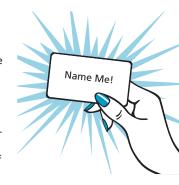
### Cast your vote for the name of our new smartcard!

In October, we asked you to submit names for our future smartcard, coming in 2013 and now we need you to vote for a winner!

Visit translink.ca/contest to see the shortlisted names and vote for your favourite. The poll should be up by mid-January: if it's not there yet, check back within a couple of days to cast your vote.



### Come to the 2011 BC youth summit on sustainable transportation!

Calling all youth! We're hosting Connecting Communities, the 2011 BC regional youth summit on sustainable transportation, and you're invited to apply to attend.



Every year or so,

the Canadian Urban Transportation Association (CUTA) partners with local agencies to host a youth conference, encouraging young people to learn about transportation, sustainability, and planning. This year, TransLink, BC Transit, and CUTA will sponsor 45 or so youth to attend our conference in Vancouver from August 19-21, 2011.

So if you're aged 18-30, live in BC, and interested in attending apply today! Check out translink.ca/bcyouthsummit for all the details: due date is January 31, 2011.









### Contest corner: win a FareCard!

LAST ISSUE'S FARECARD WINNER We had 1,267 correct entries in our last contest, and Patricia S. won the FareCard. The answer? TransLink's Twitter address is twitter.com/translink or by following "@translink".

WIN A FREE FARECARD! It will be for 1, 2, or 3 JAN 2011 zones, based on where the winner travels. Email thebuzzer@translink.ca with the answer to the guestion, 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.

Each of our original 114 SkyTrain cars has travelled how many kilometres so far? (Hint: it's in this issue!)

Enter by Jan. 27 at 9am; 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 since June 2, 1916! So in this section we mine our back issues for nuggets of transit history. Huzzah!

1985 The May 31, 1985 Buzzer featured the InfoBuses —four specially equipped buses staffed to provide customers with transit information, and serve as FareCard and FareSaver sales

outlets. The buses showcased the SkyTrain-SeaBus-Bus integrated transit system that would be operational the following year.

Onboard, customers would also find racks of schedules, a FareCard and FareSaver area. plus staff to answer questions.

Buses parked at locations downtown during weekdays and were found at shopping centres on Saturdays.



Mr. Buzzer poses with a Rapid Transit Attendant on the InfoBus.

### **COMING EVENTS**

- ✓ The City of Port Coquitlam is seeking photographs from people who work, play or live in Port Coquitlam for potential use as vinyl wraps on traffic utility boxes to enliven the urban landscape. Visit portcoguitlam.ca/arts for submission requirements and instructions.
- ✓ 21st Century Flea Market: featuring decor, books, antiques, jewelry, kitchenware, toys, tools, furniture, memorabilia and more. Jan 16, 10am - 3pm. Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, \$4 admission, Info: 21cpromotions.com.
- ✓ Local Volkssport Club non-competitive 5K/10K walks: Jan 16 in Horseshoe Bay; Jan 23 in Terra Nova (Richmond). Free for new participants. Contact Verni at 604-682-8390.
- ✓ Taking Vancouver Greentech to Global Markets with Dallas Kachan. Hosted by the Vancouver Greentech Exchange. Jan 19, 6pm with networking to follow. SFU Harbour Centre, 515 W. Hastings St., Vancouver. Free admission. Info: sfu.ca
- ✓ **Dead Man's Cell Phone**, presented by Theatre UBC. A wildly imaginative play from American playwright, Sarah Ruhl. Thursdays, Jan 20 - 29, 7:30pm, Telus Studio Theatre, Tickets and info: chancentre.com
- ✓ Ukrainian New Years Jan 22, 6pm 1am, 805 East Pender St. Traditional Ukrainian Dinner, entertainment, and dance to a live band. Tickets \$40. Call 604-879-2089.
- ✓ Sandwiched: Caring for the Caregiver. Are you in the 'sandwich generation' —a caregiver feeling squashed by the competing needs of your aging parents and your growing family? Learn techniques to help you thrive. Jan 26, 6:30pm. Johnbraithe Community Centre, 145 W. 1st, North Vancouver. Info: 604-987-6959.
- ✓ Mature Women's Network (women 40+ yr.) hosts Susan J. Katz talks on "Writing from the Heart", Jan 29, 12:30pm. Cost: \$4. 411 Dunsmuir, Vancouver, Call 604-681-3986.
- ✓ Vancouver International Swordplay Symposium hosted by Academie Duello. Open to anyone interested in Western and European Martial Arts, history, ancient manuscripts, and swordplay. Feb 11-13. Info: vancouverswordplay.com
- ✓ Capilano Youth Orchestra welcomes new players (aged 5-25). Junior Strings 4:15-5:15; Intermediate Orchestra 5:30-7:00; Senior Orchestra 7:15-9:45. Contact David Larson at 604-988-8818 or dlmusicstudio at@shaw.ca.

Send your community events to thebuzzer@translink.ca



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## Win a free FareCard!

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### Also in this issue...

- » Lots of SkyTrain history and trivia!
- » Cast your vote on the smartcard name
- » Come to the 2011 BC youth summit on sustainable transportation
- your trusty coming events listing

Visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca

## Happy 25th, SkyTrain!

SkyTrain reached a huge milestone on December 11, 2010: on this day 25 years ago, the system launched into service!

To be specific, December 11, 1985 actually marks the first day that SkyTrain's Expo Line debuted with free service—the system was launched with huge fanfare and eight non-consecutive days of free rides, before officially going into paid service on January 3, 1986.

