORARY**
To accommodate the redevelopment of Brentwood Town Centre, the off-street Brentwood Station transit facility will be closed and a number of bays will be relocated:

- » Bay 1A – 134 Lake City Station
- » Bay 1 – 130 Phibbs Exchange
- » Bay 4 – 123 New Westminster
- » Bay 5 – 25 UBC
- » Bay 6 – 130 Metrotown Station
- » Bay 7 – 136 Lougheed Station

Coquitlam Station Bay Assignment Changes **PERMANENT**

- » Bay 3 – 188 Port Coquitlam Station & C38 Prairie
- » Bay 7 – 160 & 190 Vancouver

Phibbs Exchange Bay Assignment Changes **PERMANENT**

- » Bay 7 – 227 Lynn Valley Centre

Scottsdale Exchange Bay Assignment Changes **PERMANENT**

- » Bay 3 – 301 Newton Exchange
- » UBC Loop Bay Assignment Changes **PERMANENT**
- » Bay 15 – C18 West Mall

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



This year TransLink employees raised \$347,545 in support of the United Way of the Lower Mainland Campaign.

We’re proud to help address problems like child poverty, bullying and senior isolation facing many people who live in the communities we serve.

Tapping in to Compass

By the end of January 2014, 80,000 customers will be tapping in and tapping out with their Compass Cards, including BC Bus Pass holders, CNIB users, and TransLink operating company employees. The roll out of Compass will keep tapping along in the coming months, with more customers making the switch group by group.

West Coast Express (WCE) customers will now be getting their cards in late spring. That’s because we want to make some modifications to the online customer service channel that’ll make it easier for WCE customers to pay for their monthly passes and check their account. Until then, we’ll continue to sell WCE 28-day and 7-day passes. We’ll also keep selling FareSaver tickets into Spring/Summer 2014.



As the rollout continues, we’ll keep checking on the schedule and making tweaks as needed. And along the way, we’ll keep you in the loop so you know when and how to get and use your Compass Card.

Got questions? Ask away at AskCompass.ca.

Transit holiday 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.

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