



Better Environmentally Sound Transportation e-News November 2013

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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:



BEST has moved

BEST has moved down the hall to a new office in the historic Lee Building. Effective November 1, our address is:

#204 – 175 East Broadway
Vancouver BC V5T 1W2

Our phone number remains the same at 604 669 2860.

Everyone is welcome to drop by and see us in our beautiful new digs!

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BEST and HUB join forces for Holiday Open House

We are excited to announce that this year we will be joining forces with HUB for a **Holiday Open House**.

The big event will take place on Wednesday, November 27 from 3-7 p.m. at the Heritage Hall at 3102 Main Street (corner of 15th & Main). We are looking forward to chatting with other members of the sustainable transportation community and sharing in the seasonal cheer!

If you would like to attend please RSVP by November 18 to dinah.steele@best.bc.ca.

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Another stellar season for The Bicycle Valet

Last Sunday at the final Whitecaps FC game, The Bicycle Valet officially wrapped up its 2013 season, and what a season it was! We attended some of the biggest concerts and festivals of the year, tried out waterfront yoga, helped kids bike to school for Earth Day, worked up an appetite at Food Cart Fest and Farmers Markets, and got to hang out with TravelSmart and car2go, our program sponsors. Not a bad year!

As always, here's a numerical recap of the season:

- 22 000 bicycles parked and returned to their owners



United Way
of the Lower Mainland
Community Partner



Vancity



- 0 bicycles lost or stolen
- 130 events serviced
- 120 amazing volunteers
- 10 wonderful staff members
- 12 happy contest winners

We also had a great time celebrating our best season yet at [Mr. Brownstone's](#) on Main Street, with great food, drinks, swag and company!

Thank you to everyone that used our service this year and supported active transportation in Metro Vancouver. It'll be 2014 before we know it, but for now, we rest.



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STAR completes Vehicle Inventory

Over the last several months [STAR](#) Team Member Andrea Sara has contacted agencies across Metro Vancouver with the intention of completing a comprehensive vehicle inventory. The purpose of the inventory was to motivate agencies to form relationships and share resources within their communities in order to make these valuable programs more feasible and to make better use of vehicles that are currently being underutilized. Andrea has done a wonderful job completing the inventory and we are thrilled to be able to share it!

If you would like to take a look through the inventory visit our [homepage](#), where it is proudly posted.

STAR would like to thank each and every agency that took part in the inventory, with special thanks to the [United Way of the Lower Mainland](#) for supporting this project.

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BEST launches annual Winter Fundraising Drive

Over the next few weeks, supporters of BEST will be receiving letters asking for financial support. At BEST, we know that 2014 is going to be a decisive year for Metro Vancouver – a year in which the region decides how its future is going to look. Are we going to strengthen our commitment to vibrant, healthy communities built on an efficient, equitable and environmentally sustainable transportation network? Or are we going to let the achievements and successes of the past wane in the face of inaction?



For supporters of BEST the outcome of the [forthcoming transit referendum](#) in Metro Vancouver is of vital importance. As we have done throughout this organization's history, we want to add a clear and active voice to the conversation. To do this, we need your help.

Your contribution will allow us to not only offer our signature brand of [The Bicycle Valet](#) service at over 150 events throughout the region, returning over 25,000 beloved bicycles to their owners, it will enable us to have an impact on ensuring a positive outcome in this significant referendum.

The benefits of sustainable transportation are being embraced around the globe, and we can't afford to be left behind. To ensure a sustainable future for our region, we need your help (and your vote). We will be asking you to consider the following options:

- Make a one-time tax deductible [donation](#) for \$50, \$100, \$200 or more;
- Become a [BEST Friend](#) with an on-going tax deductible monthly donation of \$10 or more.
- If you are unable to make a financial contribution, we would still appreciate your support in following and promoting our work by joining the conversation on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

And remember: If you are a first-time donor, you may be eligible for the Canada Revenue Agency's new [First Time Donor Super Credit](#).

We thank you in advance for your generous support and for continuing to be part of the movement towards sustainable transportation.

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Wadjda - A movie about a little girl, bicycles, and freedom

Thinking about taking in a movie this weekend? Ride your bike over to the [International Village](#) and check out [Wadjda](#), a new Saudi Arabian film from woman director Haifaa al Mansour. It is great story about a wonderfully rebellious little girl (love the shoes) who is hell bent on getting a sparkly green bike. Who cares that properly demure and devout Saudi girls are forbidden from riding bicycles? While her mother is being dumped by her husband for not producing a boy and her 12-year-old school mates are being married off, Wadjda applies her considerable, subversive, talents to accumulating the money needed to buy the forbidden bicycle.

You go, Wadjda!

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