



BULLETIN BOARD

Official Publication of the 7th Division, Pacific Northwest Region, NMRA Canada

Volume 39, Issue 4

September/October 2025



ABOVE: The model displays are always one of the most popular elements of a modeller's meet. Here is a very nice display of three CPR models by Mike Barone from the 2025 Railway Modellers' Meet of BC, held last Spring on May 23 - 25. For more pictures of this meet check out the article starting on page 5.

Photo by Marc Simpson

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From the Editor's Desk

The lead article in this issue is a set of photos taken at the 2025 Railway Modellers' Meet of BC, which was held this year in May. Two photographers, Marc Simpson and John Stevenson, took the photos in the article for your pleasure and information. If you have never been to this meet you should make the effort next May. There is always a great set of clinics, layout tours, operation sessions, model displays and much more, plus the SFU location provides some very reasonably priced accommodation (student dorms) for division members who don't happen to live near Vancouver.

The issue also includes articles on divisional awards, as well as the regular set of Victor's columns, the event calendar, obituaries, and miscellaneous other items.

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 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.

Enjoy the issue!



Superintendent's Message

By Victor Gilbert, 7th Division Superintendent

Moscrop Secondary School in Burnaby has for the last few years had an art class that focused on model railways, and has created a model railway club that meets one day a week after school hours. The club participated in the Vancouver Train Expo shows in 2023 and 2024. The class was one block and had about 30 students. The teacher and driving force behind this class is Aidan Botting, a member of the 7th Division since 2024. Aidan presented a clinic on making reflective signs at the Surrey Express Convention in 2024 and many of his students participated in the tabletop session as well, showing off 3D printing, scale fence making and how to make figures. Below is a summary of the class.

Model Railway Building and Design

This is a specialized Honours-level course that is currently categorized under the umbrella of Art Studio 3D. Students in this course are required to learn about and demonstrate a modicum of applied skills and should, therefore, be self-motivated, passionate about the subject, and desire being challenged. Such skills include architecture, electronics, landscaping, structural engineering, painting, and sculpture to name only a few. However, the central theme is the laying and wiring of track as well as programming and operating prototypical scale models of locomotives. Model railway equipment is expensive. Therefore, the passing of a small exam is required as a sort of contract between the teacher and student to be allowed to operate. The Model Railway Building and Design course has helped a few students get into post-secondary programs like Architecture and Environmental Sustainability. As there are many aspects involved with building and operating a model railway layout, to be successful in the program, students must be passionate about the subject and come to class prepared to work hard and focus on what is being taught every single day. They must also be prepared to collaborate and share what they learn with others (reciprocal learning). Whatever the project, the goal must be to make representations that are to scale and demonstrate accuracy with a high level of realism as reflected in the real world.

For the 2025-2026 school year the class has been expanded to two blocks and will have about 60 students. After Vancouver Train Expo events and visiting a Free-Mo event in our area, Aidan has decided this year to have the students to work in pairs on a 24" x 16" module built to a Moscrop standard like other module standards. The 7th Division has made a small financial contribution to assist in building the carcasses for the modules and is will be supporting Aidan, the club and Moscrop school going forward.

The next train show in the division will be the annual Victoria Model Railway Show, September 21, 2025. After that there will be the Chilliwack Train and Hobby Show, October 18 & 19, 2025. As mentioned in April, the Lower Mainland Train Expo Society (LMTES), the legal entity that underlies the Vancouver Train Expo (VTEEx) every year, is having trouble finding a president and show coordinator. Because of these problems, the VTEEx show will not happen in 2025. Unless a society president and show coordinator is found, it is unlikely the show will return.

It is with a heavy heart that I let the membership know of the passing of two of our members: Jim Brown and Gary Hazell. Both were long-time members of the 7th Division and will be missed. Obituaries for both are provided on page 12. The 7th Division extends its sincere condolences to Jim's and Gary's families.

