



# BULLETIN BOARD

Official Publication of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, Pacific Northwest Region, NMRA Canada

Volume 38, Issue 4

September/October 2024



ABOVE: A beautiful sawmill model, which was voted the People's Choice – Best Model, sits on one of the tables in the display room of the Surrey Excursion PNR 2024 regional convention held in Surrey last May. A wrap-up report on the convention is provided on page 5, followed by a few more pictures of the convention.

Photo by Jeff Shultz

## IN THIS ISSUE

From the Editor's Desk.....	2	2024 PNR Convention Photos.....	6
Superintendent's Message.....	2	2024 Award Presentations.....	8
Adding Value to Your Membership.....	3	7 <sup>th</sup> Division Time Table.....	10
Vancouver Train Expo Update.....	4	Obituaries.....	12
2024 PNR Convention Wrap-Up.....	5	Notices and Contacts.....	14

## From the Editor's Desk

The highlight of this issue is two articles on the biggest event in the division in the last year: the Surrey Excursion 2024 PNR regional convention. It was a great show and, hopefully, you were able to attend. We have a wrap-up article describing the convention, as well as a selection of convention photos and two articles describing awards announced at the convention, starting on page five.

On a less positive note, we also have a significant number of obituaries this issue, starting on page 12. Unfortunately, three of our members have died since the last issue, leading to a total of eight obituaries in the last year. This is a big increase from the previous year where we had only two. Hopefully this is not the start of an unpleasant trend!

If you know of any event not listed in the Time Table, even a small local meet run by your club, or if you are thinking about maybe providing your fellow 7<sup>th</sup> Division members with an article on something important to you, or if you just have some photos or some news or information that should be in the next edition, please send me an email at [bbeditor@7divpnr.ca](mailto:bbeditor@7divpnr.ca).

Enjoy the issue!



---

## Superintendent's Message

By Victor Gilbert, 7<sup>th</sup> Division Superintendent

To all our new members: Welcome.

To all our members: we extend our heartfelt thanks for your unwavering support and dedication. Your contributions, no matter how big or small, are the backbone of this organization. It is your efforts that make us thrive and we are truly grateful for your time and commitment.

### The Surrey Excursion – PNR Convention 2024

The Surrey Excursion was a resounding success, a testament to the tireless efforts of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division's Convention Committee. Their dedication and hard work made the event not just memorable but a source of pride for all of us. I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the volunteers who generously contributed their time and energy to ensure the event's success.

### RMMBC 2025

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that planning for the Railway Modellers' Meet of BC (RMMBC) 2025 will commence soon. This event, scheduled from May 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup>, is a significant milestone for our organization, and we encourage all members to participate and contribute to its success.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Division Website

The 7<sup>th</sup> Division's website has a new look. Check it out at <https://7divpnr.ca> or <https://7divpnr.org>. The Division is looking for a volunteer to manage the website. Please contact [superintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:superintendent@7divpnr.ca) if you are interested.

The login process to the Members Only section has changed. To log in you will need the first 6 digits of your NMRA member number. To get your new password, click on the "Forgot Password" link. If you still have no password, please get in touch with [webmaster@7divpnr.ca](mailto:webmaster@7divpnr.ca).

Victor Gilbert  
7<sup>th</sup> Division Superintendent  
[victor@sugarwood.info](mailto:victor@sugarwood.info)

# Adding Value to Your Membership

By Victor Gilbert, 7<sup>th</sup> Division Superintendent

## Upcoming Events

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Victoria Model Railway Show          | September 15, 2024                                   |
| • Chilliwack Train & Hobby Show        | October 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 |
| • Vancouver Train Expo                 | November 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024  |
| • Sea to Sky Model Train & Hobby Show  | March 2025   |
| • Nanaimo Model Train Show             | April 2025   |
| • Railway Modellers Meet of BC (RMMBC) | May 23 <sup>rd</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2025      |

For those in the lower mainland, Tim Horton has started a Modelling Night, usually held on the first Friday of the month. The event takes place in North Vancouver. Bring a project with you and enjoy an evening of progress on your models, conversation, and collaboration. Please RSVP to Assistant Superintendent Tim Horton at [assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca). Directions will be sent via email the Thursday before the modelling night.

