Contest corner: Win a FareCard!

LAST ISSUE’S FARECARD WINNER: We had 725 correct entries in last month’s contest. And congratulations to Wenjoo Wang, who correctly answered that the Train2Main started on Feb. 16.

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—retailers who requested info are not entitled to win! One entry per person.

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. We use your personal info only for the contest, and we delete all entries after we pick a winner.

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Win a free FareCard!

Exotic Reptile Show. The West Coast Society for the Protection and Conservation of Reptiles will be at the Richmond Nature Park with a hands-on show of exotic reptiles on Saturday and Sunday, March 15-16, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Meet the animals and talk to the people who know reptiles best. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The event is by donation. Visit www.richmond.ca, call 604.718.6188 or email nature@richmond.ca for more info.

Local Volkspark club hosts Volkwalks. Your local Volkspark club is hosting non-competitive 5K/10K walks in Steveston on Sat, March 15; Downtown Vancouver on Sun, March 17; Kitsilano on Sat, Mar 29; and Mosquito Creek (N Vancouver) on Sun, April 6. Free for new participants. For more information please visit our website http://members.shaw.ca/ver/vc or email us at vancouverfringe2010@gmail.com.

Pallets...Eat, Paint, Create! An evening to inspire the artist in everyone. In a social and relaxed environment, come have some fun with paint and get creative! Cost includes tapas, tip and taxes, plus a canvas and all the supplies needed to paint one 20” x 20” painting. The event begins at 7:30 p.m. on March 15 at 1520 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam. Admission is $25/person or $40/PAIR. Please call 604.664.1636 for more information.

Spring Break! The West Coast society for the Protection and Conservation of Reptiles will be at the Richmond Nature Park, 8690 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam. Admission is $25/person or $40/PAIR. Please call 604.664.1636 for more information.

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Thanks for helping us remember the games!

Last month during the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics we asked riders to help us remember when we moved the world during the 2010 Winter Olympics in Greater Vancouver and Whistler by sharing their photos taken during those 17 glorious days in 2010. So many of you submitted photos to our #2010olympiclove photo contest run via our Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Buzzer email. Here are just a few including Winnie Wong’s randomly selected winning photo. Thanks for sharing your love!

Our winner! @snowting!

B U S S E C Kcorn, 400-1125 Nelson’s Court, New Westminster, BC, V3L 0E7 or thebuzzer@translink.ca. 

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

1959

The August 17, 1959 edition of the Buzzer featured info about the spectacular Stanley Park of yesteryear. “Have you been to Stanley Park lately? Cherry trees and daffodils are in full bloom. Trees are budding everywhere and, of course, the monkeys, bears, birds and other wild life are as entertaining as ever. Check in at your favourite place near Stanley Park between 1:30 and 3 p.m. When weather is fine, West Pender and 3p.m. When weather is fine, West Pender and 3p.m. When weather is fine, West Pender...”

B R I E F S

Linen and Collectable Sale. Wednesday, April 9, the Peace Arch Hospital Auxiliary will be holding a linen and collectables sale. Come shop for linens, towels, tablecloths, placemats, napkins, china, silver, glassware and collectables. All proceeds to benefit the patients at Peace Arch Hospital in partnership with the Kwatcha Auxiliary. For more information call 604.682.8390 or email info@vancouverfringe.com.

March 15. Visit www.vancouverfringe.com or email info@vancouverfringe.com.

1959

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Visit the Buzzer blog at buzzer.translink.ca

COMING EVENTS

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

» Train2Main
» text the Transit Police
» #2010olympiclove
Happy birthday TransLink!

We’re celebrating turning 15 years old! In April of 1999, the world’s first multi-modal transportation agency (that’s us) was born. Over the past decade and a half we have seen significant transportation infrastructure development throughout greater Vancouver.

TransLink is the authority responsible for transportation in the region. Our work includes: managing our public transit system, buses, SkyTrain, Canada Line, HandyDART and West Coast Express, as well as co-managing the Major Roads Network; an extensive network of roads and bridges that connect our cities.

