



BULLETIN BOARD

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ABOVE: A local freight wends its way through the woods on Scott Calvert's layout, the CPR Boundary Subdivision. Scott's layout will be part of the operating sessions during the upcoming Railway Modellers' Meet of BC.

Photo by Scott Calvert

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From the Editor's Desk

The top item in this issue is the rapidly approaching Railway Modellers' Meet of BC. This is the number one event for railway modellers in our province and is not something that you should miss. If you can't spare the time or can't afford travel to Vancouver be sure you take in the free "virtual prologue" on May 4th and 18th. If you haven't already registered for some part of this event, check out the article on page 6 for more information.

We have a somewhat limited amount of feature content this month. This includes an addendum for the club directory published in the January edition, as well as the return of our intrepid book reviewer with a review of an excellent book on CPR's Connaught Tunnel. Check these out!

We also have some information on other upcoming events, including the 2023 Vancouver Train Expo, the 2024 PNR Regional Convention and a retirement BBQ for the Central Hobbies staff.

If you have any comments on this issue, or if you are thinking about maybe providing your fellow 7th Division members with an article on something important to you, or if you just have some photos or some news or information that should be in the next edition, please send me an email at r.England@computer.org.

Enjoy the issue!



Superintendent's Message

By Victor Gilbert, 7th Division Superintendent

Spring is here, with it comes less modelling time and more outdoor time. As spring started, I attended the Sea to Sky Model Train and Hobby Show and the Annual Nanaimo Model Railroad Show. I staffed the 7th Division table at both shows and enjoyed talking to people. I must have done some good as several new members joined in March. Welcome aboard to all of our latest members.

It is getting close to time for the 2023 Railway Modellers' Meet of BC (RMMBC). Registration is open. There will be virtual sessions on May 4 and May 18, followed by the in-person meet May 26th (Fri) to May 28th (Sun), returning to the SFU Burnaby Campus. I look forward to seeing all of you there. Please plan on attending. See the [RMMBC website](#) for details.

I am sure most of you know Hal, the owner of Central Hobbies, is planning on retiring in the next month or so. The folks at the Burnaby Central Railway, BCSME, are planning a retirement party for Friday, June 30, 2023, for Hal, Kathy, and Bill. The 7th Division wishes Hal all the best in his retirement. We also wish Kathy and Bill the best in the future. Details are provided on page 10.

Don't forget, work continues on the 7th Division website. If you have the desire to volunteer and have some web design skills, we are looking for a web admin for the 7th Division. And the login process to the Members Only section has changed. You will now need your NMRA member number to login. Passwords could not be copied from the old access. To get your new password, click on the "Forgot Password" link, and a temporary password will be sent to the email address we have on file for you. If you do not receive a temporary password shortly after it has been requested, check your Junk Mail and Spam folders. If there is still no password, please get in touch with webmaster@7divpnr.ca.

Enjoy the spring and summer.



Adding Value to Your Membership

By Victor Gilbert, 7th Division Superintendent

Awards

Did you know that the 7th Division recognizes our members for their achievements?

If someone should be recognized with one of the awards listed below, contact the award's coordinator or the Superintendent of the 7th Division. Contact information can be found on the [About Us page of the 7th Division website](#).

The **Jack Work Memorial Trophy** is presented annually to the 7th Division member who best exhibits the qualities that Jack Work displayed: imagination, creativity, innovation, artistry, forward-thinking, quality workmanship and the sharing of the results of these qualities with the rest of the hobby.

The **Ross Heriot Memorial Golden Spike Award** is presented annually to an individual or a group of individuals in the 7th Division who has made a significant contribution to the division.

The **Railway Heritage Award** is presented, when appropriate, to a current member of the 7th Division who has contributed in a meaningful way to the preservation of railway history.

Check out the [Awards page of the 7th Division website](#) for more details and past recipients.

Modeller's Helpdesk

We are here to help. If you need a solution or an idea for your layout, ask the "Modeller's Help Desk," listed on the [About Us page of the 7th Division website](#) or the last page of this Bulletin Board.

Changing Your Email Address

We have created a simple way to change your email address. Email the [7th Division Membership Coordinator](#), with EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE as the subject line. Include your name, NMRA number, old email address, and new email address. We will update our records and pass the information to Regional and National.

