



# BULLETIN BOARD

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

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**ABOVE:** In a photo taken at the 2025 Railway Modellers' Meet of BC (RMMBC), Paul Clegg presents a clinic called "Railway Engineering 101: Making the Grade" in the smaller lecture hall. This year Paul will be presenting a clinic on Less-than-Carload freight handling. Registration for RMMBC is now open. See the article on page 5.

Photo by John Stevenson

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## From the Editor's Desk

In addition to the standard content, this issue contains an article on the upcoming Railway Modellers' Meet (RMMBC), an updated analysis of 7<sup>th</sup> Division membership showing some interesting aspects of the membership changes that have occurred over the last four years, and, sadly, an obituary for a long-time member many of you may know.

This issue marks the start of my seventh year as editor of the Bulletin Board. While I still enjoy getting each issue filled out with articles, pulled together, and sent out the door to you readers, I'm having a bit more trouble coming up with content and hitting production deadlines. I think it may be time for a new editor, with new ideas and new energy. If you have any thoughts about running the Bulletin Board, let's have an exploratory chat. With no obligation, [send me an email](#) or give me a call at the phone number on page 12.

As usual, please let me know if there is something you think is missing or could be improved about the Bulletin Board. If you have comments on one of the articles in this issue or any comments at all, or are thinking about providing an article to help or inform your fellow members, please send me an email at [bbeditor@7divpnr.ca](mailto:bbeditor@7divpnr.ca).

Enjoy the issue!



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## Superintendent's Message

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

The 7<sup>th</sup> Division of the Pacific Northwest Region (PNR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on March 9th, 2026, at 8 PM. The ZOOM details will be sent out to all 7<sup>th</sup> Division members before the meeting.

As a part of the AGM, we will hold elections for Treasurer, Secretary, and Director At Large. The following positions are up for election:

- The current Treasurer, Larry Sebelley, has agreed to stay on for another term if elected.
- The current Secretary, Randy Nussli, has agreed to stay on for another term if elected.
- The current Director At Large – Island, Ken Rutherford, is stepping down. Dan Rowsel has stepped up.

There is an open call for nominations for all these positions. If you would like to nominate someone or yourself for one of these positions, please contact our one of the board members. The official for this election is our Assistant Superintendent, Tim Horton, at [assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca).

Your membership is at work in our community. Moscrop Secondary School in Burnaby showed off their work



to the Moscrop students and teachers in mid-January. This was their first show, and they are off to a great start. The Moscrop students will be at RMMBC in May showing off their skills and talking with attendees. If you are attending, please attend the Table Top Clinics on Sunday.

Train show season is starting and we will have the 7<sup>th</sup> Division table at the Yarrow Community Model Train Swap Meet, Sea to Sky Model Train and Hobby Show, and the annual Nanaimo Model Train Show. If you are attending, please stop by say “Hi”.

Your Board of Directors generally meets the second Monday of each month. If you would like to attend, please contact me at [superintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:superintendent@7divpnr.ca) for a link to the ZOOM meeting.

As always, whether you are just starting or have been modelling for years: welcome. Feel free to contact me or anyone on the 7<sup>th</sup> Division Board with questions or suggestions.

To our existing members, your continued involvement is valued just as much. You should also feel free to contact us for any reason.

Our contact information can be found on the [About Us page](#) of the Division’s website.

All of you help the organization fulfill our goals of maintaining standards and educating. Thank you.

Victor Gilbert  
7<sup>th</sup> Division Superintendent  
[superintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:superintendent@7divpnr.ca)

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## Adding Value to Your Membership

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

### 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.

- |                    |            |               |
|--------------------|------------|---------------|
| • Bob McArthur     | Abbotsford | October 2025  |
| • Trevor Brown     | Abbotsford | November 2025 |
| • Clifford Manahan | Abbotsford | February 2026 |
| • Laurence Styles  | Sechelt    | February 2026 |

### Upcoming Events

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| • Yarrow Community Model Train Meet       | March 7, 2026       |
| • Sea to Sky Model Train & Hobby Show     | March 21 & 22, 2026 |
| • Nanaimo Model Train Show                | April 12, 2026      |
| • Railway Modellers' Meet of BC           | May 22 to 24, 2026  |
| • Railway Day – Parksville Museum         | 2026 TBD            |
| • 34th Annual Victoria Model Railway Show | September 2026      |

Tim Horton has started a Modelling Night for those in the lower mainland, 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 Gold 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 membership number, old email address, and new email address. We will update our records and pass the information to NMRA Regional and National levels.