## Awards

Did you know that the 7<sup>th</sup> Division recognizes our members for their achievements?

If you know someone who should be recognized with one of the awards listed below, contact the award's coordinator or the Superintendent of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division. Contact information can be found on the [About Us page of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division website](#).

The **Jack Work Memorial Trophy** is presented annually to the 7<sup>th</sup> Division member who best exhibits the qualities that Jack Work displayed: imagination, creativity, innovation, artistry, forward-thinking, quality workmanship and the sharing of the results of these qualities with the rest of the hobby.

The **Ross Heriot Memorial Golden Spike Award** is presented annually to an individual or a group of individuals in the 7<sup>th</sup> Division who have made a significant contribution to the division.

The **Railway Heritage Award** is presented, when appropriate, to a current member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division who has contributed in a meaningful way to the preservation of railway history.

Check out the [Awards page of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division website](#) for more details and past recipients.

## Modeller's Help Desk

We are here to help. If you need a solution or an idea for your layout, ask Mike at the "Modeller's Help Desk" at [helpdesk@7divpnr.ca](mailto:helpdesk@7divpnr.ca).

## Changing Your Email Address

We have created a simple way to change your email address. Email the [7<sup>th</sup> Division Membership Coordinator](#), with EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE as the subject line. Include your name, NMRA number, old email address, and new email address. We will update our records and pass the information to Regional and National.

## Volunteering

We need volunteers and have openings for the following:

- Publicity Coordinator  
Responsibilities: Coordinate with local events to have an NMRA presence, liaise with NMRA Regional and National for publications.
- Social Media Coordinator  
Responsibilities: Work to establish a 7<sup>th</sup> Division Social Media presence.

- 7<sup>th</sup> Division Regional Education Team

Responsibilities: Work with the NMRA PNR Regional Education Team to establish a library of “How To” and research material for access by NMRA Members

- Web Administrator

Responsibilities: Maintain the 7<sup>th</sup> Division’s website and post content as requested.

- Clinic Coordinator

Responsibilities: Work with the 7<sup>th</sup> Division’s Secretary to coordinate clinicians and resources for the 7<sup>th</sup> Division’s Winter, Summer, and Fall Clinics

Would you like to volunteer for one of these positions, or perhaps you have an idea for the Division? Reach out to your Sub-Division Coordinator. They are listed on the [7th Division website on the “About Us” page](#) or contact me at [superintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:superintendent@7divpnr.ca).

## New Members

The following new 7<sup>th</sup> Division members have joined us in the last six months. Please welcome them, and work to ensure they are included in our events.

- |                  |                |            |
|------------------|----------------|------------|
| • Chris Campbell | Coquitlam      | March 2024 |
| • Nolan Stewart  | Shawnigan Lake | March 2024 |
| • Rob Bradley    | Surrey         | April 2024 |
| • Peter Grisdale | Coquitlam      | April 2024 |
| • John Reedy     | Barriere       | April 2024 |
| • Klave Ramos    | Surrey         | May 2024   |
| • Stew Goumans   | Delta          | June 2024  |
| • Eric Clegg     | Vernon         | June 2024  |

---

## Vancouver Train Expo 2024 Update

by Tom Lundgren, Leader, Vancouver Train Expo

Planning for Vancouver Train Expo 2024 at the PNE Forum, November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> (load in on the 1<sup>st</sup>) is well underway. By the time you are reading this update we will be in the final stages of preparing for the event.

Prior to making the decision to proceed with Vancouver Train Expo 2024, the Registrar actively pursued exhibitors and received a good response. As I write this update, mid-August, registration will have been open since late May. We now have registrations from a significant number of the major exhibitors, and expect most of the rest will come in shortly. Time will be running out for those of you wishing to rent booth space or Marketplace tables so please get your registrations in. Registration forms are available on the [Vancouver Train Expo website](#).

The next big challenges are promoting the event and getting volunteers for event days. Any assistance you can give by talking, and letting others know, about the event would be most helpful. Please contact me at [chairman@vancouvertrainexpo.ca](mailto:chairman@vancouvertrainexpo.ca) if you wish posters, reminders or other promotional material.

