



[Vote for the BEST Beer Ever!](#)



November 2014



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Dear Readers,

This month we are pleased to introduce a new smartphone-friendly format for our newsletter, designed with the able help of volunteer Anna Moorhouse. To enhance our new look we are featuring a painting created by Arthur Orsini to celebrate the opening of the Central Valley Greenway, which BEST played a big part in developing. BEST has been actively involved in creating communities around walking, cycling, public transit, and car sharing since forming in 1991 and we're still going strong with our innovative programs that encourage and enable sustainable modes of transportation – The Bicycle Valet, STAR, Living Streets, and Commuter Challenge. Read what we've been up to (**and this month that includes [BEER!](#)**), in our new improved newsletter!

Help Phillips and BEST Brew the *best* Beer ever!



Great news! BEST has been selected as a finalist in the 2014 [Phillips Benefit Brew contest](#)! This is an honour in and of itself and has had our offices buzzing since we heard the news! We're excited to be able to fill you in and will need all the support we can get throughout November 3-17th!

What: The Phillips Benefit Brew contest, established in 2011, was championed by Phillips Brewing of Victoria, BC in order to celebrate one deserving charitable organization each year. The winning charity receives a signature craft beer named after their cause, a celebratory launch party, and will be granted 100% of proceeds from the sale of the beer! That usually amounts to at least \$10,000.00!

How: How can you help? **Starting TODAY until November 17th 2014** you can nominate BEST by voting once daily (from every device you have) throughout the two week period at <http://benefitbrew.com/>. The charity with the most number of votes wins, so it's up to BEST's friends and supporters, patrons and volunteers, members and staff to get the word out and vote as often as possible!

- Share our links! – We need your help to spread the word as far and wide as possible!
 - Facebook- Share our most recent Facebook Post with your friends to encourage them to vote and spread the word! Or tag us in a post, such as:
 - [Better Environmentally Sound Transportation](#) has been chosen as a top 10 finalist to have their own beer brewed and sold by [Phillips Brewing](#), and will get 100% of the proceeds if they win! Vote now and once a day until Nov. 17 to make the BEST BEER EVER become a reality!
 - Tweet- RT, MT, any tweets help! Here are a couple of suggestions
 - Help [@BESTmobility](#) and [@TheBicycleValet](#) get their own beer and proceeds from [@phillipsbeer](#)! Vote here: <http://benefitbrew.com/#bikeyvr>
 - Help make the BEST beer become a reality! Vote for [@BESTmobility](#) and [@TheBicycleValet](#) for [@phillipsbeer](#) #benefitbrew: <http://benefitbrew.com/>
 - Love [@TheBicycleValet](#) & beer? How great would a Bicycle Valet BEER be? Vote 4 [@BESTmobility](#) to get their own brew: <http://benefitbrew.com/>

When: Voting starts **TODAY** and lasts until November 17th with the winning organization announced shortly thereafter. The signature beer is brewed in December and released in January and will be available to purchase throughout the Vancouver and Victoria regions for as long as quantities last!

With your help BEST could win up to \$10,000 and, more importantly, **YOU could be drinking a tasty brew named after your favourite sustainable transportation organization!** And, as we've seen from recent trends, what could go better together than bikes and beers?!

What type of beer?

Phillips asked what kind of beer our organization would be, and we knew immediately: a saison. As in season, in French. As in a beer that was originally brewed in the cold winter months for consumption in the hot summer after long days working outside. As in, every summer at BEST, as our staff and volunteers run bicycles back and forth at The Bicycle Valet in the hot summer sun at over 170 events in Metro Vancouver, and some of us choosing to cool down with a refreshing local brew (after our shifts end of

course!). Yup, summer beers and bicycles define the season for us. **The Bicycle Valet Saison** sure has a ring, doesn't it?

VOTE NOW AND SPREAD THE WORD, AND MAKE THE BEST BEER EVER BECOME A REALITY!

STAR at launch of The Bus Co-op



One of the brand spanking new buses available through The Bus Co-op

BEST's [STAR](#) program was delighted to be at the official launch of [The Bus Co-op](#) on October 15 in Langley.

The Bus Co-op is the first bus sharing co-operative in North America, and the first transportation co-op in Canada to focus on serving the elderly. It owns a fleet of buses which member agencies can use to provide rides to their constituents - which means that instead of owning a bus that sits idle much of the time, agencies have access to buses in a variety of sizes to suit their particular needs. Agencies buy a membership share and in return have access to buses that are maintained, insured and fueled by the co-operative. The bus ownership burden is taken off seniors' agencies and enables a more efficient use of resources, while increasing access to transportation and supporting seniors to be active and participate in activities in their community.

