

Port Moody Holidays: Then and now

What was Port Moody like nearly a century ago when it was incorporated in 1913? What traditions were celebrated in the streets we walk today? From the recreation hall to the Downtown Moody Centre Association, PCT invites you to take a walk down holiday memory lane and discover the festive magic of a time gone by.

In the early 1900s, the recreation hall was the central hub for community activities. Home to a movie projection room, a bingo room, a raised band stage, and a "sprung" floor for dancing and indoor sports, the recreation hall was the perfect venue for everything from New Year's dances to basketball tournaments. Proud parents in the community would come to the recreation hall to watch their children perform in school plays and Christmas concerts.



Today, the corner of Queen and Clarke is host to the annual CPR Holiday Train.



Wooden sidewalk on 2nd Ave. after shoveling, Feb 19, 1949. Photo courtesy of the Port Moody Station Museum



The Tourist Hotel, on the corner of Clarke and Queen Street, was built in 1908. Photo courtesy of the Port Moody Station Museum

For many years, Nick Alvero, owner of the Tourist Hotel, hosted a Christmas turkey dinner at the recreation hall. The feast was free for all the single men in the community.

Today, the Kyle Centre stands in place of the recreation hall and continues to be an important part of the community, hosting a number of seniors' activities, including the Seniors' Christmas Lunch.

73-year old Valerie Julian, resident of Port Moody since 1942, recalls a few of her favourite Christmas memories from past decades.

"As long as I can remember, kids went sledding or skiing down St. George Street on sleighs, plastic, cardboard or anything that would 'go'. Of course, someone had to stand guard at the bottom of the hill or you could go sailing through two blocks!"

As an active member of the Downtown Moody Centre Association, Julian was involved in various

community holiday events, from the Christmas light celebration at City Hall to the Port Moody storefront decoration competition.

"Every year the entire community would gather to celebrate the lighting of two decorated trees outside City Hall. There would be carol singing, hot

What a strange sight it must have been to see a line-up of youngsters snaking around the corner of a pub

chocolate and even Santa Claus made an appearance; it was lovely.

"One year, exceptionally cold temperatures shut off the electricity at City Hall and we couldn't heat the hot chocolate. The neighbouring Port Arm's Pub saved the day – and the chilled

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Happy Holidays from Pacific Coast Terminals



On behalf of everyone at Pacific Coast Terminals Co. Ltd., I would like to extend best holiday wishes to the entire Port Moody community.

With each passing year we grow more proud and honoured to call this beautiful corner of this province our home and to share it with such wonderful neighbours.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and remain focused on doing our part to bring continued success to this thriving community.

We wish everyone nothing but the best this holiday season and health and happiness in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Ken Catton

Vice-President and General Manager
Pacific Coast Terminals Co. Ltd.

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crowd. What a strange sight it must have been to see a line-up of youngsters snaking around the corner of a pub in the middle of the Christmas celebrations.”

The trees outside the old City Hall have now grown too tall to decorate, but the tradition has continued. In the wake of 9/11 the event was transformed to become “Light a Candle for Peace”.

“Another tradition I enjoyed,” Julian reminisced, “was the storefront decoration contest for downtown businesses. My favourite storefront was ‘Jean’s Little White Horse Antiques’. One Christmas her display featured a replica of Port Moody with moving caroler figurines, Clarke Street and the Port Moody train station, with details down to the lampposts on the sides of the streets.”

“The storefront competition was a wonderful event for the community. Port Moody wasn’t that big in those days and it built a sense of community when everyone gathered to see the storefronts, and talk about their favorites.”

From 1913 to the present day, Port Moody has celebrated many wonderful holiday traditions. This year, the Canadian Pacific Railway Holiday Train will make a stop in Port Moody on December 17th to raise much needed money, food and awareness for the Tri-Cities food bank: the SHARE Society. PCT is pleased to provide support to this holiday event once again. It is PCT’s hope that with the support of Port Moody residents and the good work of SHARE, the Holiday Train event will help create lasting memories for everyone in our community this holiday season. 📷

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Did you know
Many holiday traditions are celebrated this time of year.

3 NOVEMBER Id al-Fitr Islamic	8 DECEMBER Bodhi Day Buddhist	25 Christmas Day Western Christian & Secular Hanukkah begins Jewish (Dec 25 to Jan 2)	26 Kwanzaa begins African American (Dec 26 to Jan 1)	1 JANUARY New Year’s Day	7 Christmas Day Eastern Orthodox Christian Churches	29 New Year’s Day Chinese
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SHARE Family & Community Services

The Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) “Holiday Train” is traveling across Canada this December. Along the way, it is stopping in more than 50 communities to raise funds, food and awareness for local food banks. SHARE Family & Community Services will be the recipient of donations when the train stops in Port Moody on December 17th. Selina Robinson, Director of Development at SHARE, explains what this event will mean for SHARE.

What is SHARE?

SHARE Family & Community Services is a non-profit, independent, community based society. Its mission is to provide and mobilize the resources needed to strengthen families and communities within the Tri-Cities.

What services do you provide residents of the Tri-Cities?

SHARE has grown from a clothing exchange and a crisis phone line to include a range of services and programs addressing community needs. SHARE operates a food bank with three depots and four community partners and a Thrift Store. It has established the

43 Housing Society to build and manage low cost housing, and it offers many professional counselling and therapy services. SHARE is currently developing three Family Resource Centres, including the Clarke St. Family Resource Centre in Port Moody.