As always, whether you are just starting or have been modelling for years, welcome. Feel free to contact me or any on the 7th 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
7th Division – Superintendent
superintendent@7divpnr.ca

Adding Value to Your Membership

By Victor Gilbert, 7th Division Superintendent

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Victoria Model Railway Show | September 21 st , 2025 |
| • Chilliwack Train & Hobby Show | October 18-19, 2025 |
| • Vancouver Train Expo | Cancelled this year |
| • Yarrow Community Model Train Swap Meet | 2026 TBD |
| • Sea to Sky Model Train & Hobby Show | 2026 TBD |
| • Nanaimo Model Train Show | 2026 TBD |
| • Railway Modellers Meet of BC | May 22 to 24, 2026 |
| • Railway Day – Parksville Museum | 2026 TBD |

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. Directions will be sent via email the Thursday before the modelling night.

Awards

Did you know that the 7th 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 7th Division. Contact information can be found on the [About Us page of the 7th Division website](#).

The **Jack Work Memorial Trophy** is presented annually to the 7th 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 7th Division who have made a significant contribution to the division.

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

Check out the [Awards page of the 7th 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.

Changing Your Email Address

We have created a simple way to change your email address. Email the [7th 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 7th Division Social Media presence.
- 7th 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 7th Division's website and post content as requested.
- Clinic Coordinator
Responsibilities: Work with the 7th Division's Secretary to coordinate clinicians and resources for the 7th 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 you can contact me at superintendent@7divpnr.ca.

New Members

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

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|---------------|
| • Janet Cullis | Richmond | February 2025 |
| • Mike Mohr | Squamish | March 2025 |

A Look at RMMBC 2025

After a one-year break due to the 7th Division putting on the 2024 PNR Convention, the Railway Modellers' Meet of BC returned to the SFU campus on May 23 - 25. RMMBC is the 7th Division's primary event aimed at modellers, featuring a broad selection of clinics, layout tours, operation sessions, displayed models, and more, held in the excellent facilities at SFU. This year's event attracted 91 attendees and finished in the black financially.



ABOVE: The meet's on-site events started with a keynote address presented on-line by Joe Fugate in the large lecture hall. Joe is the founder, publisher, and editor of Model Railroad Hobbyist magazine.

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: Clinics that were expected to draw a smaller audience were presented in a smaller lecture hall. Here Jeff Franklin presents his 3D Printing clinic.

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: Some clinics require a different approach. Here Rene Gourley presents his backdrop painting clinic with audience participation.

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: Rene Gourley's cattle pens attracted a lot of interest, partly because of the highly detailed construction details contained in an accompanying booklet.

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: The model display tables are an important part of the meet. David Morgan displayed a Hillcrest Lumber logging locomotive along with a set of logging railway equipment.

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: Dave Morgan also displayed this very nicely done PGE wooden caboose.

Photo by Marc Simpson



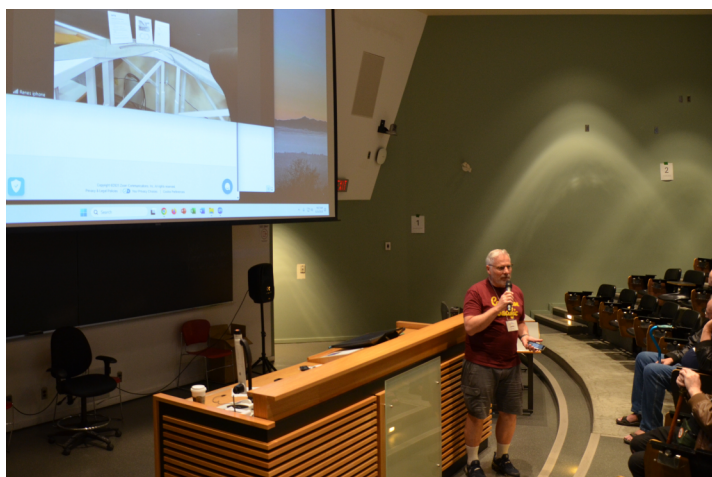
ABOVE: Rob Kirkham built this beautifully scratch-built boiler works based on photos of a prototype in Vancouver.

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: Bob Thompson displayed this nicely kit-bashed industrial building.

