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# **15th Anniversary Issue: 2001 ~ 2016**

With the generous support of:





# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016



by John Sprung, Chair



Jim Wallace, Doug McCallum



First Spike



Sullivan Car Barn



Sullivan Speeder Track

## 15 years and what have we done so far?

While the society is 15 years old, it all started over 20 years ago when the Surrey Heritage Advisory Commission, also called SHAC, planted the seed for the FVHRS in 1996.

Upset at the time, with the amount of demolition permits requested for "old houses" some of the Commissioners looked for some positive heritage action options. Commissioner Jim Wallace personally funded two feasibility studies of the BCER interurban rail corridor through Surrey for heritage tourism use. Jim's cheque was presented to Mayor Doug McCallum to be used only for these studies and undertake appropriate care of this large and important heritage asset. Some on the Commission undertook the search for any original BCER Interurban cars available. Four years of research resulted in two reports that outlined heritage revitalization opportunities in Surrey. These were presented to Surrey Council in 2000.

Included in the reports were business case studies for Heritage Rail Tourism and the benefits to Surrey. Council approved the Heritage Tourism study and also realized that the city was not the best group to implement the plan. Surrey Council requested a non-profit group be created to carry out the plans.

In 2001 a non-profit society was created. The first members struggled for a name that reflected the history of the Interurban line. Then current SRY President, John Van der Burch, indicated that it was often referred to as "The Fraser Valley line" which resulted in our society: Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society.

## First Board of Directors 2001



**Back row:** Vic Sharman (Vice-Chair), Bob Ashton (Chair), Roy Mufford, Terry Lyster, Howard Reich (Treasurer) **Front Row:** Jim Gillis, Allen Aubert (Secretary), Judy Higginbotham (Council Liaison), Larry Fisher, Graham MacDonell

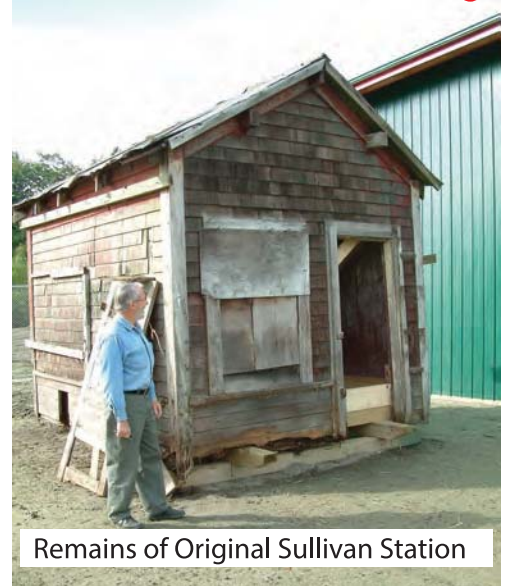
The City of Surrey provided access to undeveloped city property adjacent to Sullivan Park (152nd St & 64th Ave.) with access from 152nd Street and next to the rail right of way. Construction started on the Sullivan Car Barn in August 2003, completed in September that same year. FVHRS had no rolling stock at this time – this was really a case of 'build it and they will come!'



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary



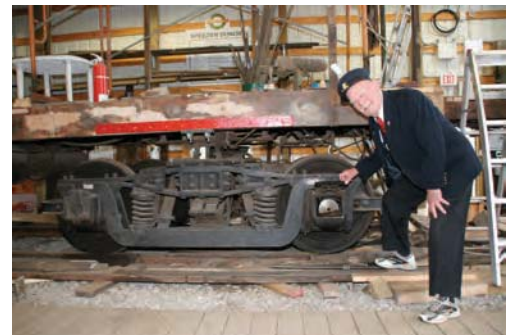
Replica Sullivan Station



Remains of Original Sullivan Station

Funds donated by the Real Estate Foundation of B.C. allowed us to build the replica Sullivan Station, opened in 2004. We also acquired the remains of the original Sullivan Station and brought it home from a nearby farmer's field where it had been used as a chicken coop for 50 years.

## BCER 1225



In 2005 BCER 1225 (above) was acquired from the Orange Empire Railway Museum (OERM) in Perris, California. Restoration began shortly after. It took 5 years and 20,000 volunteer hours to complete the restoration and put 1225 back on the rails with passengers.

BCER 1304 (below) was acquired in 2009 from Oregon Electric Railway Museum (OERM) Brooks, Oregon, with the help of the Steveston Interurban Restoration Society (SIRS). This last of the "Chilliwack" cars is being restored to return in 2017, to the line that ceased passenger service in 1950.

