

Newsletter

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SkyTrain Upgrades are *OnTrack*

2011 marks SkyTrain's 25th anniversary and as part of our commitment to providing efficient, reliable and safe rapid transit service, we are reinvesting in the SkyTrain system to ensure that it continues to operate in a state of good repair. Over the next two years, a number of construction projects and key system upgrades will occur, including the addition of fare gates.

In order to keep customers up-to-date on how these system

improvements could affect access or services while work is underway, TransLink has launched *OnTrack*: a web page containing information on work schedules, timing, and the impact certain projects might have on your trip. *OnTrack* also includes a map of Metro Vancouver that provides individual station and construction information. This colour-coded map can help you determine at a glance whether or not service will be impacted, and which projects have been completed.

To find out details on current projects, visit www.translink.ca/ontrack.

This website will be updated regularly throughout the project. For more information about *OnTrack*, please contact Customer Information at 604-953-3333 or tweet us at [@translink](https://twitter.com/translink) using the #ontrack hashtag.

TransLink's Smart Card Gets a Name!

Following a public vote on the three finalist in the running for the name of the new smartcard: Compass, Starfish, and Tpass – **Compass** won with over 40% of the vote!

Congratulations to Oleksiy Gayda from Burnaby, who submitted the winning name! There were 56,000 contest entries in total, and 14,000 unique names submitted. Out of the seventy-two people who submitted the name 'Compass' to the contest, Oleksiy's name was randomly drawn to win the prize of an iPad and an electronic smart card good for a year of transit service.

The smart card will debut on the system in 2013. For more information on the project visit the TransLink website: www.translink.ca

Accessible Bus Stops in Metro Vancouver

In March 2011, the total percentage of accessible bus stops in Metro Vancouver was 58.1%. A detailed comparison of the accessible bus stops for the month of March 2010 and March 2011 is outlined below.

	Active Stops	% Accessible March 2010	% Accessible March 2011
Belcarra/Anmore	28	17.4%	28.6%
Bowen Island	1	100.0%	100.0%
Burnaby	945	44.7%	47.7%
Coquitlam	548	42.6%	44.7%
Delta/TFN	530	40.5%	45.1%
Langley - City	117	70.1%	70.9%
Langley - Township	340	53.5%	59.4%
Maple Ridge	306	30.1%	40.5%
New Westminister	258	64.4%	70.9%
North Vancouver - City	166	69.3%	69.3%
N. Vancouver - District	434	48.8%	50.0%

Pitt Meadows	50	48.1%	56.0%
Port Coquitlam	229	20.8%	26.2%
Port Moody	163	38.7%	41.7%
Richmond	711	53.1%	56.3%
Surrey	1334	64.8%	71.3%
Vancouver/UBC	1949	67.1%	69.6%
West Vancouver	4	57.1%	75.0%
White Rock	107	35.8%	39.3%
Total	8220	54.2%	58.1%

Please call **604.953.3333** or check www.translink.ca to find out if the bus stop you are intending to go to is accessible.

What is your Emergency Preparedness Plan?

The recent earthquakes in New Zealand and Japan have prompted people around the world to update their knowledge about emergency preparedness. The BC Coalition of People with Disabilities is delivering emergency preparedness training with Volunteer Canada, volunteer centres, and disability organizations across Canada. The *Prepare to Survive – Prepare to Help* training began in January 2011 and will be in Richmond this May.

Volunteer Richmond Information Services and the Richmond Centre for Disability will be delivering a workshop to assist disability and volunteer organizations with emergency preparedness plans. This workshop encourages plans for Service Continuity and Emergency Preparedness with a focus on ensuring that people with disabilities are not left without support. The training material for this workshop was developed through a joint project of the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities and Volunteer Canada, funded by the Government of Canada's Social Development Partnership Program – Disability Component. The workshop will be held at Richmond City Hall on May 10, 2011 from 9:30am to 3:30pm.

To register for this free workshop, call 604-232-2404, or contact ian@rcdrichmond.org. For more information, visit the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities website at <http://www.bccpd.bc.ca/projects/emergency.htm>.

For detailed information on emergency preparedness for people with disabilities from the BC Provincial Emergency Program, visit http://www.pep.bc.ca/hazard_preparedness/disabilities_information.html

Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee will be held on June 16, 2011.

Please forward these updates on to others within your organizations or to other individuals who may find them of interest.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the status of the Access Transit project, please contact: access.transit@translink.ca