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: The Meet the Modeller event allowed modellers with items on display talk to attendees about their models. Here John Geddes talks about his Modular Mobile Model Railroad modules

Photo by Marc Simpson



ABOVE: This machine shop (with roof removed) is an interesting component of Jamie Neilson's Quincy and Torch Lake On3 layout, part of the meet layout tour.
Photo by John Stevenson



ABOVE: A couple of layout visitors talk with Mike Chandler (right) at Mike's Western Midland Railroad, one of the layouts on display as part of the meet's layout tour.
Photo by John Stevenson



ABOVE: Participation in operating sessions were a very popular meet activity. Here is Dave Marecek as a guest operator at John Green's Coquihalla Valley RR.
Photo by John Stevenson



ABOVE: Here Kevin Franchuk has a look at the materials on display by the Canadian Pacific Historical Association.
Photo by John Stevenson



ABOVE: The meet had a number of participating vendors. Here is the booth of Kaslo Shops Distributing (who also participated in the 3D Printing Round Table).
Photo by John Stevenson



ABOVE: Perhaps the most valuable reason to attend a meet is the opportunity it provides to talk with other modellers. Here (L to R) Greg Kennelly talks with Rob Kirkham, while Kyle Gardiner chats with Mike Barone.
Photo by John Stevenson

Awards

2025 Ross Heriot Memorial Gold Spike Award

By John Green, Gold Spike Award Co-ordinator

The Ross Heriot Memorial Gold Spike Award was first presented in 1968, and is usually presented annually to one or more individuals in the PNR 7th 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.

I would like to express my gratitude to those who provided nominations for this year's nominee for consideration. I have received several letters supporting this year's nominee. A list of the previous recipients of this award can be found on the 7th Division website.

It is my pleasure and honour to award the 2025 Ross Heriot Memorial Gold Spike Award to Rob England. Rob has been an active member of the division for many years. He began his editorship of the Bulletin Board in March/April 2020, Volume #34 Issue 2, and continues to serve as Editor. Time flies, and the recently published March/April 2025 Volume #39 Issue 2 marks Rob's fifth year as Editor. Throughout the past five years, we have enjoyed his efforts to keep us informed and up-to-date with the Division's activities through an attractive and professional-looking newsletter.

Rob's contributions as Editor have been instrumental in keeping the membership well-informed and connected. His dedication to producing a high-quality, informative, and engaging newsletter has been unwavering. His efforts in generating content and encouraging contributions from others demonstrate a commitment that goes above and beyond. Perhaps with this little bit of recognition, he will be motivated to produce many more editions.

Rob's efforts as Editor, including generating content on his own, and cajoling and encouraging others to contribute, warrant recognition. His contributions are entirely consistent with the intent of the Ross Heriot Memorial Gold Spike Award, particularly because the benefit to the membership far exceeds any that Rob receives personally.

The 7th Division is most grateful for Rob England's editorship and the time and effort he has expended on our behalf. I hope you will all join me in thanking and acknowledging our current Bulletin Board editor, Rob England, as the 2025 recipient of the Ross Heriot Memorial Gold Spike Award.



LEFT: Rob England (right) receives the 2025 Ross Heriot Memorial Gold Spike Award from John Green.

Photo by Sharon Green

Awards

2025 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 7th 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 7th Division Board of Directors.

I was pleased to present this year's award to Timothy Horton at the 2025 Railway Modellers' Meet of BC.

Timothy is a prototype modeller who enjoys sharing the story of his prototype, the British Columbia Railway and its predecessor the Pacific Great Eastern railway. He was one of the early members of the short-lived BC Rail Historical & Technical Society, and co-chair of the committees that organized three conventions related to the railway including the PGE 100th anniversary convention held in Squamish in 2012.

His research has led to his publishing seven books on the history of the railway. He is always ready to share his interest in the railway by presenting clinics at meets and has shared modelling information in fourteen articles published in the model railway press. He is a member of a group of BC Rail modellers that presents their models and share their knowledge of the railway at most local model railway shows. He has a blog on his model railway (<https://bcdawsonsub.ca/>) where he shares the railway's history and includes modelling tips on creating detailed prototypical models.



