



## Better Environmentally Sound Transportation e-News October 2012

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### MEC Club Night Announced

[BEST](#) is pleased to be participating in another [MEC Club Night](#). On **Wednesday, November 7**, from 7 pm to 9 pm BEST members will receive 10% off all regularly priced items purchased that evening at MEC Vancouver, 130 West Broadway – and that includes bikes and boats.

To attend MEC Club Night, please RSVP to [margaret.miller@best.bc.ca](mailto:margaret.miller@best.bc.ca).

Participants must be a member of BEST and Mountain Equipment Co-op in order to make a purchase. If you are not yet a member of BEST, you may [join online now](#) or contact our office at 604 669 2860. If you are not yet a member of MEC, you may purchase a \$5.00 membership that evening.

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### Winding Down and Wrapping Up The Bicycle Valet

[The Bicycle Valet](#) was at one of the biggest events of the year, Voices In the Park, on September 15. The weather was gorgeous and our patrons and many volunteers had an awesome day. A special thanks to [Brand.LIVE](#) and the [Sarah McLachlan School of Music](#) for their continued support of sustainable transportation.

Our season is slowing down but we are looking forward to two more Whitecaps games and to the wonderful [Apple Festival](#) at UBC. And of course we will be at the remaining Trout Lake and Kitsilano [Farmers Markets](#).

To celebrate our volunteers we will be having a Legendary Wrap-Up Party at The Whip restaurant on Tuesday, October 23.

In September The Bicycle Valet participated in a [Net Impact / enterprising non-profits](#) Live Case Study event. Margaret Mahan, BEST's Executive Director, Steve Beck and Stephanie Williams presented their business challenge as a social enterprise: "How can The Bicycle Valet increase its profitability?" Lots of good ideas and some great discussion emanated from this event and we would like to thank the organizers and participants.

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*Voices In the Park on September 15 was a massive event for The Bicycle Valet. Thank you to all of the volunteers who stayed through the day!*

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## STAR Training Event October 12

The [STAR](#) team is presenting a day-long workshop designed explicitly for seniors-serving agencies entitled **Introduction to Social Enterprise and Seniors Transportation**.

Because funding models are changing and we can't rely on government funding for seniors transportation, seniors-serving agencies need to find new ways to generate funds. This workshop will discuss different business models and ways to move forward in this environment.

The workshop takes place on Friday, October 12 from 9:00-5:00 pm at the YWCA Hotel, 733 Beattie Street, Vancouver. Lunch is provided.

Further information and a detailed agenda are available on the [STAR website](#).

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## Living Streets Underway

The Living Streets program is up and running for another engaging year.

Presentations to multiple community groups provide an overview of how greenhouse gases are linked to transportation and how our chosen means of transportation then influence our lifestyles and overall health. Topics covered include traffic calming, walkability, healthy communities, and encourage citizen engagement.

Street audits are then completed by interested residents of Surrey with results being shared with City of Surrey staff at a charrette event early in 2013.

BEST will be working with multiple settlement service agencies in Surrey in order to engage new Canadian residents in their communities in a hands-on way. The intention is to present audit results from people of all backgrounds and abilities and to work with a variety of groups from across Surrey.

If you, or a group you are involved with, is interested in participating in the Living Streets program please contact Beth Hurford at



beth.hurford@best.bc.ca.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia, RBC Foundation and the City of Surrey.

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## TransLink Base Plan and Outlook Needs Citizen Feedback

The TransLink draft [2013 Base Plan and Outlook](#) is now available. The Plan outlines strategic initiatives, transportation programs and services that TransLink intends to deliver between 2013 and 2015 using their current very limited revenue sources.

**Citizens are encouraged to [provide feedback](#) on what's included in the plan from September 20 to October 12.**

The Plan will then go to the TransLink Board of Directors for approval and review by the Regional Transportation Commissioner.

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Thanks for reading!

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