## 1304 The Connaught





# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## The Move From Sullivan to Cloverdale



Mayor Dianne Watts indicated her desire in 2010 that we relocate to Cloverdale to become part of the future Heritage Center of Surrey. The city acquired land next to the BCER right-of-way at 176th Street. The FVHRS arranged construction of the Car Barn in 2011, by the Lark Group. The FVHRS arranged construction of the replica Cloverdale Station overlapping the site of the original Station in 2012 by Seagate Coinstruction.



New Cloverdale Car Barn 2012



Replica Cloverdale Station under construction in 2012

Once again the cars 1225 and 1304 had to be relocated. With the help of a large GWIL crane, both interurbans were lifted onto transporters. We picked the hottest day of the year to move the cars from Sullivan to Cloverdale, and it really was "all hands on deck" to get the cars into the new barn. The energetic fellow circled below, is MLA Marvin Hunt, "a real hands-on supporter". By the end of the very long day, the two cars were safely tucked away in their new home: The Cloverdale Car Barn, August 16, 2012.



Crew awaiting the cars



Pulling in the cars



1304 and 1225 in the Cloverdale Car Barn



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

— Passenger operations commenced on June 22, 2013



Our grand opening saw many people on hand for the event. Mayor Watts was at the controls as 1225 came through to cut the ribbon. The “operations” are now called the Surrey Heritage Rail Experience.

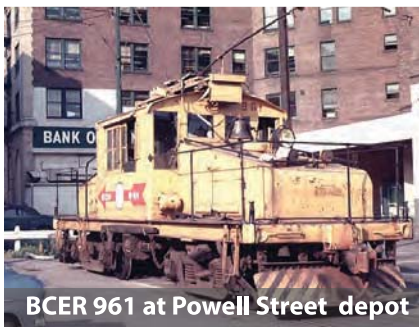
2013



2014



We also moved the popular Speeder ride to Cloverdale. Rebuilding the passenger cart increased ridership, comfort as well as safety. We added a second cart to keep up with the demand.



BCER 961 at Powell Street depot



BCER 960 in Kitsilano

BCER 961 (above and centre) is a freight locomotive, acquired in May 2014, from the Edmonton Radial Railway Museum (ERRM). The engine was used by Edmonton Power and Transit during construction of their LRT line and tunnel. The locomotive was returned to ERRM after the tunnel was opened. The storage location was no longer available and ERRM looked to find a longer term home for the freight locomotive. FVHRS plans for 961 are not yet decided. It may remain as a static exhibit. The sister locomotive 960 pictured (above right) near the Burrard Bridge in Kitsilano, is now at the West Coast Railway Museum in Squamish).



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## Velocepede



Harry Taylor showing off the Velocepede as a garden ornament. The following season, Harry had restored the artifact.



The Velocepede, our smallest piece of rolling stock, was rebuilt by Director Harry Taylor. It was originally brought in by FVHRS volunteer and member, Vince Holmes, who's neighbour had been using it as a garden ornament. Harry removed the old wood and spent the winter of 2014 recreating this masterpiece. During the work Harry connected with the European and UK based Velocepede groups and used their monthly publications and online forums for reference. In return the British group dedicated one whole issue to Harry's work.

## Miss Fowlie's Yarrow Elementary Class 60 Years Later

In 1955, a group of school children were the last 'official' passengers on 1304, a special ride from Chilliwack to Yarrow for a Grade three class. We have some grainy black and white pictures of the ride in our history display in the Car barn.

During a tour, Director, Hugh Parkinson, wondered where the students were now. A voice belonging to Elsie Geisbrecht piped up and said, "I went to that school and I know some of them." This connection lead to forming a planning committee, resulting in the 60th Anniversary Reunion around and about BCER 1304 in 2015.

Hugh, Elsie and original rider, Marlene Penner, with the rest of the volunteers, created a wonderful adventure for the remaining original 1955



Yarrow riders and their extended families, who rode BCER Car 1225 and toured through Car 1304.

*Continued next page*



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## Miss Fowlie's Yarrow Elementary Class 60 Years Later



On hand to help with the festivities were representatives, Councillor Dave Woods representing Surrey, Surrey MLA Marvin Hunt and an assistant to Cloverdale MLA Stephanie Cadieux representing BC. Our other partners, Kim Wagner of BC Hydro, the successor agency to the BC Electric Company and Singh Biln, represented SRY Raillink, which now owns and operates the Fraser Valley rail line for freight service. Greetings were brought from Yarrow Elementary School by one of the current teachers. After the official greetings, the group enjoyed a buffet lunch hosted by Kay Gandham, the manager of the new Cloverdale Branch of Envision Financial.