Volunteering

We need volunteers and have openings for the following:

- **Publicity Coordinator**
Responsibilities: Coordinate with local events to have an NMRA presence, liaise with NMRA Regional and National for publications.
- **Social Media Coordinator**
Responsibilities: Work to establish a 7th Division Social Media presence.
- **7th Division Regional Education Team**
Responsibilities: Work with the NMRA PNR Regional Education Team to establish a library of "How To" and research material for access by NMRA Members
- **Web Administrator**
Responsibilities: Maintain the 7th Division's Website and post content as requested.
- **Clinic Coordinator**
Responsibilities: Work with the 7th Division's Secretary to coordinate clinicians and resources for the 7th Division's Winter, Summer, and Fall Clinics

Would you like to volunteer for one of these positions, or perhaps you have an idea for the Division? Reach out to your Sub-Division Coordinator. They are listed on the [7th Division website on the About Us page](#) or contact me at victor@sugarwood.info.

WE NEED YOU!

RMMBC 2023 Will Soon Be Here!

By John Geddes, RMMBC Publicity

In-Person Meet May 26-28

We are now just a few weeks away from the in-person RMMBC meet at the SFU Burnaby Mountain campus. RMMBC 2023 promises to be a weekend to remember.

- Key Note Speaker – Tony Thompson
- A full program of Model and Prototype Clinics
- Two half-days of Operating Sessions
- An evening of Layout Tours
- Prototype Tour of the G3TV rail-marine grain terminal
- Model Displays and Table-Top Clinics throughout
- Discussion Groups for getting to know your fellow modellers
- Come and meet some of BC's model railroad manufacturers



ABOVE: A Meet-Up discussion group.

Photo by Rob England

Online Prologue May 4 and 18

And don't miss our "Online Prologue" for a series of virtual (Zoom) clinics that will be held May 4th and May 18th (Thursday evenings). Free by donation.

[Click here to register.](#)

Registration

For In-Person Meet registration [click here.](#)

You **MUST** register in advance – it's simple and fast.

- **Online Prologue:** Although free, you must register to get Zoom details.
- **In-Person Meet:** There will NOT be any onsite/day-of-meet registration. You **MUST** register on-line.

For updates and more information, check the RMMBC website: www.railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca

Stay Tuned

Sign up for our newsletters at <https://railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/wp/sign-up-for-our-newsletter>. It is the easiest way for us to keep in touch.



ABOVE: David Mills' layout can be seen on the Layout Tour.

Photo by David Mills



PNR 2024 Regional Convention Hosted by the 7th Division

By Lori Sebelley, Convention Chair

This convention will take place May 22-26, 2024, and be held at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel in Surrey, BC. The convention will be called Surrey Excursion. Note that it will replace next year's RMMBC.

The Sheraton Guildford is in a central location in the BC Lower Mainland and is conveniently located close to Highway 1 (Trans-Canada) with easy access on and off. There is public transit, many restaurants, and the second largest shopping mall in BC across the street from the hotel. For our visitors arriving from the South, there are at least two direct border crossings, Pacific Highway and Aldergrove. Using either of these will eliminate having to use Peace Arch border crossing, which tends to have the most traffic.

Our blocked preferred hotel guest room rate will be \$165.00 plus taxes per night. There is a grace period of three days either side of the convention dates to receive the preferred rate for anyone wishing to do some exploring. For those guests staying overnight in the hotel, we have negotiated complimentary parking and Wi-Fi for an additional saving of \$25.00 per day. A daily parking fee will be charged for those not staying in the hotel.

All clinic, display/contest, banquet, and non-rail rooms will be located on the second floor of the hotel. Access to all event locations will be provided by conveniently located elevators.

The host committee comprises 7th Division members who are experienced with conventions/events and are working hard to make sure everyone has a great time and learns at least something new. We will be offering a social gathering, self-guided layout tours, contests, displays, AP evaluation, clinics, Modelling with the Masters, operation sessions, a non-rail program, a banquet with a keynote speaker, as well as a raffle. We are working on and hope to be able to have escorted prototype tours and a hands-on project as well.

We have determined a three-tier registration fee for full-fare registration rates as follows.

From	To	Full-Fare Registration
Registration opening	December 31, 2023	\$129.00
January 1, 2024	March 31, 2024	\$149.00
April 1, 2024		\$169.00
Non-rail - \$50.00		
Youth (under 19 years of age) - \$10.00		

Our website and registration will open soon along with a link to the hotel to reserve your room. Please note, all pricing is quoted in Canadian dollars.