How did SHARE become involved in the CPR Holiday Train?

The Holiday Train donates the food and money raised at each pit stop to the local food banks that are members of the Canadian Association of Food Banks. SHARE is the sole recipient of the funds from the Port Moody event.

How much support has the Holiday Train raised for SHARE?

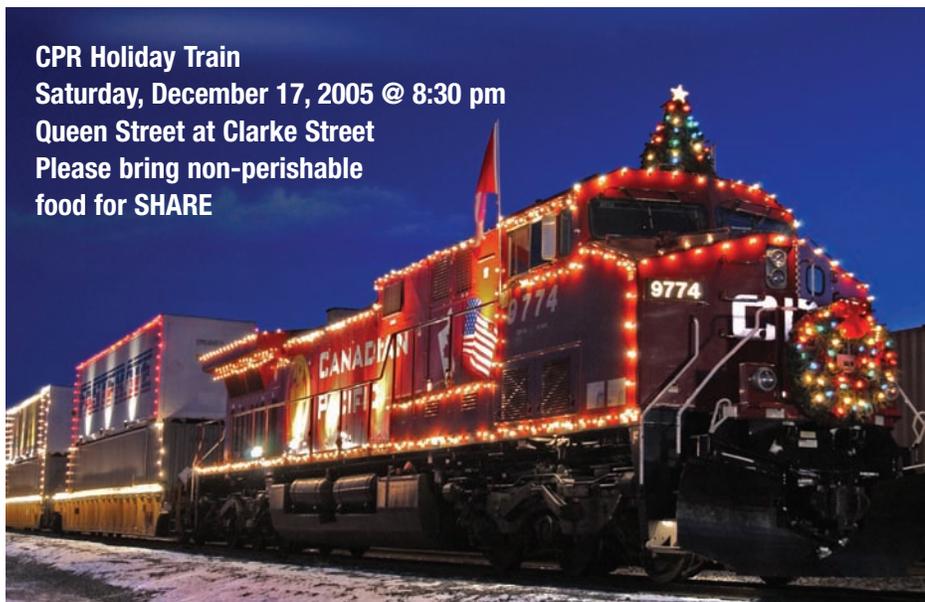
In the five years that the train has come to the Tri-cities, local citizens have donated 15,000 pounds of food and more than \$42,000 to SHARE.

What does the PCT donation through the CPR Holiday Train allow you to do?

Last year SHARE’s services reached more than 70,000 people. Our 115 staff, supported by 900 volunteers, provided more than 20 programs and services. We couldn’t do it without individual, community and corporate support. PCT has regularly supported SHARE Family and Community Services over many years. With PCT’s help we are able to offer programs and services that receive no funding from government; programs like a support group for women in abusive relationships, Family Resource Centres, and our Food Bank. We look forward to our ongoing relationship with PCT. 

If anyone is interested in learning more about SHARE or learning how they can get involved or have a tour, contact Selina Robinson, Director of Development at 604.529.5119 or selina.robinson@sharesociety.ca.

CPR Holiday Train
Saturday, December 17, 2005 @ 8:30 pm
Queen Street at Clarke Street
Please bring non-perishable
food for SHARE



The Port's City Scene

Treasures of Christmas - Crossroads Hospice

PCT brought holiday cheer to Crossroads Hospice in November. Patients and their friends and family were treated to the 12th annual "Treasures of Christmas" gala fundraiser, with Tony Parsons of Global TV hosting the event.

The event raised \$62,000 for the Crossroads Hospice.

CPR Holiday Train

The CPR Holiday Train is North America's largest food bank fundraiser. A brightly decorated Holiday Train will be accepting food and money for the local SHARE Family and Community Services Society. Join international recording artists, The Moffatts, singer and story teller, Wayne Rostad, and rising singing star Amanda Stott, as they celebrate the arrival of the Holiday Train.

Date: Saturday, December 17, 2005

Location: Queen St. at Clarke St.

Time: 8:30 pm

Please bring a non-perishable food donation for SHARE

Kyle Centre Seniors' Christmas Lunch

PCT is pleased to support this special Christmas celebration at the Kyle Centre. A hot turkey lunch is prepared and served to seniors by members of the Community Integration Services Society – which offers career training to adults with disabilities. This is a wonderful event for both the seniors and the Community Integration Services Society.

Holiday Heritage Tea on the Train

The Port Moody Station Museum's annual Holiday Heritage Tea is one of Port Moody's best-kept secrets. Enjoy a spot of tea on the Museum's 1921 railcar, the Venosta. Catch our last Tea on the Train on December 18th.



PCT with a fresh snowfall.

Date: Sunday, December 18, 2005

Location: Venosta Railcar, Port Moody Station Museum

Time: 1-4 pm

Tickets: \$5 per person at the door

For more information, call 604.939.1648 or email pmmuseum@telus.net

Heritage Week

Watch for Heritage Week events coming up in February!

Dates: February 19-26, 2006

Location: Port Moody Station Museum
For more information, call 604.939.1648 or email pmmuseum@telus.net

Congratulations – New council members

PCT would like to welcome the new and returning members of Port Moody City Council: Mike Clay, Diana Dilworth, Shannon Watkins, Bob Elliot, Meghan Lahti and Karen Rockwell. Congratulations to the successful candidates and to returning Mayor, Joe Trasolini.

Contact Information

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Your comments and contributions are welcome. Please forward them to: Ken Catton, Vice-President and General Manager or email: pctinfo@pct.ca

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