On top of that, we are constantly engaged in planning for transportation services that achieve the goals of our region. All this to ensure that the future of public transportation in our region thrives!

Since 1999, our regional transportation network has experienced exceptional growth and expansion. Some of TransLink’s major achievements include:

- Completion of the Millennium SkyTrain Line
- Completion of the Canada Line to coincide with the 2010 Winter Olympics
- Introduction of the U-Pass program to service over 125,000 students in the region
- Expansion of the Major Road Network to include the Golden Ears Bridge, Coast Meridian Overpass and Central Valley Greenway
- Introduction of new transportation options like the SSS Port Mann Express Bus, 8-Line routes and Community Shuttles to service the region’s growing population
- Addition of online services such as m.translink.ca, Next Bus, and the real time traffic map so customers can plan trips ahead of time
- Communication with our customers through our popular channels including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, the Buzzer blog and this newsletter!

We’ve come a long way and we’re excited to celebrate this milestone. So, let’s blow out the candles, have some cake, and get started on making the next 15 years even better!

Text 87-77-77 for Transit Police non-emergencies

Communication between the Transit Police and the public has changed tremendously over the last few years. In order to further enhance our efforts, Transit Police has added texting (or SMS messaging) to your list of options. This means you will be able to initiate a chat with an Operations Communications Centre staff member, for non-emergency issues by sending a text to 87-77-77 from a cellular phone.

87-77-77 is a short code or short number used for texting from cellular phones. 87-77-77 was chosen for numbers on the number pad “Transit Police - See Something - Say Something”.

This service is not anonymous. If a member of the public wishes to submit an anonymous tip, they should contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or visit the Crime Stoppers Website - www.solvecrime.ca.

Please note that this is for non-emergency communications and is not meant to handle emergency situations or replace the process of calling 911.

Going to Main Street-Science World? Look for the two-car Train2Main!

Starting March 30, a special two-car train, the Train2Main, will get customers to and from Main Street-Science World so the station can stay open during construction.

The Train2Main will run every 8-10 minutes and is available from Waterfront, Burrard, Granville, Stadium-Chinatown, and Commercial Broadway Stations. Passengers travelling to/from Main Street-Science World Station are advised to plan for approximately 10 minutes of extra travel time.

Regular four-car trains on the Expo and Millennium lines will operate normally, but will not stop at Main Street-Science World. This shuttle will operate for approximately six months.

The needed upgrade will increase capacity at Main Street-Science World, one of the oldest and busiest SkyTrain stations, while improving accessibility, safety and security.

Upgrades expected to be complete by early 2015 include:

- Open station design with better lighting
- New entrances
- New stairs, escalators and elevator
- New entrances
- New secure bike parking area for bicycles
- New retail space

Thanks for your patience as we make these improvements! To learn more visit translink.ca/ontrack.

Welcome CNIB to Compass

Hooray, we’ve already reached over three million taps in the system! Time to bust out the happy dance!

This month, we welcomed our first CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind) Compass Card users to the Compass family that’s already more than 80,000 users strong.

The Vancouver CNIB clients—about 2,500 of them—will transition to the Compass system in small groups over several weeks.

The Compass team has been working closely with the CNIB Mobility Instructors to deliver tailored education to CNIB clients. Check out translink.ca/youtube to see videos of the CNIB client training in action; they’re already pro tappers!

As we transition to Compass, we’ll continue to work on Compass system refinements to ensure a successful experience for customers, including improved tap reading speed on the buses and the volume of the reader beeps.

One of our absolute priorities is to make sure all our customers, including seniors, new immigrants, and people with disabilities, are comfortable and confident when using public transit. To ensure continued success, we’ll continue to expand our customer education and outreach program and keep on showing people how to tap in and tap out!

Get questions? Check out AskCompass.ca.

Stay tuned for a spring contest starting March 31. Keep an eye out for the bunny on translink.ca!