Hope to see you all there.





Vancouver Train Expo 2023 Update

By Tom Lundgren, Leader, Vancouver Train Expo

Planning for Vancouver Train Expo 2023 continues. We are busy working to identify suppliers and to finalize the budget. The Forum at the Pacific National Exhibition has been reserved for November 3rd to 5th. Setup will be on Friday November 3rd, with the event open to the public on 4th and 5th.

A recent canvas of previous vendors and exhibitors has elicited a very good response so it looks like we will not have a problem filling the venue.

We have one new recruit to the Organizing Committee, which is a very positive development.

We are still looking for some enthusiastic people to act as assistants to members of the Organizing Committee, and we will be seeking event day volunteers, many volunteers. If you are at all interested, please contact me at: chairman@vancouvertrainexpo.ca.

The Modeller's Bookshelf

The Connaught Tunnel's Story Told in Depth

by Les Bucher

I have read and reviewed earlier volumes in the "Canadian Pacific Railway on the Revelstoke Division" series of books written by 7th Divisioner Douglas Mayer and published by the Revelstoke Railway Museum. "Volume Six – The Connaught Tunnel – 106 Years of Service" is the latest book in the series.

Although the book's pages are the same size as earlier volumes, there are a lot more of them (104 in all) and the book is wire bound instead of being stapled. The format inside is also the same as earlier volumes, with large photos, plans or maps on most pages. Most importantly, the book is entirely focussed on the Connaught Tunnel, the CPR's first tunnel under Roger's Pass, instead of the more broadly based contents of the other volumes.



The book is written in chronological order, starting with problems with the line over Roger's Pass, the tunnel design and construction, tunnel operations during various periods, events (such as floods and fires), and changes made over the years. I particularly found interesting the discussion of the pioneer tunnel construction method, the tunnel ventilation system, the consideration given to electric locomotives, and a discussion of a strange incident when a train stalled in the tunnel without the engine crew knowing and ended up becoming stuck due to depressions it had melted in the rails. I also loved the many photos of the tunnel in operation, detailed information such as the track plans for Glacier, and obscure bits of information such as the operational dates of the covered turntable that used to exist in Glacier.

The book is well written and easy to read, with lots of clearly printed and interesting images. Mr. Mayer's research is extensive, and the coverage detail is impressive. No doubt some readers would find that this book contains a bit more than they want to know about the tunnel, but the depth of information suited me fine.

I strongly recommend this book for anyone modelling the CPR or interested in CPR history, as well as for readers with a fairly detailed interest in more general railway history or operation. It can be purchased for \$35 from the Revelstoke Railway Museum gift shop or their website at www.railwaymuseum.com, and can occasionally be found at other locations.

Addendum

7th Division Club Directory

By Rob England and contributors

In the January/February issue, the Bulletin Board published a directory of railway modelling clubs within the 7th Division. As that directory was obviously incomplete and contained errors, a request was made to the membership for corrections and additional information. Over the past four months I've received corrected information on one club (Golden City Railway Modellers) and have had five more clubs identified for inclusion. This new information is listed below. The directory is, without doubt, still incomplete and incorrect in places, but, given the difficulty of getting more information, there are no plans to publish another addendum.

The clubs are listed first by geographical area (yellow background) and then alphabetically by club name.

Vancouver Island

Vancouver Island Garden Railway Club

Membership: [no information]

Layout: [There is no mention on the website of a club-owned layout]

Club Description: The club has a website <https://vigardenrailwayclub.com/> and a [Facebook page](#). They both contain a lot of pictures and videos of people running garden railway equipment, but little on club events or on the club itself.

Contact: There is a contact form on the website and an [email address](#) for getting information on becoming a member.

Vancouver Island Model Engineers, Central Saanich

Membership: The club is actively recruiting additional members.

Layout: The club has a large outdoor multi-gauge layout located next to Highway 17 between Victoria and Sidney. It is open to the public two or more weekends a month between May and October.

Club Description: The club is dedicated to Model Engineering in all forms. While most club members have an interest in railways this is not true of all, and many members model other items such as boats and various types of engines. The club operates a miniature railway where the public can enjoy rides on published dates and members can get experience in these operations and the pleasure of seeing others having fun. The club has a website at <https://vime.ca/> with a large display of photos and videos.

Contact: There is a contact form on the website.

