

# From Alberta to Asia and finally to your lawn: The Sulphur Cycle

Sulphur undergoes quite the journey from the oil and gas fields of Alberta to the fertilizer that goes on your lawn. Pacific Coast Terminals (PCT), the world's largest sulphur export marine terminal, is only one stop on this mighty mineral's around-the-world tour.



Trains carrying sulphur arrive at PCT, where the Rotary Car Dumper unloads the sulphur from the railcars onto conveyor belts.



At PCT, sulphur is stored in large piles made by the 27-metre high Stakrake.



The 40-meter high shiploader allows 5,000 tons of sulphur per hour to be poured from the conveyor belt straight into a ship's hold.

## Alberta

Sulphur is one of the most abundant elements in the earth's crust and can be found in many of the products we use daily, such as our food, clothes and homes. Canadian sulphur's journey begins in Alberta, where it is derived from the oil and gas fields before being transported over the Rocky Mountains by train. As sulphur is unaffected by rain and snow, it can travel in open rail cars all the way to B.C., a journey which ranges from 950 to 1,500 kilometres. The average cycle time for a train carrying sulphur to load, travel to PCT for unloading, and travel back to reload is seven days.

## BC Bound

Every year more than 40,000 railcars arrive at PCT with over four million tonnes of sulphur to deliver. That's the weight of over 36,000 blue whales! At PCT, the Rotary Car Dumper, a huge machine that rotates the railcars, unloads the bulk sulphur onto conveyor belts. The sulphur is then sprayed with a liquid to suppress dust.

## Off to See the World

Each year approximately 100 ships visit PCT to load sulphur for delivery to countries around the world. Most Canadian sulphur is sent to Asia where it is used primarily to produce fertilizer to help feed their large populations. As Canadian sulphur is 99.9 per cent pure, it also is used in the manufacturing of many other common products such as medicine, paper, paint and steel.

## Hop on the Holiday Train!

Once a year the Canadian Pacific Railway's Holiday Train visits Port Moody to raise donations for the local food bank, in what has become a charming Christmas tradition. The train's visit to Port Moody is only one of the two brightly lit trains' many stops, as they spread the spirit of the season and collect food and money for charity. For two weeks in December, the Holiday Trains make their way across the country, stopping in over 100 communities, with one of the trains following a northern route through Canada, and the other following a southern route through southern Ontario and the northern United States.

Covered in almost 200,000 LED lights blinking red, green and other festive colours, the northern Holiday Train carries Canadian musicians who sing carols and bring holiday cheer to the residents of each community. At each event hot chocolate and warm apple



Santa greets the eager crowd from aboard the Canadian Pacific Railway's Holiday Train.  
Photo courtesy of Canadian Pacific Railway.

cider are served, and a special guest appearance is made by a true celebrity, Santa Claus.

Since the Holiday Train's inception in 1999, over \$2.4 million has been raised and 1.2 million pounds of food has been collected for local food banks across Canada and the United States. In Port Moody, all collected donations are given to the SHARE Society, an organization which PCT has contributed close to \$10,000 towards, since 2004.

This winter the Holiday Train will be arriving in Port Moody, on Tuesday, December 19th, at 10:00 pm.

### Did you know:



*Deck the halls with boughs of...sulphur?*

You might be surprised to learn that sulphur is used in a wide variety of products that you might come across this holiday season. Below are some examples of the ways sulphur takes part in the Christmas festivities.

#### Six holiday treats that contain sulphur:

- It's used to fertilize the soil in which the poinsettia grows
- It's in the reindeer sweater you bought Uncle Albert
- It's used to manufacture the Christmas cards you sent to loved ones with care
- It's used to preserve the figgy pudding and the cranberry sauce
- It's in the matches used to light the Hanukkah candles
- It's in the fireworks that welcome in the New Year.

## Pitching in for a Spotless Shoreline

On September 20th, PCT employees joined the thousands of volunteers from coast to coast who participated in the 2006 TD Canada Trust Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up. This national event, which invited Canadians to join together in cleaning up the country's rivers, streams, lakes, and ocean shorelines, ran from September 16-24, 2006.

2006 marks the 12th year PCT has been involved in the event. By taking part in the clean-up, PCT employees

help make Canada's shorelines more habitable for the diverse group of plants and animals who make the shores their home.

Lorri O'Grady, an administrative assistant at PCT, was one of 15 employees who donned gloves and braved the wet and windy day, in order to help make Port Moody's shoreline pristine.

"At PCT, we consider the shoreline clean-up to be important, because it provides us with the opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to the commu-



PCT's employees brave the wet weather to clean-up Port Moody's shoreline.

nity and the environment," said Lorri.

The group cleaned the 2 km of shoreline in front of PCT.



Jacki Downey is a recreation clerk at the City of Port Moody, whose responsibilities include organizing and hosting the annual Kyle Centre Seniors' Christmas Lunch. This annual tradition is open to all seniors and is served by members of the Community Integration Services Society, a program that offers career training to adults with disabilities.

### What is your job title and what are your roles and responsibilities?

My job title at the City of Port Moody is recreation clerk, but since we are a small centre my role tends to branch into organizing and hosting the special events for our senior members, including the Kyle Centre Seniors' Christmas Lunch.