I will be contacting those of you who have volunteered in the past and am certainly looking for new volunteers. Please contact me or go to the website and send in a request, look for the volunteer tab on the right-hand side at the top of the Home Page.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in November.



## **Surrey Excursion Wrap-Up**

by Lori Sebelley, Chairperson, PNR 2024 Convention

As I sit here writing this report, I think back on all the activities this PNR convention included. There were a lot.

The host committee would like to thank everyone who attended; you helped make this convention a success. We hope everyone had time to make some new friends and catch up with old ones. I know I did. We hope everyone went home exhausted but had a great time while in Surrey. For those of you that didn't manage to make it to Surrey, we are sorry we missed you.

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank the host committee for all the hours of commitment, dedication and effort to work on this convention. I truly appreciate each and every one of you. A big thank you also goes to all of you that pitched in and assisted while at Surrey Excursion.

Over the course of the three days, there were 42 clinics held on a variety of topics. They were well attended. In one evening timeslot, a movie was shown about the finding of a capsized railway barge 723 feet down in Slocan Lake located in the BC West Kootenays. Table top clinics were held Saturday afternoon, which included seven grade 10-12 high school students presenting their creative designs about making model railway scenery.

Modelling with the Masters was held all day Wednesday, led by Jack Hamilton with assistance from Fred Headon. Thank you, gentlemen. A total of 17 modellers signed up to construct a wooden trestle. I do hope all of you have managed to carry on and finish your project.

The Celebration of Models, Photos and Crafts (contest room) was well received with a variety of trains, structures, photos, crafts, and displays set out for viewing. A total of 84 items were on display in the room. Thank you to all who brought a project.

Achievement Program evaluation was held in the same room with scheduled time slots during which the modeller and the evaluation team met to discuss the project. This approach was well received by all. Over 20 models were submitted for evaluating. This resulted in 22 Merit Awards being given out, comprising 14 for cars, four for motive power and four for structures. During layout open houses, two Statement of Qualifications for Electrical Certificates were generated, along with a Merit Award for Structures.

Operating Sessions were held Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings providing 85 slots. A Sunday morning session provided 17 slots. All told, 102 slots on 11 different layouts were filled. Thank you to each owner for opening their home to allow Surrey Excursion registrants to operate on their layout. A thank you also goes to the host crews for their assistance with operations.

Layout Open Houses were held Wednesday evening on the North Shore of Vancouver at four homes with one additional layout in the Coquitlam area, attended by 122 registrants. Saturday morning saw 132 registrants attend four layouts. Later that day four different layouts were open for viewing, attracting 121 registrants. Thank you to each layout owner for opening their home, and to the host crews for their assistance.

Finding opportunities for prototype tours is really a challenge but we managed to secure two timeslots on Thursday to attend the G3 grain terminal in North Vancouver. The first tour left the hotel at 8 am with the afternoon tour leaving at 12:30 pm. Both tours were very popular and sold out. While at the terminal, besides getting to see and hear about the facility, registrants witnessed grain cars being unloaded, other loaded trains waiting their turn, and a cargo ship filling with grain for transport overseas. All reports about the tours were very favourable.

Over the course of two days, a raffle with numerous donated and purchased prizes was held. Thank you to all who purchased tickets. The raffle was a huge success. We hope everyone enjoys their winnings.



The Non-Rail program was well received with 36 registrants attending. During the convention, house crafts, chair yoga, movie night complete with popcorn, bingo with prizes, sewing, and an offsite excursion to a garden nursery for a behind-the-scenes look were held. A 1000-piece puzzle was worked on and completed by both non-rail and rail registrants.

Saturday evening was a buffet banquet with lots of food and desserts being provided. I hope everyone enjoyed dinner and got enough to eat. I would like to thank Paul Clegg for being our guest speaker. I trust everyone enjoyed his stories about his history working for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

As I conclude my ramblings, there is one more bit of statistical information I would like to share that will be of interest to some. Surrey Excursion had a total of 221 registrants, of which 172 were full-fare. Breakdown is as follows:

Pacific Northwest Region:

- Alberta – 19
- British Columbia – 109
- Idaho – 15
- Montana – 3
- Oregon – 12
- Washington – 59

Other Areas:

- Manitoba – 1
- Michigan – 1
- New Zealand – 1
- Saskatchewan – 1
- Utah – 1

Again I wish to express my gratitude and thanks to everyone who attended.