This was followed by a tour through Car 1304, still under restoration, with a group photograph taken in front of it as a memento. After that, it was fun and games as our guests of honour rode, and enjoyed Car 1225, the Speeder and Velocepede and heard about the history of 1304 and the BC Electric Railway from Henry Ewert, FVHRS Historian in-Residence.



Hugh Parkinson with organizers Elsie Giesbrecht and Marlene Penner, and SRY's Singh Biln



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## 2015 Volunteer Dinner



Chair John Sprung



Keynote Speaker Don Evans, WCRA



Judy Higgenbotham, Den Mother



MP John Aldag



**Station Masters Honoured**

Tim Pippus, Elizabeth Alkire, Cathy Bessetto, Isabel McCurdy, Bruce Duncan    MLA Marvin Hunt



Hugh Parkinson for Yarrow Riders Event



Bob Ashton, Superintendent



Vince Holmes found the velocipede  
Harry Taylor Rebuilt it



Ron Powers, Superintendent



Ray Crowther, Vice-Chair  
Volunteer Coordination, Car barn



Liz Aubert, Volunteer  
Coordinator, Station



Terry Nichols, Responsible for  
Operations

The message delivered by Don Evans of the West Coast Railway Museum in Squamish, was about adapting to becoming an operating railroad, from an organization restoring rolling stock. While this remains important to the society, serving the public has been added, requiring addi-

tional volunteer participation and management. Customer service and relations now become key to volunteers.

Evans said one of the critical ingredients necessary in customer relations is practicing patience and persistence when dealing with the customers and visitors.



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## 2015 Volunteer Dinner



Ellen Edwards



Terry Nichols, Gary Ridout



Neal Wilkie



Andrew Newey



Roy Griffith



Vince & Louise Holmes



Ken Silen



Alan Cumberlidge



Jim Voigt



Peter Finch



Dave Storey



Ashton Pilkey, John Streit, News 1130



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## 2015 Volunteer Dinner



Peter Leyland



Ron Powers



David King



Ross Babcock



Don Bruce, Dolores Sleutel



Larry Perkins, Lloyd Knoblach,  
Rene Doyharcabal



Myron Kalinovich



Don McKay, Bob Brown



Hugh Parkinson, John Sprung  
Roger Crick



Patrick & Elsie Taylor, Lorna Bruce,  
Cathy Bassetto



Deborah Kriger, Axis Impact Marketing  
FVHRS Website developer



Sten Christiansen, Wayne Abbott



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## 2015: Amazing Halloween Spooktacular



The Duke of Cannaght



Crocodile Harree



The Inmates

It was a wonderful weekend of fun and frolic, the week before Halloween, hugely successful because of the dedication of the FVHRS Volunteers particularly the Special Events Team lead by Stephen Plant! We'll do it again next year! More photos from the weekend are available on our Blog at [www.fvhrrs.org](http://www.fvhrrs.org) Photos by Ray Hudson, Ron Peterson and Allen Aubert



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## Car 1207 Joins the Cloverdale Fleet



At 3:15 am, Thursday, January 28, 2016, after about an hour's travel time, the convoy carrying BCER 1207 arrived, from it's former home in Vancouver.

Despite heavy rain and gusty winds, the car was delivered to the 176th Ave door of the Cloverdale Car Barn. Lowering the end of PNR Railworks' special transporter, the trackmobile then pulled the car into the barn. Terry Nichols (l) and Sten Christiansen (r) helping.

A large crew of volunteers were awaiting the arrival to assist as necessary, while the benefactors, Byron and Diane Cole happily watched the transfer.



While the front-end loader coupled with 1207, FVHR's Hugh Parkinson and Ray Crowther stood with car owners, Byron and Diane Cole, who have gifted the car to the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society.



As the daylight increased, 1207 slowly made it's way from the former Downtown Heritage Rail barn in Vancouver and onto the railcar transporter.



When loaded onto the transporter, 1207 was secured for travel early the next morning to avoid traffic. Appreciation was also expressed to the staff of the City of Vancouver



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## 1207 "Steveston" Arrival 3:10 am



In the wind and rail of the early morning, 1207 was brought to the west door of the Cloverdale Car Barn while Global TV interviewed Chair John Sprung for the Morning News.



As the transport trailer ramp was synchronized with the floor rails in the barn, Harry Taylor watches as the trackmobile operated by Ron Powers moved into position to couple with 1207 and move it into the barn.



