

North Shore Report: North Shore to Pemberton and Sunshine Coast-by Graham Stokes

(Activities from Oct 2021 to Oct 2022)

Monthly Virtual Meets

Our North Shore Model Railroaders continue to meet virtually on the third Wednesday of most months. These meetings have allowed us to keep in touch and catch up on the hobby in general, but also see specific modelling and layout projects and try some new techniques.

November 2021 featured some weathering techniques online under George Carroll's lead.

Tim Horton has not only been our technical moderator on Google Meet for our virtual meets, but also given excellent presentations involving the process of moving and adapting his BC Rail NScale layout to his new apartment, his modelling of the BC Museum Train and a work train, as well as the fine custom modelling of new rolling stock for his railway. **Congratulations to Tim on earning his Author, Chief Dispatcher, and Master Builder-Cars certificates toward his NMRA Master Model Railroader (MMR).**

Kyle Gardiner has engaged us with prototype info and progress on his scratch-building and kit-bashing of CPR steam cranes from Tichy HO kits. **(He also published a series of 3 articles complete with photos in the Bulletin Board on his scratch building in O Scale of CPR combine 3299).**

Visit to The Sunshine Coast to visit 3 Fine Layouts Thanks to the organizing leadership of Jake Swaney, the Sunshine Coast Model Railroad Club, welcomed three of us from the lower mainland for a layout tour visit on **Sunday, April 24th**. Several more wanted to join us, but scheduling and concerns about the pandemic numbers got in the way. It was a treat to see Gord Campbell and his progress on his N Scale Canadian Pacific layout, then the SCMRC Club layout in its new digs in Sechelt, where several members joined to welcome us. We then enjoyed Jake's HO CPR layout, with so many good scenes and modelling innovations in a moderately sized room that seemed to grow larger as we watched trains move and scenes explained. Thanks again to Jake, Gord, and club members. It was fun to have our new 7th Division Superintendent, Victor Gilbert, along with us. Great to see him taking interest in our subdivision-in fact, he helped by driving for the day. Thanks, Victor.

May 29th North Shore Model Railroaders Hosted RMMBC In-Person Layout Tours 1:30 to 4:30pm

Myron Claridge, Kyle Gardiner, Rene Gourley, John Walter, and Graham Stokes (with Dan MacDougall) were the hosts for self-guided in-person visits of RMMBC registrants. Layout owners later enjoyed the **Superintendents Tour June 6th** so we could see the progress on model railways of the other hosts. Thanks again to Dan for the help with my HPVR, and to the layout tour organizers.

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Visits in Small Numbers

Modellers continue to visit and help one another with model railways on the North Shore. For example, in July & August Myron Claridge invited Kyle Gardiner and myself to his steam garden railway. Myron also is great about posting the CN freights that pass behind his back yard in West Van, posting info and photos on the Rails BC facebook page. I have enjoyed helpful visits from Dan MacDougall and Kyle Gardiner at the Hidden Prairie Valley Railway too. I know there are others involved in helping with layout building.

First annual Sea to Sky Train and Hobby Show held Oct 15th and 16th in Squamish at the Railway Museum of British Columbia

It was good to see modellers and families at the show, where operating layouts, vendor tables and toy trains were there to enjoy, surrounded by full size trains, including Royal Hudson 2860 and #2 in the CN Roundhouse. There is talk of making the show a spring show in 2023, since Western Rails will not be continuing at Cameron Recreation Centre.

Ops and Modellers Nights

Michael Batten hosts ops sessions on his N scale E&N from time to time. He has also hosted modelling nights.

Looking Ahead

We'll carry on with our monthly meetings, online or in person, and look forward to developing ideas for enhancing our model railroading. An NSMR Model Night is already planned for this November 11th. These are usually on one Friday evening a month. Modellers bring kits and model together.

My thanks to all in the North Shore Subdivision and to the families and crew who also support North Shore model railroading, from Deep Cove to Pemberton, and on the Sunshine Coast.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Stokes

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