STAR will provide management and administration for The Bus Co-op, and MODO The Car Co-op is providing fleet management services. Financial support comes from Vancity and TransLink.



*Celebrating at The Bus Co-op launch:
(l to r) Steve Beck (BEST-STAR Executive Administrator),
Janice McTaggart (The Bus Co-op Board President and
Director of Outreach and Volunteer Services, LSRS),
and Marty Frost (Co-op Developer)*

The three founding agencies of The Bus Co-op are The Langley Seniors' Resource Society, The Langley Care Society, and Magnolia Gardens. The Bus Co-op is currently looking for seniors' agencies in the Langley area to join the transportation network and hopes to expand into White Rock and Surrey within the next few years.

More information on The Bus Co-op is available at 604-440-6222, info@busco-op.com, and at their website: <http://busco-op.com>. To view more photos of the launch, go [here](#).

The Bicycle Valet season winding down



It was a beautiful day to bike to the UBC Apple Fest

[The Bicycle Valet](#)'s record-breaking 2014 season is coming to an end – but it isn't over yet! Next month we will be publishing our annual By the Numbers feature, but for now we have some announcements.

On November 30 we are delighted to be valeting at the Grey Cup – a first for The Bicycle Valet. Thanks to TravelSmart, we'll be set up for the biggest game of the CFL season, at BC Place. Please note that due to construction, we may be moving to a new (and better) location, Gate C. Stay tuned on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates.

For the first time, we will also be in Port Coquitlam on November 16 for the 15th Annual Hyde Creek Salmon Festival, presented by the Hyde Creek Watershed Society. This great community and family event is a lot of fun – we hope to see you there!

We also wanted to wish the Whitecaps congratulations on a very successful season both on the field and off - we hit a record of 235 bikes on August 10 - a 40% increase from last year! Thanks for riding everyone and to the Whitecaps for supporting active transportation!

Keep on cycling!

BEST and HUB join forces for Holiday Party!



It's getting to be that time of year again ... the Holiday Season is soon upon us!! This year BEST is teaming up again with [HUB](#) to throw a cycling and sustainable transportation themed holiday party, with celebrations taking place on Monday December 15th at The Heritage Hall on Main Street.

This year both organizations are celebrating numerical milestones, with the Bicycle Valet parking its [100,000th bike](#) since 2006 and HUB celebrating [over 10,000 first-time riders](#) since bike to work week's inception in 2007!

Both organizations have visions of a future in which readily accessible sustainable transportation alternatives are an intrinsic part of healthy, vibrant communities throughout the Lower Mainland, so it's only fitting that we join forces once more in celebratory solidarity!

If you are interested in attending what is sure to be the best sustainable transportation themed holiday party around please contact Dinah Steele at dinah.steele@best.bc.ca to inquire about becoming a member!

BEST launches fundraising drive

Over the next few weeks, supporters of BEST will be receiving letters asking for financial support. At BEST, we have had a phenomenal year extending the reach and scope of programs including The Bicycle Valet seeing its 100,000th bike parked as well as our STAR program which has joined forces in support of the Langley Bus Co-op.

At the end of this year many Lower Mainland municipalities will have undergone an election, and thusly it will be interesting to see how, moving forward into 2015, the region decides the nature of its future. Will mayors and councils, constituents and community leaders 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?

In order to continue to have a strong voice in favour of sustainable transportation initiatives for all people, of all ages we need your support going into the next fiscal year.

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 expand these services to both offer the program in other regions, such as Victoria BC!) and to offer the program in a more semi-permanent way seasonally (think Granville Island!).

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](#).

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

Your input needed: BC Govt Transportation Survey

The Government of BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is calling for citizens' input in developing a 10-year Transportation Plan. In order to ensure that issues that are important to people from around the province are included in the process they have posted an on-line survey. The results of the survey will be included along with technical information when the plan is developed.

To complete the survey visit [here](#).

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



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Thank you for your continued interest in BEST!

Our Mission:

To advance the transformation to sustainable transportation

Our Vision:

Vibrant, healthy communities built around sustainable modes of transportation

As Canada's new [Anti-Spam Legislation](#) came into effect July 1st 2014, we are in the process of updating our mailing lists and documenting subscriber consent. We currently send you electronic communications that you have opted into in the past, or because you have participated in one of our events, utilized our services, or supported us in some way. We will continue to send you news and updates about our organization, but please note that you are free to unsubscribe at any time. If you would like to give us your permanent (until you unsubscribe) express consent, please click [here](#).

We hope you will choose to stay with us at BEST!

Get in touch with us! info@best.bc.ca | 604.669.2860 | best.bc.ca

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