In the hour following arrival, the FVHRS volunteers stood by to assist the off-load joined by Byron Cole, Allen Aubert and Diane Cole. At last, 1207 was in the barn, carrying the expectations of it's joining 1225 in service.





# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## Highlights of 2015



Surrey Heritage Rail's first appearance in the Cloverdale Rodeo parade, Hugh Parkinson and Ron Powers driving.



Stephen Plant, Ron Powers, David King \* Liz Aubert, Dolores Sleutel, Elizabeth Alkire \* Allen Aubert & Re-enactor



Carbarn tour \* Station Master Cathy Bassetto, Doreen Anderson \* Station Master Shane Suter and newest Engineer



Henry Ewert demonstrates simulator, Bob Ashton \* Don Bishop and Re-enactor \* Volunteer Artie Pippus



Tim Pippus, Sten Christiansen \* Bill Robinson, Michelle Pippus \* Sten, Bob & Roger \* Rob Farmer and Larry Perkins



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## Highlights of 2015



Hugh Parkinson \* Ray Crowther, John Sprung, MLA Stephanie Cadieux, MLA Marvin Hunt, Allen \* John Cowan, Elizabeth Alkire



Rob Farmer, Michelle Pippus, Bob Alkire



Dolores Sleutel



Motorman Councillor Mike Starchuk



Allen & Liz Aubert



Allen, Alan, Doreen, Bill, Ron, Mike, Liz, Lorna, Bob



Terry Nichols, Hand to hand



Roger Bose



Michelle Pippus



Another Satisfying Excursion



Don Bruce



Bob, Peter, Don, Ross, Sten, Bob Storey



Cllr. Vera Le Franc on the tour



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## 1304: Update by Ray Crowther



The volunteer team working on the BCER 1304 restoration during this past year have made considerable progress.

All the window frames are now reinstalled having been removed, repaired, refinished and re-glazed with safety glass. The interior electrical rewiring has been completed. The seat frames have been removed, repaired and refinished and are ready to be re-installed. The seats have been reupholstered. Our members generously donated to make the new seat upholstery possibly.

The controllers located in the vestibules have been refurbished and are ready to be reinstalled.

Below the floor boards, the steel beams under both vestibules which were severely rusted through, have been replaced. The under floor wiring and electrical components are still to be completed.

The trucks have been removed. The traction motors have been refurbished.

The FVHRS skilled volunteers are currently disassembling the trucks on site, identifying the pieces that need to be replaced or refurbished. Large items such as re-profiling of the wheels will be undertaken by a specialized machine shop. The leaf and coil springs have been removed and will be sent off for testing. The plan is to sand blast all the truck components, and carefully examine each piece for structural integrity. Non-destructive x-ray testing of the wheel axels will be carried out. Work on the axel re-assembly will include a decision on whether to replace the original Babbit bearings or retro-fit with roller bearings. As with all things, there are pros and cons. Needless to say, the process of disassembly has revealed worn areas of many components, some can be repaired, others will need to be replaced. Pictures of the truck refurbishment work is on our Facebook accessed directly



from the FVHRS website [www.fvhrs.org](http://www.fvhrs.org)

Every piece of the truck assembly is being carefully tagged, so the parts can be re-assembled in the same sequence as they were removed. A photographic record of the truck work is being carried out to document the refurbishment process. A picture being worth a thousand words.

The next 8 months will be very busy, we will have the seat installation complete, the trucks refurbished and preparations made to lower the body of 1304 back down to the trucks, reconnections of the brakes and electrical wiring.



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## Clayburn Signal Building: Update by Ray Crowther



The Clayburn manually operated signal building, one of the last in the country, served many years at the diamond crossing in Clayburn to ensure safe crossing by BCER and CP Rail. No longer required, was donated by Southern Railway of BC to the FVHRS. This is truly an important piece of BCER history and an important artifact. We are fortunate to have this building.

Following relocation to the FVHRS Cloverdale compound, work started on the restoration and this is well underway.

- The roof timbers have been replaced having become rotted.
- The exterior siding has been replaced and the window and door frames replaced.