The next PNR convention “Ainsworth Connector” will be held in Pasco, Washington, May 9-11, 2025.

The Railway Modellers’ Meet of British Columbia (RMMBC) will be back in 2025. Be sure to watch the [RMMBC website](#) for details. I hope to see you all there.

---

## **PNR 2024 Convention**

### **A Quick Look at a Great Event**



**ABOVE:** For those registered for it, the convention started with a day-long Modeling with the Masters® workshop. The workshop focussed on building a wooden trestle.

Photographer unknown



**ABOVE:** The beating heart of the convention: the registration desk, here manned by Lori and Larry Sebelley, talking with a convention attendee.

Photo by Rob England



**ABOVE:** Clinics are probably the most popular train meet feature. Here is popular clinician Burr Stewart talking about focussing on fun.

Photo by Jeff Shultz



**ABOVE:** The convention offered a full non-rail program focussed on partners of railway modellers but open to everyone. Here, Suzy Madsen is describing a craft project.

Photo by Rob England



**ABOVE:** The convention offered open evaluation sessions for the Achievement Program (AP). This photo shows one session in progress.

Photo by Rob England



**ABOVE:** The convention also offered judged contests for a selection of categories. This photo shows the first prize winner in the Motive Power – Diesel category.

Photo by Jeff Shultz



**ABOVE:** This is the first prize winner in the Rail Car – Passenger category. In total, there were 14 categories. The winner of the People's Choice – Best Model category is shown on the cover.

Photo by Jeff Shultz



**ABOVE:** An entertaining presentation by retired CPR Director of Network Transactions Paul Clegg wrapped up the banquet on Saturday evening.

Photo by Jeff Shultz

Not shown are the Prototype Tour, Layout Open Houses, and Operating Sessions held during the convention.

## Awards

# 2024 Railway Heritage Award

by Ken Rutherford, Railway Heritage Award Co-ordinator

The Railway Heritage Award is presented annually, when appropriate, to a current member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division who has contributed in a meaningful way to the preservation of railway history. To be considered for the award, the nominee shall have performed one or more of the following:

- have been a member of an historical association or society that works on the preservation and presentation of railway history and artifacts
- have contributed to the preservation of railway history through published writings or through volunteer work on restoration projects
- have exhibited a substantial interest in the history of railways in British Columbia and its preservation; or contributed many hours volunteering with an operating heritage railway
- have participated substantially in some other significant way to preserve railway heritage

A candidate for this award is nominated by his or her peers, and the chosen recipient must be recommended by the award co-ordinator and approved by the 7<sup>th</sup> Division Board of Directors.

I was pleased to present this year's award to Al Lill at the 2024 PNR Convention banquet.

Al has been an active rail fan and railway modeller for much of his life. His passion for prototype railroads has led him to be an integral part of the Canadian National Railways Historical Association (CNRHA, formerly CN Lines SIG) since its inception in 1989. He has acted as passenger car editor and editor-in-chief of CN Lines magazine, and has been Chairman of the CNRHA since 2012.

He was the editor of the "Across the Canadian Shield" book published by the CNRHA and has had numerous articles published on CNR subjects in many publications. He has presented clinics and helped organize both regional and national conventions.

Al has a particular interest in the steam era on CN, as well as an interest in CNR's Vancouver Island and BC mountain mainline operations. He has a wealth of prototype and modelling knowledge, and freely shares it both in-person and in his writing.



**Left: Ken Rutherford (right) presents the 2024 Railway Heritage Award to Al Lill at the 2024 PNR Convention.**

**Photo by Jeff Shultz**

## Awards

# 2024 Ross Heriot Memorial Golden Spike Award

by John Green, Golden Spike Award Co-ordinator

The Ross Heriot Memorial Golden Spike Award was first presented in 1968, and is usually presented annually to one or more individuals in the PNR 7<sup>th</sup> Division who have made a significant contribution to the division and its membership. It is in appreciation of their unselfish devotion of time and effort to further the aims of the NMRA, the PNR, and the hobby of railway modelling through assistance and service for the benefit of all railway modellers within the division. It is again my pleasure and honour to be able to present a Ross Heriot Memorial Golden Spike Award for 2024.