I love my job because it allows me to meet and get to know so many local residents. It is rare for me to go to the IGA or Newport Village without running into one of my customers!

### What is the Kyle Centre? What services do you provide the residents of the Tri-Cities?

The Kyle Centre is one of two fully staffed recreation centres operated by Port Moody Community Services. We offer registered programs for all age groups from newborns to seniors. Although we are not a seniors' centre, we do offer daily drop-in programs that appeal to seniors, although there are no actual age restrictions.

### What kind of work goes into planning the Kyle Centre Seniors' Christmas Lunch?

Planning this lunch involves promotions by means of our seasonal newsletter, raising funds (thank you PCT!), soliciting

donations from local merchants for prizes, arranging for catering and entertainment, and coordinating the set-up and clean-up.

As costs are continually increasing, we must also be more and more creative in order to stretch the money and keep these events affordable for our members. One way we keep costs down is by involving organizations such as the Lindbjerg Academy and the Community Services Integration Society, who cater the Christmas event. This is a win/win situation for all, as it

keeps our expenses lower and the members of these organizations acquire experience and some remuneration. We are also lucky to have contributors like PCT, who provide contributions to this and our Canada Day events. Without outside funding, these events just wouldn't be possible.

### Can you describe how the Christmas Lunch usually unfolds?

The Kyle Centre has been putting on a special Christmas event of some sort for seniors for at least 20 years. It is a community tradition. Anyone over the age of 55 is welcome to purchase tickets for this event, with a discount being offered to Kyle Centre members.

The entertainment goes a long way in putting everyone in the holiday spirit. The Lindbjerg Academy has entertained our guests at the last couple of events. There is something about children singing Christmas carols that puts even Scrooge into the Christmas spirit.

*This delightful Christmas celebration will be held at the Kyle Centre on Tuesday, December 12.*

## Seasons Greetings from your Friends at Pacific Coast Terminals

On behalf of myself and the entire staff at Pacific Coast Terminals, I would like to wish each and every resident of Port Moody a happy holidays.

From the Christmas lights hanging on our neighbours' homes to the CPR Holiday Train, at this time of year Port Moody seems infused with Christmas cheer. We, at PCT, are proud to call this community our home, and to offer our support to many of its events and organizations. We look forward to the coming years and to growing with this remarkable city.

From our families to yours, happy holidays Port Moody.

Sincerely,  
Ken Catton,  
Vice-president and general manager, Pacific Coast Terminals Co. Ltd.



# The Port's City Scene

## Treasures of Christmas – Crossroads Hospice

PCT was pleased to be a part of the 13th annual "Treasures of Christmas" gala fundraiser, with Tony Parsons from Global TV hosting the event. The gala took place on Friday, November 24th and was held at the Red Robinson Show Theatre in Coquitlam.



The "All That Glitters Tree" was a stunning addition to Crossroads Hospice Society's "Treasures of Christmas" live auction at the new Red Robinson Show Theatre, on November 24. Photo courtesy of Crossroads Hospice Society.

## CPR Holiday Train

The CPR Holiday Train is North America's largest food bank fundraiser. While in Port Moody, the brightly decorated Holiday Train will be accepting donations for the local SHARE Family and Community Services Society.

Performers this year will include Wide Mouth Mason and Lisa Brokop. Santa Claus will also be making a guest appearance.

**Date:** December 19th

**Location:** Queen Street at Clarke St.

**Time:** 10:00 pm

*Attendees are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food donation for the SHARE Society.*

## Holiday Heritage Tea on the Train

The Port Moody Station Museum's annual Holiday Heritage Tea is a wonderful holiday activity for the entire family. Reminisce about Christmases past over a cup of tea on the Museum's 1921 railcar, the *Venosta*.

**Date:** November 26th, and December 3, 10th, and 17th

**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](mailto:pmmuseum@telus.net)

## The 2006 Wearable Art Awards

PCT was delighted to sponsor the Recycled Category in the 2006 Wearable Art Awards. Introducing a collection of elegant and surprising ensembles, the awards and showcase took place on September 23rd, while the exhibition ran from September 26th to October 22nd.



*Memories*, designed by Rochelle Dahl from Lazo, BC, was the winner of the Pacific Coast Terminals Recycled Category at the 2006 Wearable Art Awards. Photo courtesy of Frozen Reflections.

The competition is open to national and international submissions and \$3,000.00 in prize money was awarded to designers in five different categories.

The Pacific Coast Terminals Recycled Category featured designs made from plastic bags and stuff from the bottom of the kitchen junk drawer, bubble wrap, wool blankets, and bobbie pins. PCT congratulates Rochelle Dahl, who placed first in the category with her entry, *Memories*, made from negatives and camera parts.



PCT's employees assist the Port Moody Rotary Club load a van with PCT's Africa bound furniture donation.

## PCT Donates Furniture to South Africa

PCT was thrilled to be able donate its used office furniture to two orphanages and a technical training center for the unemployed in South Africa. The furniture was picked up from PCT's facility on Friday, October 27, by the Rotary Club of Port Moody, who coordinated its shipment.

## Contact Information

[www.pct.ca](http://www.pct.ca)

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Your comments and contributions are welcome. Please forward them to:  
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