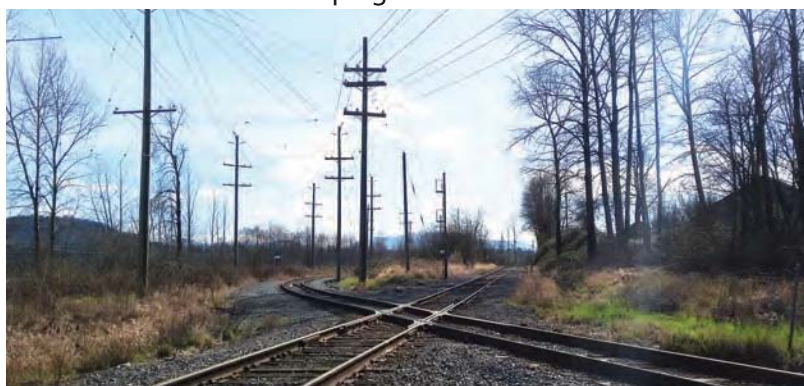
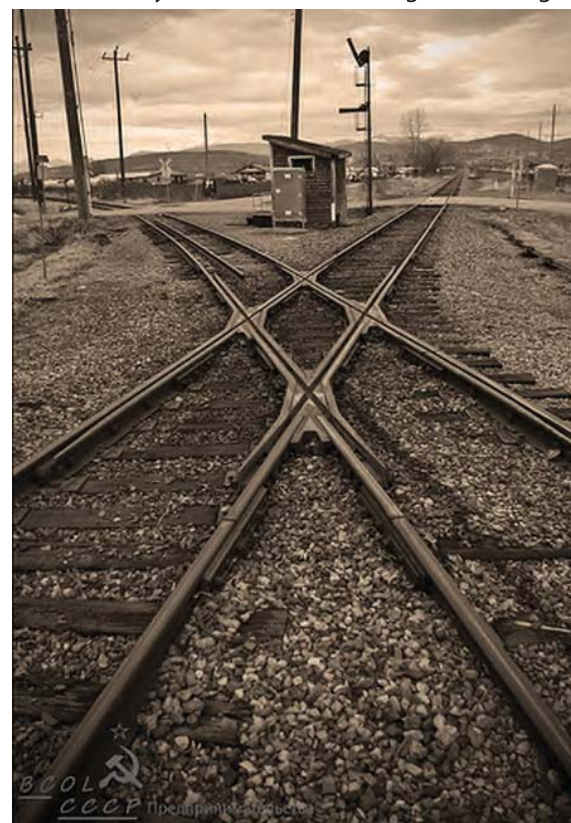
The plan is to have the Clayburn Signal building complete and operational to demonstrate the levers that activate the signal semaphores. We expect to have the signal building complete by mid 2017. This artifact will be unique and a delight to see when operational.

As with all FVHRS restoration/ refurbishment projects, every effort is made to keep as much of the original structure as possible.

We launched a \$5,000 membership fundraising drive to complete the Clayburn signal building and we have reached the 80% mark of that campaign.



Clayburn Signal building under reconstruction  
Below, Clayburn diamond with signal building



Clayburn Diamond after signal building removal



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## Passenger Safety Enhanced by Crew First Aid Training



Trained in this round were (from left) Myrna McRae, Elsie Taylor, Roger Crick, Gary Ridout, Stephen Plant, Roger Bose (behind) Liz Aubert, Ray Crowther, Allen Aubert, Sten Christiansen, Ron Powers and Hugh Parkinson. At the front table is Michelle, Tim and Artie Pippus, and Ray Hudson, who also photographed the event.



During a break in the instruction, the volunteers chatted about what they were learning. From left they are: Stephen Plant, Ray Crowther, Michelle & Tim Pippus, Roger Bose and Gary Ridout.



In the above scenario, Stephen Plant, Ray Crowther and the instructor learn how to turn over the 'unconscious' Roger Bose.



Here, Allen Aubert applies CPR compressions, with Ron Powers ready to activate the AED which will autonomously administer the life-saving jolt if the CPR does not restart the heart.



March 5, 2016, sixteen volunteers spent a very full day at the Car Barn taking First Aid training in order to be prepared to offer assistance to any of our patrons who may suffer medical distress while visiting the Heritage Rail facility or while riding BCER 1225.

Visitors to Surrey's Heritage Rail can feel secure in the knowledge that many of the volunteers at the station, as well as many on the train crew, are equipped with current certification in Occupational First Aid Level 1, and training in CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation). At the same time, the volunteers were trained and certified in the use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

The AED has vastly improved the chances of a positive outcome in the event of cardiac arrest.

Our AED is kept in a standby mode in the Car Barn, however, when Car 1225 is in operation, the AED is aboard the train. Visitors to the site are within easy access by emergency services but the train, travelling back and forth to Sullivan Station, may not be, so as additional security, the AED travels with it.

The Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society is grateful to the late Don Bishop for the gift of the AED



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## Annual General Meeting April 30, 2016

### From the desk of Chairman John Sprung

The 2015 season was very busy with ever more passengers coming out to ride BCER 1225. Finding the Cloverdale station was made easier for many now new street signs have been erected by the provincial department of highways along Highway 10 close to the 176A street turn south to the station. We welcomed 6,500 passengers during the season.



Wayfinding sign

We have more rolling stock at Cloverdale. BCER 1207 was donated to the FVHRS by Byron and Diane Cole from Seattle, Wa. who have owned 1207 for many years. BCER 1207 arrived from Vancouver in the middle of the night (see Page 12). BCER 1207 is particularly special, being one of the few remaining Interurbans that were built at the BCER New Westminster yards.

Membership does have its advantages, the new Seasons Pass is provided to all FVHRS members and is good to ride BCER 1225, to take barn tours and ride the speeder and velocipede during the 2016 season.

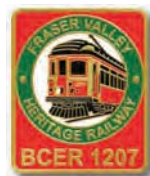
### We had some special events this year:

- The Rodeo parade • The Surrey Door's Open • Antique steam engine exhibit
- Visits by the Surrey Re-enactors • The Yarrow Elementary school reunion
- The first annual Halloween special event • The Rodeo Christmas Parade
- Annual Volunteers appreciation dinner

### 15th Anniversary year



Adding to the FVHRS pin collection, we have two new pins. The 15th Anniversary membership pin and one commemorating the addition of BCER 1207. These pins will be mailed to any members who could not attend the AGM.



We will continue the restoration work on 1304, with some parts being sent out for specialty machining in preparation for the return to service in 2017. Restoration also continues on the Clayburn Signal Building.

The Re-enactors will be on site again for two occasions: July 9th & August 6th. Last year we enjoyed visits from the Antique Steam Engine Group and the Morse Code Pioneers.

After the regular 2016 season, there will be the 2nd Halloween Ghost Train.

### Greetings!



MLA Marvin Hunt, Panorama



MLA Harry Bains, Newton



Council Liaison, Dave Woods



**Ride  
SURREY'S  
Heritage  
Rail** **Membership  
Season Pass**  
Operated by the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society

This a season pass if so all members can enjoy the facilities all season. The Card has a stunning photo of the tram, the first in a series of collectables.

## August 2017

The "Connaught" 1304  
will return to the fleet.  
Help us make it happen!  
(see back cover)



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

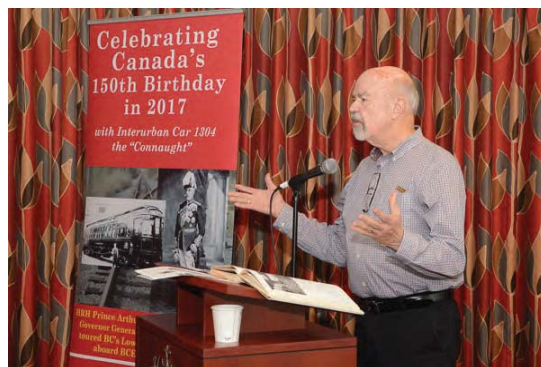
## Annual General Meeting April 30, 2016

### Henry Ewert Appointed Historian-in-Residence



The BCER has a very rich history, and in some ways is still being created. The impact of the BCER development in the Fraser Valley is still being felt today. To help us maintain accuracy and focus, I'm very pleased to announce that FVHR member Henry Ewert has accepted this position and will work with all of us to ensure we 'get it right' historically. Henry is the author of *The Story of the BC Electric Railway Company*, the definitive reference work of the BCER.

Henry was the Keynote speaker at the AGM, and as we move from our fifteenth anniversary, we prepare for the return to service of Car 1304, we asked Henry to tell the story of 1304, the "Connaught," its adventures, misfortunes and its place in history. This was a task superbly handled as the members fully enjoyed the presentation. Thank you Henry!



### Ken Silen Appointed Archivist



The position of the archivist is to look after and present all the BCER artifacts and collections in the FVHRS Station and Car Barn museums. Ken Silen has accepted this title. Ken's initial efforts are visible in the Station Museum with changes to the displays and plans to enhance the use of our artifacts.

To augment our focus on BCER history we are partnering with the Surrey Museum to cross-promote events during the next year. The Museum will be opening on Sundays this year to be able to welcome visitors on Saturdays and Sundays, to enhance the experience of their visit to Historic Cloverdale.