Lower Mainland

British Columbia Society of Model Engineers, Burnaby

Membership: The club is actively recruiting additional members, with diverse skills welcome. Members should be 14 years or older.

Layout: The club has an outdoor layout (the Burnaby Central Railway) consisting of four kilometres of 7.5 inch gauge track located in a wooded area at the north end of Willingdon Street in Burnaby. There is also a smaller layout of garden-railway track.

Club Description: The club was established in 1929. It uses its layout to provide rides for the general public as well as providing a space for members to run their own locomotives. The club layout is open to the public 11:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturdays, Sundays, and statutory holidays from Easter to Thanksgiving. Members also promote the hobby of model engineering and maintain a railroad-oriented museum. The club's website is at www.bcsme.org.

Contact: The club can be contacted at info@bcsme.org or by a contact form on the club website.

Canadian Toy Train Association, Burnaby

Membership: The club has over 200 members distributed across Canada but concentrated in the Vancouver area.

Layout: The club has a couple of modular layouts it takes to train shows.

Club Description: The club is focussed on collectible O gauge, S gauge and Standard gauge model trains. The club has nine meetings a year at a community centre in Burnaby, as well as numerous events during the year. It has a website at: www.canadiantoytrains.org and publishes a monthly newsletter called "Canadian Flyer" that is available on the website.

Contact: There is a contact form on the website.

There is also a Vancouver area club called the Top Link Model Railway Association that is focused on British railway models. It has displayed layouts in many lower mainland train shows and currently has a display at the BC Society of Model Engineers scheduled for June 11-12, 2023, so it is active. However, I have not received any information on this club, nor been able to find a contact, nor locate an online presence.

Okanagan

Kettle Valley Model Railway Club, Penticton

Membership: The club currently has 12 members. New members are always welcome, and there are no restrictions on who may join.

Layout: The club's layout is located inside the S.S. Sicamous paddlewheeler on the shore of Okanagan Lake in Penticton, BC. The ship is open to the public from May to October, 7 days a week, with a \$10 admission charge. The layout represents the Kettle Valley Railway in 1958. It is in HO scale with 200 metres of track on the upper mainline and 150 metres of track on the lower mainline.

Club Description: The club is a part of the S.S. Sicamous Marine Heritage Society. The club's website is at www.kvmrc.com. and the related SS Sicamous website is at www.ssicamous.ca. They contain extensive information on the CPR and the KVR, as well as photos and videos of the layout.

Contact: The club chair is Jim Rice, reachable at (250) 213-6968 or admin@kvmrc.com

Kootenays

Golden City Railway Modellers, Trail

Membership: There are currently 19 members in the club. The club is open to new members.

Layout: The club's layout is located at Waneta Plaza Mall between Trail and Fruitvale. The layout is open for public viewing every Saturday between 10:00 am and 3:30 pm. The layout is transportable and has been taken to several shows.

Club Description: The club's layout is a modular railway model of Rossland that depicts the numerous mines, railways and buildings over a time period from the late 1890's to the mid 1950's. Each module focuses on a different time and part of Rossland, so the viewer gets a good sense of the history of the railways, mines and City of Rossland. The club has recently completed an upgrade to the layout to support future expansion and conversion to Free-Mo standards. The planned expansion will support modelling Trail, Castlegar, and Nelson, as well as improving operations.

Contact: Don Young at fdyoung@telus.net or John Ruder at frjohnwr@gmail.com

7th Division Time Table



The following events are coming up and may be of interest to 7th Division members. Check out the identified website for more information.

May 10-14, 2023 – **PNR Regional Convention: Prairie Line Experience** – Tacoma, Washington. See the meet website: www.pnrtacoma2023.org for more details.

May 26-28, 2023 – **Railway Modellers' Meet of BC (RMMBC) 2023** – BC's top meet for railway modellers will be back this spring. This year there are two evenings (May 4 and 18) of virtual content, followed by three days of in-person events at SFU. More information is available on page 4 or the [RMMBC website](#).

June 30, 2023 – **Central Hobbies Retirement Party** – The BC Society of Model Engineers is putting on a BBQ to thank Hal, Kathy and Bill for their years of service to the hobby as the owner and staff of Central Hobbies, a soon-to-close hobby shop in Vancouver. All friends and customers are invited. See the next page for details.

