

The 7th Division executive attended to a number of different business items on behalf of the membership during the past year. Some of these items include supporting train shows, most notably RMMBC, which by all accounts was a big success as you will likely hear in other reports also. Although VTEX was cancelled again for 2022, indications are that it will be a go for 2023. Planning continues to be under way for the PNR regional convention to be held in 2024 at the Guilford Sheraton Hotel in Surrey. Many model railroad shows have also returned to their scheduled times in the United States.

Interestingly enough, a number of local shows have surfaced to take the place of some past events that have gone by the wayside. These include Sea to Sky Model Train and Hobby Show in B.C. Railway museum at Squamish, and Cloverdale Community Train and Hobby Exposition in Cloverdale Fair Grounds. Several successful shows were also held on the island including the Nanaimo Train Show in Nanaimo and the Victoria Train Show in Sidney and a successful Free-Mo event was held during the summer in the lower mainland.

Another topic that the executive has been examining throughout the year is the matter of participation levels within different subdivisions. It is no secret that while the premier events in the province (RMMBC and VTEX) are well attended, the bulk of participation comes from the lower mainland and subdivisions within the interior, central and northern parts of the province are generally under-represented. In reaching out to the Subdivision reps via the phone this past year the Superintendent has become aware that different subdivisions are feeling like they are somewhat on their own. To understand this dynamic better the executive is currently undertaking a survey of the entire 7th Division membership. While it was hoped to have the survey completed by the AGM it will likely be another month or two before we can begin to collate the results and try to determine any meaningful trends.

The executive continues to explore various means by which the 7th Division membership can be supported including some kind of sponsorship program. While still under discussion the general idea would be to provide some type of financial support to subdivisions to hold events for their local membership. Also under discussion has been the purchase of some type of microphone/PA system for public events.. We also support the 7th Division membership through various initiatives such as the quarterly educational Zoom clinic program. Our fall clinic has been scheduled for presentation before the AGM, and the winter clinic will announced very soon. The executive also made a concerted effort to recognize Award recipients at public events throughout the year and we ask you to take a moment to recognize your fellow peers who have received these awards.

One final on-going issue the executive continues to wrestle with is unfilled volunteer positions within the 7th Division. These positions are posted regularly in the Bulletin Board email newsletter as well as on the 7th Division website so we ask that you also take a moment to make yourself aware of these positions and consider how you might be able to help out your fellow modellers and make the 7th Division a more welcoming place for all members.