



Van-Fraser News

VAN - FRASER HERITAGE CLUB

VAN FRASER MEMBERS RETURN TO THE OCEAN

On April 28, a group of Van Fraser members, plus some from the Edmonton Heritage Club were excited to board the Koningsdam in Vancouver for a two night cruise/three day cruise.

Another group joined the trip on April 30 for a seven day cruise to Alaska. Between the two trips 40 members and family were on board. The Koningsdam has been idle for two years and it was great to see back in service.



Van Fraser member enjoying Happy Hour.

During the first segment, everyone enjoyed getting to know the beautiful Koningsdam. Following a lunch on board, Happy Hour in the Crows Nest, a beauty dinner in the dining room and a variety of shows in the ship's lounges and theaters, all were happy to dock at Pier the hear of downtown Seattle. The next morning most of the travellers walked to Pike Street Market and shopped at the nearby Ross for Less. Others explored the downtown area, including the Space Needle and the Amazon Spheres.

Some chose to relax on board and enjoy the amenities the Koningsdam has to offer. Then another Happy Hour, Dinner and shows with arrival back in Vancouver the next morning. Some sadly had to leave the ship while other stayed on board and greeted the new group as they arrived all ready for the first trip to Alaska.

Ports visited were Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan as well as a nice day in Glacier Bay National Park. On route killer and humpback whales, sea otters, sea lions, mountain goats, black bear, lots of birds, cascading waterfalls, lighthouses and amazing Glaciers see seen.

A wonderful trip! So nice to be travelling again. Members enjoyed visiting with each other and meeting for meals, drinks, walks sightseeing and more. Great camaraderie.

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STEVE PASACRETA A WINNER!

Van Fraser member Steve Pasacreta is the 2021 National Heritage Club Draw. In appreciation to all of the Heritage Club Volunteers who donate their time and energy to help Santa respond to his mail 10 winners are chosen from across the country to receive a cash award.

In 2021 four hundred and forty nine Heritage Club members volunteered to process and help Santa by preparing responses to 174,120 children.

Thank you Steve and all the elves for your efforts. Take some time, relax, enjoy some relaxation because before you know it we will be answering Letters to Santa again.

Thank You Elves!

Santa



MEMBERS UPDATED ON CRUISING

Recently, twenty-five Van Fraser members attended a seminar at the Radisson Hotel in Richmond to hear the latest updates on Cruising now that the Cruise Ships are returning to service.

The seminar provided information on a number of exotic destinations available to travelers. Many of the attendees were particularly interested in a cruise that included the Galapagos Islands.

Also included were explanations of safety protocols that have been put into place as a result of COVID Pandemic to ensure passengers health and safety.

Van Fraser Members particularly enjoyed being reunited with fellow members and travellers they have not seen for some time.

The Travel Page, which is always the last page of every Van Fraser News, features information on upcoming travel opportunities, Club Trips and Special Rates.

With the increase cost of fuel and most other items, the cost of travel will dramatically increase over the next year. Now is a great time to take advantage of great prices currently being offered.





CANADA POST GREEN VEHICLES

As part of an ongoing commitment to reduce Canada Post's environmental footprint and move towards net zero emissions initiatives to "Green" the delivery fleet continue.

In the summer of 2021 an e-cargo trike pilot took place with two part time routes in downtown Montreal using cycling infrastructure. The trike has a maximum speed of 30 kmh and requires to driver to peddle to start the electric motor. To help go up hills there is a "turbo" setting to provide a boost. The cargo box has 2.1 cubic meters of space and can hold up to 60 parcels.



Fred Danells tests out the e-cargo trike,



Nearly 1,500 Hybrid Vehicles have been put into service since 2019 in 200 locations across Canada.

In 2022 the Pacific Processing Centre Fleet will evaluate two electric delivery vehicles as part of a national pilot program.

The vehicle can operate for eight hours on a single charge, with a range of 175 kms and can carry 6100 lbs of load.

The vehicle will be evaluated on range, user experience, battery usage, repairs and how it handles over time.

Evaluations are also taking place in Montreal and Toronto



2022- RETURN TO TULALIP

We are so excited to announce plans are well underway for our Three Night Bus Trip to Tulalip, November 20-23,2022.

Now that some of the travel restrictions have been eliminated, we can safely mark this trip on our calendars. Over the years, this trip has always sold out and enjoyed by all. After crossing the border, we head south towards Seattle with a breakfast stop on route and several hours in downtown Seattle for sightseeing, shopping and or lunch! On previous trips, highlights in Seattle were shopping at *Ross Dress for Less* ,browsing through the famous Pikes Market overlooking the waterfront, or the downtown area.