**ABOVE: Timothy Horton (left) receives the 2025 Railway Heritage Award from Ken Rutherford at the 2025 RMMBC in May of this year.
Photo by Marc Simpson**

TIME TABLE No. 60, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1930									
EASTBOUND TRAINS—SUPERIOR DIRECTION									
CASCADIA SUBDIVISION									
STATIONS									
FIRST CLASS									
SECOND CLASS									
FOURTH CLASS									
Mile from Seattle									
Train No. 100									
Train No. 101									
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September 21, 2025 – **Victoria Model Railway Show** – Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Ave., Sidney (corner of Highway 17 and Beacon Ave.). The show has lots of free parking, excellent transit service, and easy access from the ferries at Swartz Bay. This year the show is being put on by the Victoria Model Railway Club. See the poster on the next page for details. (no webpage)

October 18-19, 2025 – **Chilliwack Train and Hobby Show** – This show will be held at the Chilliwack Heritage Park, just off of the freeway (Highway 1) at the Lickman Road exit (Exit 116). Opening times are 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Entrance charge is \$6.00, free for children 5 and under.

March 2026 – The **Sea-to-Sky Model Train and Hobby Show** will be returning to the Railway Museum of British Columbia, 39645 Government Road, Squamish. When we last checked, the website www.wcra.org had not been updated for 2026 but this should happen soon.

May 13-16, 2026 – Next year's PNR Convention will be held in Tigard, Oregon, a suburb of Portland. More information will be available soon at the [event website](#).

May 22-24, 2026 – **Railway Modellers' Meet of BC (RMMBC) 2026** – 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 be coming soon to the [RMMBC website](#).

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



33rd ANNIVERSARY

VICTORIA'S ANNUAL



Model Railway Show 2025

Mary Winspear Centre

2243 Beacon Avenue, Sidney

Free Parking

Sunday, Sept. 21st

10 am – 4 pm

Operating Model Railways, Commercial and Individual Sales & Displays

More layouts! More displays! More Space!

Information: victoriatrainshow@gmail.com

Admissions

Adults \$ 10

Family (maximum 2 adults) 20

Youth (9-18) 5

Children (8 and under) FREE

(Must be accompanied by an adult)

Victoria Model Railway Club,
proudly supporting the
Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health



Obituary

Jim Brown

By Timothy Horton

We are saddened to report the passing of Jim Brown on February 14, 2025. He is survived by his wife Brenda and his sons Jeremy and Tim.

Jim was a long-time member of the 7th Division PNR and the Norwes Club on the Vancouver North Shore. He moderated the online Lenz Discussion group for many years and provided regular assistance to many Lenz users.

Jim was well known in the narrow-gauge modelling community and built several superb Sn3 layouts depicting the Rio Grande in Colorado.



Obituary

Gary Hazell

Prepared from an online obituary

Gary was born November 27, 1942, in Vancouver, BC. He attended Vancouver Technical School and later BCIT, launching a successful career in electronic equipment sales.

In April 1966, Gary married Donna in Vancouver. Together, they made their home in Port Coquitlam, where Gary and Donna's love of entertaining made their house a favourite gathering spot. In the early 1980s, Gary and Donna moved to the Shuswap, purchasing a home on Shuswap Lake. Gary and Donna did not have children, but shared their home with several cherished cocker spaniels over the years.

After retiring, Gary and Donna moved into Salmon Arm. They enjoyed wintering in the southern US, embarked on an epic trip to Africa, and spent many happy hours on road trips in their Miata.

Gary dedicated himself to extensive community service. A long-time member of the the Salmon Arm Rotary Club, Gary was recognized for his outstanding contributions to his community and was awarded the prestigious Paul Harris Fellowship for his distinguished service as a Rotarian.

Gary was also a long-time member of the Salmon Arm Model Railway Club, as well as of the 7th Division where he served as Division Superintendent for many years. Among other things, he attended numerous model railway meets, wrote articles for the Bulletin Board, and was involved in working on the 2016 Selkirk Express PNR convention held in Tacoma.

Gary died on June 22, 2025. He is survived by his wife Donna, and many relatives and friends.



Notices and Contacts

The Bulletin Board is the official publication of the 7th 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 7th Division website. Members will be notified by email when the download is ready. In exceptional circumstances, such as Internet unavailability or medical conditions, the 7th Division may agree to distribute paper copies to affected members.

The PNR 7th 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 7th 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 [7th Division website](#).

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