I thank those who supplied nominations for consideration for this year's award. I have gratefully received letters supporting this year's nominee. This year's recipient has been an active member of the division for many years. Among his many contributions to the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, some particular highlights come to mind:

- He was the editor of the Bulletin Board for almost five years, and he did an outstanding job of keeping our membership informed.
- He modernized the publication and produced a professional looking publication that remains a credit to our organization. Invariably he went the extra miles to photograph and report first-hand on events, and he continually presented ideas to enhance our enjoyment of railway modelling.
- His creativity, energy, and enthusiasm resulted in a consistently interesting and informative periodical.
- He was active at all the Vancouver Train Expo events, with his camera, taking pictures to publish in the Bulletin.

Serving as the editor of the Bulletin Board for five years is surely a contribution of great benefit to the Division and is worthy of recognition. The 7<sup>th</sup> Division is grateful for John Stevenson's editorship and the time and effort he has expended on our behalf.

I do hope you will all join me in thanking and acknowledging our past Bulletin Board editor, John Stevenson, as the 2024 recipient of the Ross Heriot Memorial Golden Spike Award. As John was not able to be present at the 2024 PNR Convention, I will arrange to get the award plaque to him as soon as possible.

---

## Help Wanted!

We desperately need your son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter to help with an exhibit at the Vancouver Train Expo on Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. If we can get at least two and hopefully four teens to assist the operator of W-Traks, he will bring his layout to the show.

W-Traks is a major attraction for our younger audience, and the families we are trying to attract. You can see it at <https://wtrak.org/>.

The teens will offer friendly assistance and supervise the youngsters – and we'll even throw in a free lunch. Email us at [chairman@vancouvertrainexpo.ca](mailto:chairman@vancouvertrainexpo.ca).

Please help.



# 7<sup>th</sup> Division Time Table



The following events are coming up and may be of interest to 7<sup>th</sup> Division members. Check out the identified website for more information.

September 15, 2024 – **Victoria Model Railway Show** – Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Ave., Sidney (corner of Highway 17 and Beacon Ave.). Operating model railways and displays, commercial and individual sales. Free parking. See the poster on the following page for more details. (No website)

October 5-6, 2024 – **Lynden Model Train Show** – Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden, Washington, USA – A great local show just a ten minute drive south of the Aldergrove border crossing. See the website for more details: [www.lyndentrainshow.com](http://www.lyndentrainshow.com).

October 19-20 2024 – **Chilliwack Train and Hobby Show** – This show is returning to the Chilliwack Heritage Park, just off of the freeway (Highway 1) at the Lickman Road exit (Exit 116). See the poster at the bottom of the following page for more details or check out the show's [Facebook page](#).

November 2-3, 2024 – The **Vancouver Train Expo (VTEX)** is the province's leading train show aimed at the general public. For more information check out the article on page 4 or the VTEX website [www.vancouvertrainexpo.ca](http://www.vancouvertrainexpo.ca).

May 23-25, 2025 – **Railway Modellers' Meet of BC (RMMBC) 2024** – BC's top meet for railway modellers will be back next year with the features you have come to know and love. More information will soon be available on the [RMMBC website](#).

If you are organizing or helping with an event, even a local one, or even just know of an event that you think other 7<sup>th</sup> Division members would like to know about, send an email to the [Bulletin Board Editor](#) describing it.



32<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY - VICTORIA'S ANNUAL

# Model Railway Show 2024

**Sunday, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>**  
10 am - 4 pm

**Mary Winspear Centre**  
2243 Beacon Avenue, Sidney  
Free Parking

**Operating Model Railroads**  
**Commercial & Individual**  
**Sales & Displays**

For More Information:  
Ted Alexis ph: (250) 595-4070

### Admissions

Adults ..... \$8  
Family ..... \$16  
NMRA/PNR Members ..... \$7  
Youth ..... \$7

Children (8 and under) **FREE**

when accompanied by an adult  
Supporters of C-Fax Santa's  
Anonymous, the Times Colonist  
Christmas Fund.

