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Support Sustainable Transportation in the BC Election!

Join British Columbians from all across the province in celebrating your freedom to move and exercising your right to choose. The Bike to Vote movement encourages voters to ride your bikes to the polling stations as a positive and direct way to raise the profile of sustainable transportation issues in the upcoming election!

How do you participate? It's simple!

- Sign the pledge at <http://biketovote.ca> and tell your friends you're riding to the polls
- Take a picture with the [Bike to Vote](#) poster. Share it using the #biketovote hashtag and join the conversation via social media!
- Organize your own election ride to the polls or join an existing one! Check out <http://biketovote.ca> to find out what's going on in your area!
- Most of all, vote! Have your say in the future of BC!

Website <http://www.biketovote.ca> | Twitter [@biketovote](#) & #biketovote
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Transportation and the Election

On April 18 the Next Generation Transportation Forum was hosted by SFU's Centre for Dialogue and Carbon Talks. Jane Sterk (Greens), Harry Bains (NDP), Mark Polak (Liberals), and Duane Nickull (Conservatives) presented their parties' positions on a range of transportation issues and responded to questions from the audience. If you missed the forum you can view it in full [here](#).



Join the BC Cycling Coalition on May 2 at SFU Harbour Centre 12:30-2:00 p.m. for a panel discussion about the significant long term health, economic and environmental benefits that cycling investment could bring to BC. Panelists will discuss the [Cycling Strategy for BC](#) and the significant cycling infrastructure and safety education improvements that are needed to realize these benefits.

Participants can RSVP for this free event via Eventbrite: <http://seriouscashforcycling.eventbrite.ca/>
For more info about the [Cycling Strategy for BC](#) and how you can show your support, visit <http://bccc.bc.ca/election>.

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Help us choose the new Living Streets logo

BEST's [Living Streets](#) program is getting a logo!

Over the past year Living Streets grew by leaps and bounds and we realized it was high time we had a logo that expresses the lively, innovative, fun feeling of the program. Fortunately we have an amazing volunteer working with us right now – Kent Hu, a student at Emily Carr – and he has created three fantastic designs for us to choose from.

Before making our final decision we thought we would show Kent's designs to our readers and get your opinions.

So here are the three designs:

Which one do you like?

1



2



3



To vote, please visit us on [Facebook](#) or email margaret.miller@best.bc.ca. Thanks for participating!

... By the way, Living Streets will be at [Surrey's Environmental Extravaganza](#): Saturday, May 11, 1-3:30, Semiahmoo Library Meeting Room, 1815 - 52nd Street, and Thursday, May 30, 6-8:30 pm, City Centre Library, Room 418, 10350 University Drive.

Participants will learn about current challenges facing Surrey streets and will share their perspectives through an interactive street audit exercise. For more information please email beth.hurford@best.bc.ca. Program registration is appreciated but drop-ins are welcome.

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BEST participates in Youth Sustainability Summit

BEST Living Streets Coordinator Beth Hurford will be attending Leading the Way - Youth Summit on Sustainable Transportation, to be held on May 10-12 at the University of Calgary.

At the summit youth aged 18 - 28 years from B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon Nunavut and Northwest Territories with a keen interest in transit and sustainable transportation will meet to:

- learn about regional transit and sustainable transportation issues and opportunities;
- get the tools needed to be effective advocates and leaders in their own communities;

- share ideas and network with like-minded peers and professionals in transit and related industries; and
- explore career possibilities in public transit and other sustainable transportation fields.

More information on the summit is available [here](#).

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Commuter Challenge: The Countdown is on!

Only 5 weeks left until the [BC Commuter Challenge](#)!

Thanks to [Modo the Car Co-op](#) for once again supporting the BC Commuter Challenge as Silver Sponsor! We love sharing, especially car-sharing! We'd also like to thank [Century Group](#) for their continued support of the Challenge!

We've got some great prizes in store for all you commuters this year, including a wide range of tickets for transit, commuter ferries, comedy shows, plus merino wool clothing, books, gift cards and more! We'd also like to invite all BC Commuter Challenge participants to our Wrap Up Party on June 17 at the YWCA hotel downtown. Details TBA!

Also in May we'll be doing a fun social media campaign, with a different sustainable commuting tip every week day. Have a tip that makes your sustainable commute a little easier? Share it with us on Facebook and Twitter. We'll be using the hashtag #CommutingTip for the posts.

And if you're planning on riding your bike during the Commuter Challenge, you should also check out [HUB's Bike to Work Week](#) in Metro Vancouver. Another week, more prizes, more sustainable commuting. What more could you ask for?

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The Bicycle Valet back at the Vancouver Farmers Markets

Back by popular demand, [The Bicycle Valet](#) is returning to the Trout Lake and Kitsilano Farmers Markets.

Trout Lake runs from 9:00am-2:00pm every Saturday, from May 11 to October 19, and is located at John Hendry Park in the parking lot. We will be set up just west of the parking lot, on the lovely grass. Kitsilano Market runs from 10:00am-2:00pm in the parking lot of the Kitsilano Community Centre, and you can find us right off 10th Ave bikeway at the north end of the parking lot.

We would love to see you there, and we'd also love it if you want to help out! We're looking for volunteers for both markets, to join our super star team! Contact Stephanie.williams@best.bc.ca to sign up!

And if you would like to volunteer for the markets, or any other event, sign up for our upcoming training event on Monday, May 6 at 6:00pm at the Granville Island Picnic Pavilion. Sign up here: <http://www.doodle.com/kg5wmtcb986m3vb3>

Three cheers for sustainable food and sustainable transportation!



Look how busy it is!

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AGM Report

The BEST Annual General Meeting was held on April 10, 2013 in Vancouver. Clarissa Tehrani, Board Chair, and Marg Mahan, Executive Director, reviewed the progress made by BEST over the past year towards its goal of advancing sustainable transportation, highlighting the successes in STAR, The Bicycle Valet, Living Streets, and Commuter Challenge.

Our special presenter, Claire Havens, spoke on the [SFU Centre for Dialogue's](#) innovative [Carbon Talks](#) program. Carbon Talk's goal is to determine the public acceptability of the various funding options for maintaining transportation infrastructure and expansion, and to advance politically feasible solutions. Developing a sustainable funding regime that has public endorsement will provide a clear path for the province and TransLink.

Thank you to Claire for her informative presentation, and to all the members and guests who participated. We hope to see you all at our next AGM on **May 7, 2014**.



(L to r): Claire Havens from Carbon Talks and Nicole Gordon, Board Vice-Chair



Ken Gauthier, strategic partner from Urban Systems, and Karley Cunningham, marketing guru from Big Bold Brands



Returning Board Member Andrew Devlin and BEST Executive Director Marg Mahan



(L to r): Charissa Tehrani, Board Chair; Blair Fontana and Emily Willobee, Board Members; Marg Mahan, Executive Director; Kate Berniaz, Urban Systems; Beth Hurford, BEST Staff - Living Streets and STAR; Stephanie Williams, BEST Staff - Commuter Challenge and The Bicycle Valet.



(L to r): Charissa Tehrani, Board Chair and Jodie Siu, Board Secretary

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