Much has changed in a quarter-century: can you imagine that the Expo Line started off with carpeted cars, push buttons to open the doors at each station, and a limited six hour service on Sundays? Or that SkyTrain attendant uniforms included ties and scarves?

Or that ridership was just 50,000 a day when the Expo Line debuted? Now, more than 250,000 trips are made every weekday on SkyTrain's Expo and Millennium Line!

Over 25 years, the SkyTrain system has become an iconic, important part of our transit network in the Lower Mainland, its lines now stretching into Surrey and Richmond. (The West Coast Express commuter rail line also connects downtown Vancouver with the northeast region!)

We're happy and proud to celebrate 25 years of SkyTrain: we hope you are too!

### Send us your stories, photos, and more!

Do you remember riding SkyTrain during Expo, or any other fond memories of SkyTrain? Send your stories, photos, video, and more to thebuzzer@translink.ca—we'd love to showcase them in an upcoming Buzzer issue or on our blog (buzzer.translink.ca)!

### See the Buzzer blog for more **SkyTrain history!**

In honour of SkyTrain's 25th anniversary, the Buzzer blog is posting SkyTrain historical videos, classic photos, magazines, and more during the month of January! Visit us online at buzzer.translink.ca for these items



and much more. (To go straight to the SkyTrain history items, use the dropdown "Select Category" menu under Archives in the blog's sidebar, and pick the option called "Transit History.")



1 BC Premier Bill Bennett greets residents on opening day, Dec 11, 1985 2 A SkyTrain attendant in uniform! 3 SkyTrain zips past Expo 86 (photo by Alan M!) 4 A prototype demo SkyTrain on the 1983 Main Street test track 5 Metrotown Station in the 1980s 6 Princess Diana visits SkyTrain during Expo 7 A ticket from July 1986 (thanks Rob Chew!)





# How much do you know about SkyTrain?

Try your hand at these SkyTrain anniversary puzzles! All answers are below.

#### SKYTRAIN TRIVIA

- 1. Name three of the five SkyTrain stations that begin with the letter B.
- 2. Which is the newest station on the Expo and Millennium Lines?
- 3. What is the deepest station on the SkyTrain system?
- 4. All together, how long are the Expo, Millennium, and Canada Lines?
- 5. How many stations are on the Expo Line?
- 6. How long does it take to get from Waterfront to Metrotown Station?
- 7. When you reach this station going east, you've crossed from Fare Zone 2 into Fare Zone 3 on the Expo Line. What station is it?

#### MATCH THE DATE TO THE EVENT

- 1. December 11, 1985
- 2. August 17, 2009
- 3. March 6, 1990
- 4. December 31, 2001
- 5. September 22, 2006
- a. Opening of Columbia and Scott Road Stations
- b. Launch date for Canada Line
- c. Debut of Expo Line
- d. Opening of Braid and Sapperton Stations
- e. Debut of Granville Station elevator

#### MATCH THE DATES 1 c 2 b 3 a 4 d 5 e

minutes 7 Scott Road Station

Burrard, Bridgeport, Broadway-City Hall 4 About 68 km 5 20 6 18 (25m down) 3 The five stations are Braid, Brentwood Town Centre, SKY I KAIN I KIVIA 1 VCC-Clark (opened Jan 6, 2006) 2 Granville Station

**ANSWERS** 

### Follow our Twitter account and get service info on the go

Are you a Twitter fan? Follow us at twitter.com/translink today! Starting in November 2010. we've ramped up service to our



Twitter account, with call centre workleaders providing key updates and responding to customer inquiries from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

## SkyTrain facts that are out of this world...

#### IN A OUARTER CENTURY...

- » Since starting service on January 3, 1986, SkyTrain's Expo/ Millennium Lines have carried more than 1.1 billion (1,100,000,000) passengers. This would form a queue from Earth to the Moon, and halfway back again! (That's 550,000 km at 0.5 m per person, vs. the 384,000 km average distance from Earth to Moon.)
- With an average trip length of about 11 km, SkyTrain riders have logged more than 12.5 billion km of travel, more than a round trip to Pluto (it's 5.7 billion km from Earth).
- » SkyTrain's 258 Expo/Millennium cars have accumulated 675 million km of travel, more than two round trips to the Sun (the Earth orbits at 150 million km from the Sun).
- » The entire fleet averages 180,000 km, per car, per year. The original 114 cars, delivered 1984-1986, have travelled an average of four million km each, more than 100 trips around the Earth (the planet has a 40,000 km circumference).
- » The rails between Waterfront and New Westminster have carried more than three million trains (about 12 million cars, or 47 million wheels).

#### **CURRENT FACTS....**

- » During weekday morning and afternoon rush hours, SkyTrain operates on average every 108 seconds between Waterfront station and Columbia.
- » SkyTrain currently carries more than 75 million passengers per year, an average of nearly 250,000 per weekday, and with more than 20,000 during the peak hour.
- » In the busiest section, from Broadway station into downtown Vancouver, SkyTrain now carries more than 12,000 passengers during the peak hour, equivalent to more than five bridge or freeway lanes. The Alex Fraser Bridge, Second Narrows Bridge, and Massey Tunnel, each carry about 2,000 cars per lane, with an average occupancy of 1.1 to 1.2 people. In a 2-hour period (7 to 9 a.m.) SkyTrain brings more than 17,000 passengers into downtown.