



Better Environmentally Sound Transportation e-News October 2013

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donations are tax deductible.**



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STAR announces website launch

STAR is pleased to announce the launch of its [new website](#).

BEST's STAR program knows that seniors need ready access to affordable, accessible and convenient rides in order to get where they need to go, when they need to get there. Transportation is a key factor if seniors are to age in place.

The new website explains the program in detail and provides links to a broad range of resources relating to seniors transportation in BC and across Canada. It is designed to help seniors, supported by their families and seniors-serving agencies, remain healthy contributing members in the places they call home.

Please take a look at our new site – we would be delighted to get [your feedback](#).

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The Bicycle Valet has a record shattering year

[The Bicycle Valet](#) is winding down for another season – and it looks like we're heading for a record-breaking year! The final numbers will not be crunched until early November, but we already know that the number of events and patrons were way up in 2013. The gorgeous weather in July and August certainly didn't hurt! Our professional, secure, coat-check style bicycle parking has now become *de rigueur* at events in and around Metro Vancouver – and we couldn't be more delighted!

That being said, the season isn't over yet – in October we look forward to seeing you at Kitsilano and Trout Lake Farmers Markets, the Whitecaps, Edgemont Roll and Stroll, and (that perennial favourite) the UBC Applefest! For information on these events visit our [calendar](#).

Ever wonder what our team members get up to in the off season? Well, they get around. Case in point: On September 7 staff member Aaron set off from Vancouver on a solo bike trip to Mexico. Aaron was working for The Bicycle Valet for the summer and loved it – but as the season drew to a close the open road beckoned and it was time for an adventure. Aaron expects to be in Mexico in early October. Check out Aaron's blog at bici-boy.tumblr.com, or follow him on Twitter @adixon77.



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Moving in a Livable Region prepares citizens for referendum

[Moving in a Livable Region](#) is a new consortium of businesses, organizations (including BEST!), local governments and transportation leaders that is now working together to create a long-term sustainable funding regime for transportation in Metro Vancouver.

The groups says that as the region “is growing by 35,000 people and 17,000 jobs per year and the current transportation network is stressed, we recognize that Metro Vancouver will need to properly fund its transportation system in order to stay nationally and internationally competitive.... A sustainable funding regime for regional transportation will help to grow our economy and maintain a high standard of living for residents.”

The new group is committed to preparing citizens and communities for participation in the upcoming referendum on transportation funding by providing information and resources that help residents to learn more about transportation issues and funding options in the region.

For more information, visit the [Moving in a Livable Region website](#).

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MEC Club Night coming up on October 22

On Tuesday, October 22, 2013 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm [MEC](#) is holding a Club Night at their Vancouver store, 130 West Broadway.

Members of BEST will receive 10% off all regularly-priced items purchased that evening – including bikes and boats! This is a great opportunity to stock up on some excellent MEC gear for the fall and winter.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to margaret.miller@best.bc.ca by October 17.



Participants must be a member of BEST and Mountain Equipment Co-op in order to make a purchase. If you would like to renew your BEST membership or join BEST, go [here](#). If you are not yet a member of MEC, you may purchase a \$5.00 membership that evening.

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BEST announces photo contest

Here at BEST we are looking for the perfect photo to represent active transportation in Metro Vancouver – be it people biking, walking, taking public transit, and/or ride sharing. We thought that as our supporters are out and about in the region using sustainable transportation you would be the perfect people to help us out.

If your picture is chosen not only will you experience a massive flush of pride for having your photo displayed on the cover of BEST's Facebook page (and other BEST sites), you will receive a beautiful prize: a copy of *The Early Architects of British Columbia: Building the West*, compiled and edited by Donald Luxton and published by Talon Books.

Please send your entries to margaret.miller@best.bc.ca by November 30. We know that perfect photo is out there!

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This month: Moving In Metro Community Dialogue

How will Metro Vancouver pay for our transportation system in a way that is fair and transparent and provides for our current and future needs?

This month the SFU Centre for Dialogue is hosting **Moving In Metro**, a series of four regional dialogues with residents to explore one response to this question – mobility pricing. The goal of each session is to increase our understanding of mobility pricing as it applies to roads and to hear citizens' perspectives on its potential role in Metro Vancouver's transportation system.

Four community dialogues will be held throughout Metro Vancouver in October:

October 22 – Surrey (includes Surrey, White Rock, Tsawwassen and Delta)

October 24 – Burnaby (includes New Westminster and the Tri-Cities)

October 28 – Vancouver (includes Richmond, the North Shore, Lions Bay Bowen Island and Electoral Area A)

October 29 – Langley (includes the City and Township of Langley, Pitt and Maple Ridge)

For information about these dialogues and how you can get involved contact ctalks@sfu.ca, 778-782-9622, or visit the [website](#).

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Stay tuned for BEST Winter Fundraising Drive

In November we will launch our annual fundraising drive. This will be your opportunity to financially support BEST's vision of vibrant, healthy communities built around

walking, cycling, public transit and ride/car shares.

More next month ...

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