September 24, 2023 – **Victoria Model Railway Show** – Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Ave., Sidney (corner of Highway 17 and Beacon Ave.). Operating model railways and displays, commercial and individual sales. Free parking. Open 10 am to 4 pm. (No website)

October 7-8, 2023 – **Lynden Model Train Show** – Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, Washington, USA – A great local show just a ten minute drive south of the Aldergrove border crossing. See the website for more details: <https://lyndentrainshow.com>.

November 4-5, 2023 – The **Vancouver Train Expo (VTEX)** is back! For more information check out the article on page 6 or the VTEX website www.vancouvertrainexpo.ca. In particular, check out the call for volunteers – there are some great opportunities!

If you are organizing or helping with an event, or even just know of an event that you think other 7th Division members would like to know about, send an email to the [Bulletin Board Editor](#) describing it.



CENTRAL HOBBIES

Retirement Party, Friday - June 30, 2023

From 2:00 PM to Dusk

120 N. Willingdon, Burnaby, BC



Hosted by

BURNABY CENTRAL RAILWAY

proudly built and operated by

BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY OF MODEL ENGINEERS

The Burnaby Central Railway invites Central Hobbies customers and friends to a retirement party to thank Hal, Kathy & Bill for their many excellent years serving our model railway community.

A BBQ burger or smokie dinner will be served from 5:00 to 6:30 PM for \$20.00 per person (pre-ordering required). The BBQ will be available for those wishing to grill their own dinner.

RSVP required by June 25th to:

library@bcsme.org

with number attending and meals needed

The BCSME Garden Railway will be open, guests are welcome to bring an O or G Gauge train to run.

Notices and Contacts

The Bulletin Board is the official publication of the 7th Division of the Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, Canada. Note that the views and opinions stated in the Bulletin Board do not necessarily reflect those of the NMRA or its regions or divisions. Bulletin Board contents are protected by copyright and may only be copied or republished with permission.

The Bulletin Board has five issues per year: January/February, March/April, May/June, September/October, and November/December. Each issue is published around the start of the issue period. Publication means the Bulletin Board is available for download from the 7th Division website. Members will be notified by email when the download is ready. In exceptional circumstances, such as Internet unavailability or medical conditions, the 7th Division may agree to distribute paper copies to affected members.

The PNR 7th Division maintains a list of members that includes postal and e-mail addresses and phone numbers. If you move or change your internet service provider or in any other way cause your contact details to change PLEASE contact the [Membership Coordinator](#) to provide the new information. If you fail to do this we will lose contact with you and you will miss out on 7th Division benefits. Note that the member list is held in strict privacy.

Your comments and opinions on this publication are always welcome. As well, contributions of letters, articles, event news, plans, photographs and art are strongly encouraged and welcomed. All should be sent to the [Bulletin Board Editor](#). A phone call or email to the editor beforehand is advised if you are thinking of submitting something large or complex. The deadline for submission is two weeks prior to publication but this is somewhat flexible according to circumstances.

ADVERTISING in the Bulletin Board is accepted at reasonable rates. Please contact the [Bulletin Board Editor](#) for more details.

The following is a shortened list of division volunteers. A complete list that includes additional appointed positions as well as all area representatives is available on the [7th Division website](#).

Superintendent	Victor Gilbert	604-708-4161 (Vancouver)	victor@sugarwood.info
Assistant Superintendent	Tim Horton	604-785-2860 (North Vancouver)	thorton@telus.net
Secretary	Randy Nussli	250-380-6814 (Victoria)	7thdivsec@gmail.com
Treasurer	Larry Sebelley	604-858-5717 (Chilliwack)	sebelley@shaw.ca
Director at Large	Ken Rutherford	250-724-4698 (Port Alberni)	kj.rutherford@shaw.ca
Membership Coordinator (Position open)		604-708-4161 (Vancouver)	victor@sugarwood.info
Webmaster	(Position open)	604-708-4161 (Vancouver)	webmaster@7divpnr.ca
Bulletin Board Editor	Rob England	250-629-2006 (Pender Island)	r.England@computer.org
Achievement Program Coordinator	Mike Chandler, MMR	604-526-5078 (New Westminster)	mikado1@telus.net
Modeller's Help Desk	Mike Barone	250-367-6134 (Fruitvale)	fmikebarone@gmail.com
Publicity Coordinator	Dick Sutcliffe (still)	604-467-4301 (Maple Ridge)	ras1@uniserve.com