Supported by B.C. Hobbies



Special by Wayne Plutten | Photo by Dan Kiewall

## TRAIN & HOBBY SHOW

Embark on a journey of discovery at the Train and Hobby Show, a thrilling event for enthusiasts of all ages! A Family Adventure Awaits!

**October 19th & 20th 2024**

10am to 4pm Both Days!

\$6.00 Admission - Children 5 and under are free!

Chilliwack Heritage Park

- Hosted by All About Expos-



## Obituary

# Fred Olsson

by Doug Mayer

November 7, 1943 – April 28, 2024

Fred Olsson, a long-time past member of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, passed away peacefully at the Queen Victoria Hospital in Revelstoke in the early hours of Sunday, April 28, surrounded by his loved ones. Fred was 80 years old and spent 58 years married to the love of his life, Karen. Together, Fred and Karen had two daughters, and four grandchildren.

Fred was born in Revelstoke and lived his whole life here. He was a member of the Revelstoke Fire Department, one of the founding members of the Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society and of the Revelstoke Railway Museum. He was one of the people that brought CPR Mikado No. 5468 to Revelstoke.

Fred was a first class modeller. Fred's home layout, the Columbia Pacific Railway, was graciously made available to Revelstoke modellers on a bi-weekly basis for operating sessions.

In 1996 Fred was the Registrar for Selkirk Express, the Interior Spring Meet which was one of the most highly attended Spring Meets ever held. The meet was ultimately the springboard to the building of the Revelstoke Model Railway Club layout which is housed in the Revelstoke Railway Museum of which he was a founding member. There are three scratchbuilt and kit-bashed structures on the club layout which he built. The Unlikely and Improbable coal mine on the layout bears his name.

After many years of modelling, Fred took up golf and kind of dropped out of the hobby. His interest in the history of the CPR remained high however, and he was recently made a lifetime member of the Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society.

Fred will be remembered as a man who gave his all to everything he did in life. He lived life with passion and whether he was golfing, building trains, or working on a project, Fred was the person that everyone could count on. Fred lived his life being of service to others.



---

## Obituary

# Frank Cullis

from information in an online biography

Surrounded in his final days by his loving family, Frank died peacefully on January 5, 2024 at Minoru Residence in Richmond, BC. He is survived by Janet, his wife of 53 years, plus three children and five grandchildren.

Frank Cullis was born in London, England on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1942 and immigrated to Canada in 1954. He played drums for over 20 years with the HMCS Discovery Band and for many years with the Royal Westminster Regimental Band. Frank also played percussion with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and played gigs with many local musicians. His love of music encouraged him to go to UBC to obtain a degree in Education with a major in music. He taught elementary school grades 5, 6 and 7, and taught band in Richmond from 1963 to 1998.

Nearing his retirement, he was diagnosed with Parkinson Disease. That didn't stop him and Janet from visiting

relatives and friends, and travelling to a wide variety of destinations around the world.

Frank was a very talented craftsman. He enjoyed building and sailing boats, as well as canoeing. Frank's crafts involved building model boats, remote controlled sailboats, doll houses, bird houses and railway models. When Frank retired, he extended his N scale layout and built a garden layout in the back yard. Through his involvement with the TraiNgang, the Greater Vancouver Garden Railway Club, and the British Columbia Society of Model Engineers, he extended his model railway skills and made many friends. With the encouragement of TraiNgang members such as Tom, Jake and Dan, Frank was able to run trains even when he became wheelchair bound.

Frank led a very active life with a great many friends and interests. He will be missed.



---

## Obituary

### **Carl Sparks**

from information provided by Scott Calvert and Carl's family

Carl was born in Vancouver in 1924 and grew up in the Mount Seymour area of North Vancouver. He rode his bicycle to school from North Vancouver to Vancouver Tech where he graduated. He was an avid hiker and loved the outdoors. He hiked the Chilkoote Trail at the age of 72, starting in Skagway and followed the trail to the summit. Aside from his involvement with railway modelling, Carl was the type of man who could fix anything. Carl died 5 August 2024, making him 99 years old. His daughter-in-law reports he will be missed terribly.

