



**BETTER ENVIRONMENTALLY  
SOUND TRANSPORTATION**  
*moving for change*

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**Did you know?**

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



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**United Way**  
of the Lower Mainland  
Community Partner



STAR is now on  -- Join us!

## B.E.S.T. APRIL NEWSLETTER

### The Commuter Challenge Back For Its 16th Year!

The Commuter Challenge is a great way to help create safe and sustainable communities and to reduce your negative impact on the environment. Last year, nearly 7,000 B.C. employees participated and together reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 74,578 kilograms and saved 32,537 litres of fuel.



From June 3-9, 2012, thousands of employees around BC will use sustainable transportation to commute to work. An easy on-line tracking system allows participants to check their progress. Based on these results, workplaces and individuals can win prizes. This year, employees who regularly commute sustainably can also participate by sharing their favourite commuting story for a chance to win prizes.

There are two ways you can get involved in this year's Commuter Challenge. You can register your workplace and encourage employees to participate in the Challenge.

You can also get involved through company sponsorship. Prizes play a key role in the Challenge because it invites employees to participate.

To get involved, please contact Michelle at [michelle.drewitz@best.bc.ca](mailto:michelle.drewitz@best.bc.ca) or 604-669-2860 ex 211.

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### STAR Advisory Council

On March 7 the inaugural meeting of the STAR Advisory Council was held in the BEST offices. The meeting was a great success and the notes are available on the [STAR website](#).

STAR is now on [Facebook](#). Please join us for up-to-date news and events relating to seniors transportation around the Lower Mainland.



**Seniors Transportation  
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### BEST Annual General Meeting Fast Approaching

The BEST Annual General Meeting takes place on April 11, 2012 from 6:30-8:30 in the upstairs hall of the Ukrainian Orthodox Centre, 154 East 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.



Vancity



In addition to the election of new board members there will be a presentation by Manuel Zahariev on the interface of technology and sustainable transportation. There will also be plenty of opportunities for members to speak with the board and staff and to offer suggestions as to how BEST should move forward in the future. Our friends at [Bikes for All](#) are providing a bike as a door prize and there will be food and goodies.

This is a members-only event but there will be the opportunity to join BEST at the meeting.

If you intend to come to the AGM please RSVP by **April 4** by calling 604-669-2860 or emailing [margaret.miller@best.bc.ca](mailto:margaret.miller@best.bc.ca).

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### Just Announced: MEC Club Night

Date: Tuesday May 22, 2012, 7:00 pm

Location: [MEC Vancouver](#), 130 West Broadway

BEST members receive 10% off all items purchased that evening -- and 5% off boats! This offer applies to items that are in stock and purchased through the tills that evening, so it is a great opportunity to come out and stock up on some fabulous MEC gear for the summer.

To attend, please RSVP by May 17 to [margaret.miller@best.bc.ca](mailto:margaret.miller@best.bc.ca).

In addition to being a member of BEST, participants must be a member of Mountain Equipment Co-op in order to make a purchase. If you are not yet a member, you may purchase a \$5.00 membership that evening.

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### The Bicycle Valet Begins Another Great Season

[The Bicycle Valet](#) is off to a great start. In March we provided our safe, secure, attended bicycle parking at the first two Whitecap games of the season and the Arcteryx Tent Sale. For April we have already lined up two more Whitecaps games, the Sun Run, the Projecting Change Film Festival, the Earth Day Parade, and the Party for the Planet. Keep an eye on the Bicycle Valet page for information on these [events](#) and new events as they are booked.

If you are interested in sponsoring or scheduling a Bicycle Valet event contact Steve at [steven.beck@best.bc.ca](mailto:steven.beck@best.bc.ca), 604-669-2860 ext 208.

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### Be a Transit Hero!

BC Transit's new [Transit Hero](#) program celebrates everyday transit hero stories. Submit your story in writing, by audio, or video and they will be shared on the Transit Hero website.

BC Transit is offering some really great prizes to Transit Heroes; and of course when you use different ways to get around, you are rewarded with better health, more spare cash and a healthier environment!

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Thanks for reading!



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