### AWARDS:

Unable to attend the Volunteer Dinner in November, two members were honoured for their service. Stephen Plant (left) for his leadership role in the creation and execution of the Halloween Experience, and Russel Newcombe for his service as Station Master.



Stephen Plant



Russell Newcombe, Station Master



Full house, full attention



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## Annual General Meeting April 30, 2016



**Gary Ridout** has joined the Board of Directors, replacing Bob Ashton, who retired this past year



One highlight was a ceremonial presentation of the control keys of 1207. Both Terry and Ron Finlayson were motormen at the former DHR in Vancouver.

### Retirement

#### Bob Ashton, with thanks...



We would like to recognize and personally thank Bob for his dedication and enthusiasm over the last 20 years. Bob has been a very important part of the society and to support ing the BCER Inter-urban legacy.

- \* Founding Chair of FVHRS, 2001 - 2005
- \* Vice-Chair FVHRS, 2005 - 2015
- \* Coordinated work at the Sullivan Car Barn
- \* Chair of Rehabilitation work BCER 1225
- \* Chair, then Co-Chair of Operations
- \* SIRS: Member, the Steveston Interurban Restoration Society

#### Peter Holt, with thanks...



Peter joined the board in 2005, bringin his professional expertise as an electrical engineer to bear, seeking other methods of powering the cars, particularly the possibility of the hydrogen fuel cell. He also organized the Station volunteers. He retired to Gibsons, BC Thank you!

### In Memorium



**Vic Sharman**  
Founding Director



**Don Bishop**  
Volunteer



**Vic Sharman**  
Founding Director



**George Pihan**  
Member



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

## Strategic Planning 2016 ~ 2021



Beginning in January 2016, Terry Lyster, above, one of the original founding directors of the FVHRS, returned to co-facilitate the development of the five year strategic plan with John Sprung. Board members participating were Ron Powers, Allen Aubert, Ray Crowther, Sten Christiansen, Hugh Parkinson, Harry Taylor and Ray Hudson

### Strategic Plan 2016: Facilitated by founding board member, Terry Lyster and Chair John Sprung

1. Continue to ENHANCE THE VISITOR EXPERIENCE by making additional cars operational with new, improved and evolving ancillary mechanisms and events. This includes further emphasis on the curatorial function and heritage messaging of the museum.
2. Continue to REFINE OPERATIONS including emphasis on safety, integration of procedural guides and volunteer recruiting & management throughout the organization.
3. Continue to BUILD RELATIONSHIPS with the City of Surrey, regulatory authorities, track & right-of-way owners, and heritage & community partners.
4. ADD ASSETS THOUGHTFULLY, maintaining a clear vision of how additional rolling stock, greater range and related improvements enhance the experience and fit within available skills, volunteer time and resources (financial, in-kind).
5. ENJOY ACCOMPLISHMENTS to date while harnessing enthusiasm for fresh initiatives. Continue to celebrate and honour contributions by volunteers and other providers. Publicize landmarks and improvements.
6. EXPAND PRUDENTLY: Expanding the run from Cloverdale to Newton is probably the operational limit for a heritage ride (around 1 hour). While the prospect of linking to Light Rapid Transit there, rather than at Scott road (as in previous strategic plans) is easier to accomplish, prudence is required. Until a Newton developer willing to contribute to a "rail" theme emerges, and capital funding for a new station, track upgrades, sidings and spurs is in hand; Newton is an "excursion" not part of the operation. Resolution may be beyond this five-year horizon but should be maintained as part of our vision.

### Societies Act Changes

Changes to the BC Societies Act, governing not-for-profit societies in BC will take effect on November 28, 2016. We will have to revise our Constitution and Bylaws to conform with the new regulations.

A committee comprised of Stephen Plant, Allen Aubert, Sten Christiansen and John Sprung will update and manage the changes to our Constitution and Bylaws. We feel that our existing documents are close to conforming, and we'll have a painless transition. Changes will require that the membership approve the new Constitution and Bylaws at the 2017 AGM. Information on the changes will be sent well before the AGM for your review so you may bring any questions to the meeting.