Carl's layout at his home in Burnaby will be remembered by many 7<sup>th</sup> Division members as it was often part of Trains layout tours. It was a wonderful example of creative planning and of excellent construction. The layout focussed on a logging railway operation and included an incline track to get from the lower portion of the layout up to an active logging area. Very memorably, the layout included a backdrop with an active forest fire scene (part of the smoke from the fire can be seen in the backdrop behind Carl in the picture to the right). He hosted many operations sessions on his layout, which was one of the original layouts during the first several VanRail events starting in 2007.

Carl left a note to be distributed after his death containing the following line: "Family and friends, So-o-o long. It has been good to know Ya."



## Notices and Contacts

The Bulletin Board is the official publication of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division of the Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, Canada. Note that the views and opinions stated in the Bulletin Board do not necessarily reflect those of the NMRA or its regions or divisions. Bulletin Board contents are protected by copyright and may only be copied or republished with permission.

The Bulletin Board has five issues per year: January/February, March/April, May/June, September/October, and November/December. Each issue is published around the start of the issue period. Publication means the Bulletin Board is available for download from the 7<sup>th</sup> Division website. Members will be notified by email when the download is ready. In exceptional circumstances, such as Internet unavailability or medical conditions, the 7<sup>th</sup> Division may agree to distribute paper copies to affected members.

The PNR 7<sup>th</sup> Division maintains a list of members that includes postal and e-mail addresses and phone numbers. If you move or change your internet service provider or in any other way cause your contact details to change PLEASE contact the [Membership Coordinator](#) to provide the new information. If you fail to do this we will lose contact with you and you will miss out on 7<sup>th</sup> Division benefits. Note that the member list is held in strict privacy.

Your comments and opinions on this publication are always welcome. As well, contributions of letters, articles, event news, plans, photographs and art are strongly encouraged and welcomed. All should be sent to the [Bulletin Board Editor](#). A phone call or email to the editor beforehand is advised if you are thinking of submitting something large or complex. The deadline for submission is two weeks prior to publication but this is somewhat flexible according to circumstances.

ADVERTISING in the Bulletin Board is accepted at reasonable rates. Please contact the [Bulletin Board Editor](#) for more details.

The following is a shortened list of division volunteers. A complete list that includes additional appointed positions as well as all area representatives is available on the [7<sup>th</sup> Division website](#).

<b>Superintendent</b>	Victor Gilbert	604-708-4161 (Vancouver)	<a href="mailto:superintendent@7divpnr.ca">superintendent@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Assistant Superintendent</b>	Tim Horton	604-785-2860 (North Vancouver)	<a href="mailto:assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca">assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Randy Nussli	250-380-6814 (Victoria)	<a href="mailto:secretary@7divpnr.ca">secretary@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Larry Sebelley	604-858-5717 (Chilliwack)	<a href="mailto:treasurer@7divpnr.ca">treasurer@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Director at Large</b>	Ken Rutherford	250-724-4698 (Port Alberni)	<a href="mailto:directoratlarge@7divpnr.ca">directoratlarge@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Membership Coordinator</b>	Doug Hicks	604-421-0809 (Burnaby)	<a href="mailto:membership@7divpnr.ca">membership@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Webmaster</b>	(Position open)	604-708-4161 (Vancouver)	<a href="mailto:webmaster@7divpnr.ca">webmaster@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Bulletin Board Editor</b>	Rob England	250-629-2006 (Pender Island)	<a href="mailto:bbeditor@7divpnr.ca">bbeditor@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Achievement Program Coordinator</b>	Mike Chandler, MMR	604-526-5078 (New Westminster)	<a href="mailto:achievementprogram@7divpnr.ca">achievementprogram@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Modeller's Help Desk</b>	Mike Barone	250-367-6134 (Fruitvale)	<a href="mailto:helpdesk@7divpnr.ca">helpdesk@7divpnr.ca</a>
<b>Publicity Coordinator</b>	(Position open)	604-708-4161 (Vancouver)	<a href="mailto:publicity@7divpnr.ca">publicity@7divpnr.ca</a>