## 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.

If you would like to volunteer for one of these positions, or if you have an idea for the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, reach out to your Sub-Division Coordinator. They are listed on the [7<sup>th</sup> Division website on the "About Us" page](#), or you can contact me at [superintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:superintendent@7divpnr.ca).



# RMMBC 2026 Registration is Now Open

By John Geddes, RMMBC Publicity



RMMBC registration opened on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> and the initial response confirms the RMMBC Committee's expectation that this year's meet will be better than ever. In addition to the normal big favourites like the Ops Sessions, Layout Tours, and Clinics, this RMMBC will have three hands-on workshops and a fast and furious PechaKucha session (what is a PechaKucha you ask? Well, check out the [RMMBC website](#) and find out!)

This year RMMBC is highlighting the theme LEARN – SHARE – CONNECT, which is a good summary of what you can expect by attending RMMBC.

Also new this year is an “Under 30” registration category that makes RMMBC more accessible to the younger modellers in our community.

Whether you are new to the hobby or a “veteran”, RMMBC has lots to offer.

As you might expect, there is high demand for the various workshops and the Ops Sessions in which there are limited places available. Register now and avoid disappointment.

For the latest RMMBC information, as well as the registration tool, check out our newly revamped website: <https://railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/wp/>. While you are at the website, be sure to sign up for the RMMBC newsletter to keep you on top of the latest news: <https://railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/wp/sign-up-for-our-newsletter/>



**ABOVE: Many RMMBC attendees enjoy looking at the models and other material brought in for display by their fellow modellers. This selection of CN rolling stock and structures was modelled by Marc Simpson.**

**Photo by Marc Simpson**

# Where Do 7<sup>th</sup> Division Members Live Now?

By Rob England

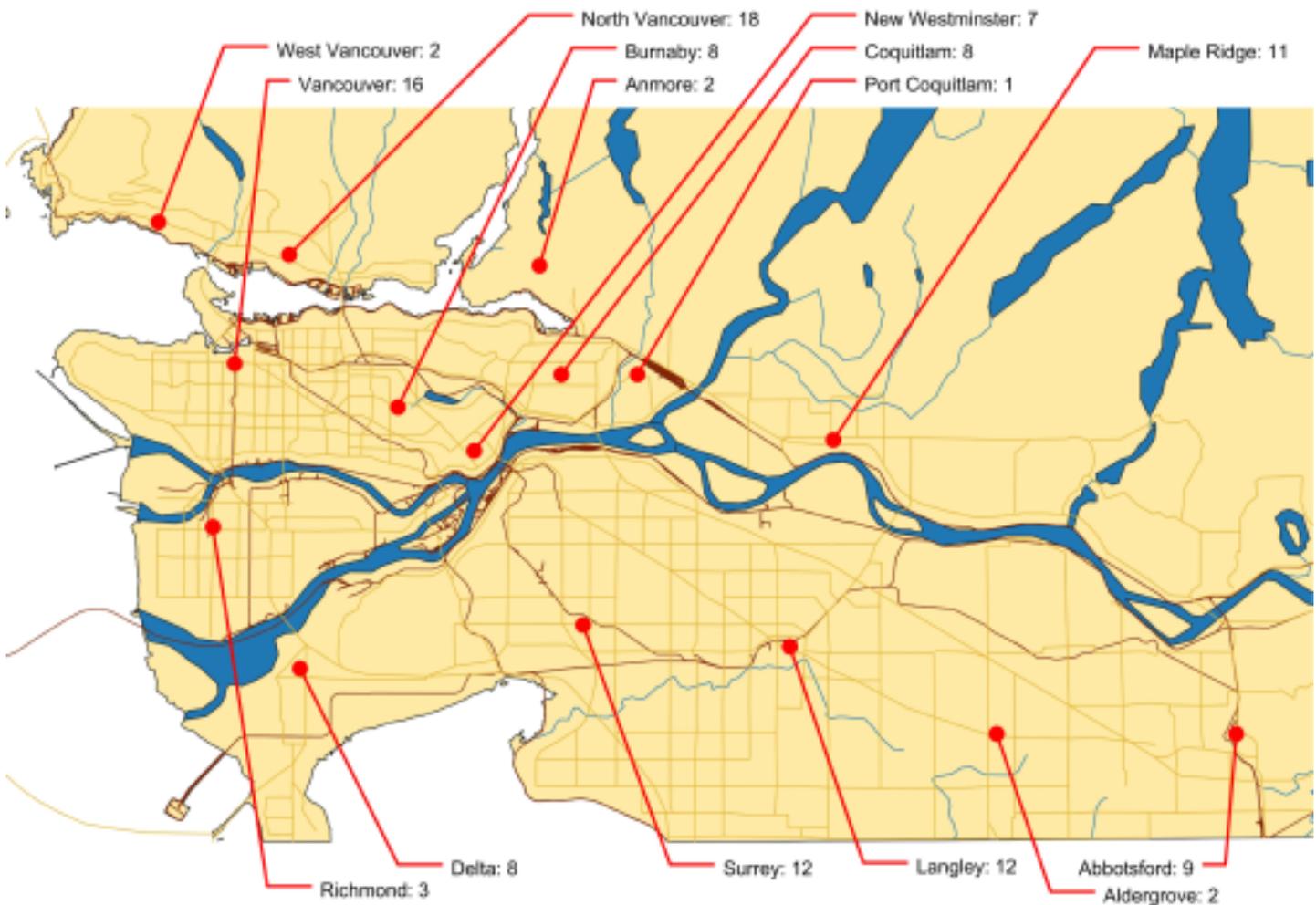
Back in the November 2021 issue, the Bulletin Board included an article with two maps showing where 7<sup>th</sup> Division members lived. That took a fair bit of work to prepare and was probably not of great interest to a lot of the membership, but I had noticed that this kind of map had appeared in several past Bulletin Board issues and I felt it was important to provide members with this information. Earlier this year I was asked by the 7<sup>th</sup> Division Board of Directors to redo the membership maps to reflect the current membership roster. The resulting maps are shown here.