# 2001~ 2016 15th Anniversary

## Branding Evolution



Corporate logo



Transitional/startup Logo (no longer used)



New Operational logo

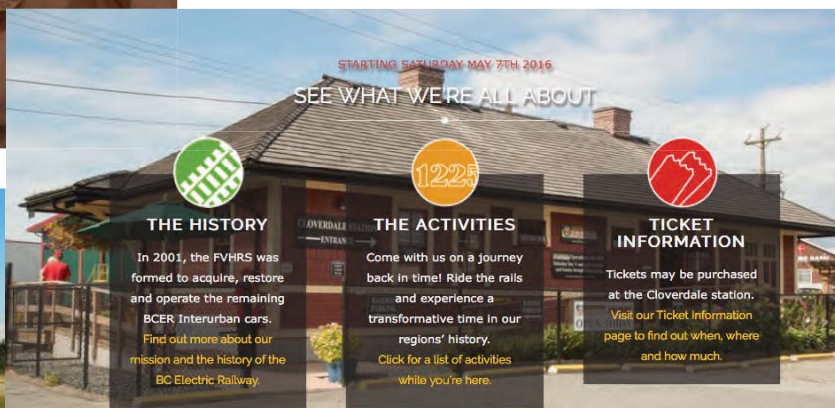
Thanks to the ongoing interest from retired Founding Director, Terry Lyster, who provided the inspiration and design talent for our logo (above left). As we approached startup in 2013 Terry suggested a design to portray the active return and offered Interurban Again. Since completing the transition to an operating railroad, it was felt that the Society needed a new identifier and again Terry Lyster brought forward a design which dramatically speaks to what we do and who we are. It was decided that the corporate logo would remain, honouring our operational logo and name. But in light of the reality that we operate only in Surrey, we should focus our logo on the city of Surrey.

## A Journey Through Time: our new website

The board of directors agreed we needed a better digital "front window" through which the public could see into our operation, and easily see just what we were all about and what we had to offer anyone wanting to visit. As attractive and as easy as the website is to use, we aren't done. Next stages of development will include the capability for internal communication for volunteers to enable easier scheduling and communication between the directors, and the volunteers who are involved, basically in three areas: 1: Station-side which is working with passengers right up to boarding the train; 2: Trainside, handling passengers on board 1225, enjoying speeder rides, barn tours and other attractions; and 3: Restoration-side which is about the work on 1304 and 1207 and any other artifacts that we may acquire.



Another planned website improvement will be the capability of online booking for tickets to ride on Car 1225.



So if you haven't come aboard literally, or through the website, come on in. It's as easy as typing fvhrs.org in your browser, and the Journey Through Time opens up for you to explore.



# 15th Anniversary 2001~ 2016

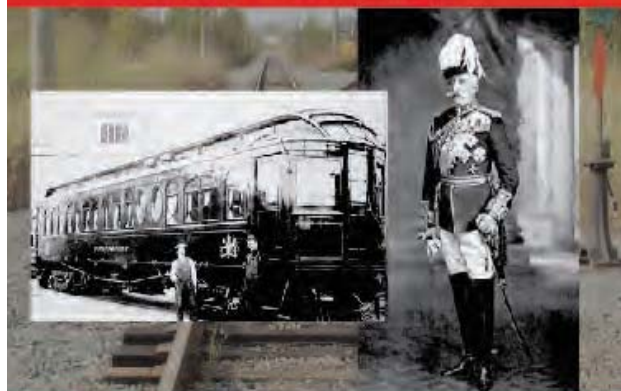
## BCER 1304 "Connaught" Sesquicentennial Legacy project

**Help us raise \$150,000 in the community for completion of 1304 by March 2017**

### Legacy Opportunity

### Celebrating Canada's 150th Birthday in 2017

*funding restoration of Car 1304  
the "Connaught"*



**HRH Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught  
Governor General of Canada 1911 - 1917  
toured BC's Lower Mainland in 1912  
aboard BCER "Connaught"**

BCER 1304 was refitted especially for the Duke's visit. The passenger seats were removed and replaced with upholstered club chairs. Curtains were placed on the windows and the interior lighting was modified to provide a red welcoming warm glow. Washrooms were added as well.

The car was repainted on the exterior and the royal coat of arms was added to both sides at the entry steps.

The royal visit by the Duke of Connaught was a big event and all along the route people lined up to see the royal visitor.

## We are inviting everyone

in the community to participate in this 2017 celebration of Canada's 150 birthday and make a personal donation to help us complete the work to bring BCER 1304 back to its former operating glory. The restoration includes the mechanical components of the undercarriage (the trucks) which include the motors, wheels, brakes and compressor. That work can only be carried out by specialized machine shops. An official tax receipt will be provided to all who make a donation. A complimentary commemorative ticket to ride BCER 1304 will be offered for every donation of \$50.

**Contact [Allen Aubert@shaw.ca](mailto:Allen.Aubert@shaw.ca)**



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