



## Better Environmentally Sound Transportation e-News December 2012

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#### Did you know?

**BEST is a registered Charity and donations are tax deductible.**



Thanks for reading our newsletter.

Thank You to our  
Partners & Sponsors:

### Donate your car to BEST!

Are you looking for a way to help BEST? Do you want to financially support our work to create sustainable transportation solutions through innovative programs like [The Bicycle Valet](#), [STAR](#), [Living Streets](#) and [Commuter Challenge](#)?

Why not donate your car to our **new Car Donation Program**? Donating your car takes away the hassle of selling your car yourself and you will receive a tax deductible receipt for the market value of your car. Just think -- you could start 2013 car free!

**And there are other ways to give.** You may want to become a [BEST Friend](#) with an on-going tax deductible monthly donation. Or you may want to make a one-time tax deductible [donation](#) for \$25, \$50, \$75, or more.

Thank you for your support. We are happy you are here with us to build a healthy livable region!

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### Living Streets takes off in Surrey

BEST's [Living Streets](#) program was on the go all around Surrey throughout the month of November.

From all of our presentations and workshops have come some very keen volunteers and great audit results that will surely help make Surrey streets more walkable and vibrant! Participating groups included Parent Advisory Councils, Fraserview Youth Activity Nights, Lower Mainland Green Team, Fraser Heights Secondary School Environmental Club, Surrey Libraries Teen Advisory Groups (City Centre, Guildford, and Fleetwood Libraries), YMCA Youth Leadership Development Programs, and HUB's Surrey Chapter.

We would like to welcome our awesome new Living Streets volunteer, **Edward Houghland**. Edward will be providing a helping hand for remaining Living Streets events this year including Semiahmoo Teen Advisory Group, DiverseCity's Youth Intergration Program, and our very own Living Streets event being hosted at City Centre Library on December 4 from 7-8pm in Room 418. If you would like to see what Living Streets is all about, we would love to see you there!

For additional information about Living Streets, or to attend the December 4 event please contact Beth Hurford – Living Streets Program Coordinator ([beth.hurford@best.bc.ca](mailto:beth.hurford@best.bc.ca)).

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Beth Hurford (centre) and Edward Houghland (front left) with a group of fantastic Lower Mainland Green Team volunteers ready to set out to complete street audits in the Guildford area of Surrey, November 17, 2012. Photo courtesy of Lyda from Lower Mainland Green Team.

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### Complete our Bicycle Valet survey and win!

The Bicycle Valet is on a winter hiatus, busily planning for next year and exploring ways to make sustainable transportation more available. Please help us improve and be at more events! Many of you have already filled out our [survey](#) but the more results we get the better. Give us two minutes of your time to complete the survey and you will be entered to win one of two excellent prizes: an Arcteryx Fleece Jacket or an Icebreaker Merino Wool long sleeve shirt!

Thank you from The Bicycle Valet!



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### Port Mann Bridge gets a bus!

For the first time in twenty years there will be bus service over the Port Mann Bridge.

TransLink has announced details of the **#555 Port Mann Express** that begins service on Saturday, December 1. The bus will run over the new Port Mann Bridge between the Carvolth Transit Exchange and Park and Ride on 202<sup>nd</sup> Street in Langley and Braid SkyTrain Station in New Westminster.

This route is expected to generate 3,000 to 4,000 boardings per day.

For further information on this new route, including options for connecting to the new #555 service, visit the TransLink [website](#).

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### All Aboard the Santa Train!

On Saturday December 8 and Saturday December 15 the [West Coast Express Santa Train](#) will be once again offering free rides to passengers in return for new, unwrapped toys.

Now in its sixteenth year, the Santa Train collects toys on behalf of the Christmas bureaus throughout the communities served by the West Coast Express. Last year, the Santa Train



collected more than 3,900 toys and \$1,260 in cash donations.

Riders need to bring a new, unwrapped toy to any West Coast Express Station on either December 8 or December 15. In exchange, you will receive a same-day return ticket for the West Coast Express.

Santa will be on board the morning train to Waterfront Station to visit with passengers (bring your kids!), and he can be found on the West Coast Express concourse at Waterfront Station in the afternoon (3-4 p.m.) for photos.

West Coast Express is also supporting a Food Drive in the northeast sector by collecting non-perishable food donations at any of its stations from December 8 to December 15.



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Better Environmentally Sound Transportation Association (BEST)  
209 - 175 East Broadway  
Vancouver, British Columbia V5T 1W2  
CA

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