The maps have two basic elements:

- the underlying base maps, with yellow representing the land, blue representing fresh water features (only on the Vancouver Area map to avoid cluttering up the Provincial map), heavy brown lines representing rail lines and ferries, and light brown lines representing roads and car ferries. The base maps were created from public domain GIS (Geographic Information System) files obtained from the federal government. The details of these are not entirely up to date, but this should not affect the purpose of the maps.
- position indicators in red, identifying the number of members living at each location. The locations are either individual municipalities, or areas containing a number of more dispersed locations. The areas were used to avoid too much clutter.

The maps show a large number of members living in the lower mainland and on Vancouver Island. The most populated areas are the Vancouver area, with 119 members; the Victoria area, with 27 members; the Sunshine

**BELOW: A total of 119 7<sup>th</sup> Division members lived in the Vancouver area as of fall 2025. The map below shows the number of members living in each local municipal area. No count is given for areas without members.**





**ABOVE:** This map shows where all the 246 7<sup>th</sup> Division members live, with member counts for each location. The Yukon is part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, but is not shown here since we currently have no members there. To keep the map relatively simple, some of the members living fairly close to other members have been grouped into area counts.

Coast, with 19 members; and Chilliwack with 14 members. The remaining locations support between 1 and 8 members each. The whole province supports 246 members. There are many significant cities and towns in the province that support no members.

Comparing this pair of maps with the maps contained in the November 2021 article reveals that the total number of Division members has dropped from 289 members in 2021 to 246 members in 2026. The new maps show two additional locations with members, and eleven locations that were marked on the 2021 maps and are now gone. With one exception (Hope), all of the locations that now support no members are located in the northern or eastern portions of the province.

These changes are presented in more detail in the table at the top of the next page.

BELOW: 7<sup>th</sup> Division membership changes from 2021 to 2026 for three different regions of the Division.

	2021	2026	Change
Lower Mainland	145	155	+10
Vancouver area	114	119	
Chilliwack (and Hope)	18	14	
North of Vancouver (Sunshine Coast, Powell River, Squamish)	13	22	
Vancouver Island	68	59	-9
Victoria area	27	27	
Rest of the island	41	32	
Interior	76	32	-44

The table above shows that the number of members in the Lower Mainland region actually increased by 10 between 2021 and 2026. The Vancouver Island region membership stayed the same in the Victoria area with a decrease in the rest of the island, for an overall decrease of 9 members. The number of members in the Interior region dropped by 44 members, an almost 60% change.

We will need to give some thought to what is causing these radically different changes in different regions, and what, if anything, needs to be done to remedy this.



## Call for Nominations

The 7<sup>th</sup> Division is run by a volunteer Board of Directors. Board members are elected by division members for two year terms, with half the positions filled by election each year.

This year we are calling for nominations for the positions of Treasurer, Secretary, and Director At Large.

The current Treasurer, Larry Sebelley, and the current Secretary, Randy Nussli, have both agreed to let their names stand for election to another term. Additional nominations for these positions are welcome. The current Director At Large, Ken Rutherford, is stepping down. We need at least one nomination for this position.

If you would like to nominate someone or yourself for any of these positions, please contact our Assistant Superintendent, Tim Horton, at [assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca](mailto:assistantsuperintendent@7divpnr.ca). Tim can also be contacted if you would like information about the duties and responsibilities associated with these positions.

## 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.

March 7, 2026 – The **Yarrow Community Model Train Swap Meet** will be held 10am to 3pm, Yarrow Community Hall, 4670 Community Street, Yarrow (Chilliwack), BC. Admission: \$5.00. Free parking. More information is available through [yarrowtrainmeet@gmail.com](mailto:yarrowtrainmeet@gmail.com).

March 9, 2026 – The **7<sup>th</sup> Division Annual General Meeting** will be held by ZOOM. More information will be sent by email to all members before the meeting. Please plan to attend.

March 21-22, 2026 – The **Sea-to-Sky Model Train and Hobby Show** will be returning to the Railway Museum of British Columbia, 39645 Government Road, Squamish. More information is now available at the show website: [www.wcra.org/model-train-hobby-show](http://www.wcra.org/model-train-hobby-show), and in the poster on the next page.

April 12, 2026 – **Nanaimo Model Train Show** – This long-running show will be held this year on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, between the hours of 10 am to 4 pm in Beban Park Recreation Centre, Nanaimo. Note that the event website at [www.nanaimotrainshow.com](http://www.nanaimotrainshow.com) has now been updated for 2026.

April 25-26, 2026 – **SUPERTRAIN 2026** – This Calgary train show bills itself as the largest model train show in Canada and is well worth seeing. This year the show is at the Olympic Oval, University of Calgary. See the show website for more details: [www.supertrain.ca](http://www.supertrain.ca).

May 13-16, 2026 – The **2026 PNR Convention** will be held in Tigard, Oregon, a suburb of Portland. There is now a fair bit of information available on the [event website](#).

May 22-24, 2026 – **Railway Modellers' Meet of BC (RMMBC) 2026** – BC's top meet for railway modellers will be back this year with the features you have come to know and love. The new [RMMBC website](#) is now online, and is being filled with information on the meet as it becomes available. Also, check out the article on [page 5](#) of this issue.

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

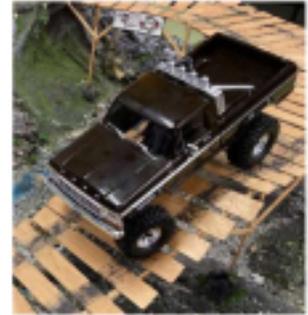




**RAILWAY MUSEUM**  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

# Sea to Sky Model Train & Hobby Show 2026

March 21, 10 - 5, March 22, 10 - 4



## Railway Museum of British Columbia, Squamish

**Detailed operating Model Railway Displays of multiple scales.**

New & used items for sale: Model trains, track, diecast vehicles, plastic model kits, scenery, Lego, RC vehicles, hobby tools & supplies. Gift Shop apparel and logo-wear. Hands on for the children: Operate toy trains. Wood trains and battery Thomas train play tables. Hot Wheels Racing. Remote control crawler and truck hill climb course.



**Budd Car Train Rides through Squamish \$15,  
Mini rail train rides \$5, Parking is FREE,  
Behind the scenes guided museum tours,  
Hot food, drink, snacks available on site.**

**Discounted advance sale tickets available on-line at:  
[www.wcra.org](http://www.wcra.org) Full price tickets available at the gate.**

Event subject to weather, mechanical and availability.



Scan QR code for show information and tickets

## Obituary

# John Sled

By Al Lill

John Sled passed away on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at age 92 after he suffered a stroke while trimming trees from his backyard. His longevity could be attributed, in large part, to his active lifestyle including skiing, gardening and sailing – a lesson to all of us railway modellers.

Most of all, John was a dedicated family man married to Jessie-ann for 58 years, with son John Jr. and wife Noor, son Bruce and wife Rachel, and grandchildren Alistair and Amelia.

John joined the Nor Wes Club in the late 1960s and built a fine N scale layout in his basement that featured scratch-built Code 55 turnouts, CPR structures, and electromagnetic uncoupling ramps of his own design. For many years, his layout was part of the bus tours organized by the 7<sup>th</sup> Division at the fall meets. John was probably best known by our community for his regular showing of the Nor Wes “wheel” layout to the delight of everyone who attended our fall meets. *[Editor: John recently wrote an article on the “wheel” layout that was published in the November 2025 Bulletin Board.]*



**LEFT: John Sled and his grandson Alistair at Vancouver Train Expo in 2024, with the Nor West “wheel” layout in front.**

**BELOW: John inspecting a G scale 3D printed model produced by his son John Jr for Xmas 2025**



## 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	604-377-4898 (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>