Other options are walking to the Seattle Space Needle or viewing the spheres at the Amazon Center or the History museum.

After a visit to Seattle, we drive to the Tulalip Resort to check into our deluxe rooms for three nights. During the stay ,there are opportunities for shopping at the Factory Outlets, taking advantage of the pre Black Friday deals, or the 24 hour Walmart and Cabelas. Some enjoy relaxing by the pool and taking advantage of the spa, or visiting the Cultural Museum. There are a number of places to eat within the resort and nearby. Of course, several spots for Happy Hour to catch up on news and what each other did during the day .After dinner at one of the many venues, there is time for the casino or just enjoying the hotel.

Call the Van Fraser Office, 604 482-4311 or email vanfrasernews@gmail.com

Be sure to register early to reserve your spot.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of Scholarship Programs available to the children and grandchildren of Heritage Club Members to assist them in their academic careers.

CANADA POST SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2022

Canada Post awards up to 30 scholarships per year to children of full and part time employees who are entering their first year of post secondary study. The scholarships are for \$1,000 for college and \$2,000 for university. These awards may be renewed for an additional two (2) years to cover a total of three (3) years of full time study.

Canada Post is expanding the scholarship program for 2022 to further the commitment to inclusion by offering scholarships to students with documented learning disability.

These scholarships are applicable to all Canadian educational institutions or their affiliates that have provincial degree granting powers.

For further information speak with your supervisor or team leader.

All submissions must be received on or before July 4, 2022.

HERITAGE CLUB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2022

The Heritage Club is planning to award three (3) scholarships to children or grandchildren of Heritage Club members who have paid dues for the past two years. The scholarships are valued at \$2,000 each for university or college studies. The scholarships will be awarded to student starting, for the first time, their first year of full time studies.

Eligible recipients include dependent children, including adopted and step children, grandchildren, wards in legal guardianship of active members.

These scholarships are applicable to all Canadian educational institutions which have provincial degree granting powers or their affiliates and at Canadian Colleges or CEGEPs,

To obtain an Application Package contact the Heritage Club office or email Eldred Holmes at holmese@nl.rogers.com.

To be considered all applications must be received or postmarked on or before June 30, 2022.

JOHNSON INSURANCE INC. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2022

The Johnson Insurance Inc. scholarships are available to the children and grandchildren of Heritage Club members.

Applicants must be a resident of Canada, completing High School in 2022 and enrolled in an undergraduate program for the 2022/23 academic year at a recognized publicly funded Canadian post-secondary institution of CGEP.

For further information call 1-844-567-1237 or email scholarshipfund@johnson.ca.

Applications must be submitted by July 28, 2022.

A DAY OUT WITH THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE

Since Thomas the Tank Engine first appeared in print in 1946 and then on television in 1969 he has brought happiness to many children.

With the easing of COVID restrictions the West Coast Railway Heritage Park in Squamish will host "A Special Family Experience" on the weekends of May 28/29 and June 4/5.

Thomas will be in on hand to help make the day a special experience for families and children. Children will be able to write and mail letters to their favourite character on the Thomas TV Show. Van Fraser volunteers will be on hand to assist the children to properly address their letters and make sure every child receives a response.



This is an extremely popular event and tickets can be booked in advance on line at www.visitrmbcorg/tickets.

The park will fully reopen on July 1st with all the exhibits on display. This includes the Railway Mail Car sponsored and maintained by the Van Fraser Heritage Club. The sortation in the car is set up as it would on the Cal & Van run. This is a great opportunity to visit and see our history and heritage on display.

KEEP AN EYE OPEN!

As COVID Protocols are relaxed and businesses, restaurants and other facilities reopen for full service the Van Fraser Executive is planning to resume a number of events that were put on hold for the past two years.

Planning for the Annual Banquet is underway and details will be available shortly.

Facilities for the Quarterly Luncheons, including the Christmas Luncheon, are in the process of reopening and the Executive has been in touch with a number of them to determine when we can resume our gatherings.



As soon as details become available they will be announced in Van Fraser News. So keep an eye open for the opportunities to once again get together with friends and colleagues. We hope to see you all together soon!

VAN FRASER LOSES A LONG TIME MEMBER

The Van Fraser Heritage Club lost a good friend and long time member with the passing of Bruce Mavis on March 16th.

Bruce's generosity, thoughtfulness and kindness were expressed in so many ways both in the Heritage Club and in service to his local community of Langley.

In addition to serving on the Van Fraser Executive he was well known for his many other activities including his regular attendance at the banquets and luncheons. He will long be remembered as Santa at the Annual Christmas Luncheon. On the Club Bus Trips he would ensure everyone's involvement in the "Horse Races" making them a fun experience for all. Bruce also enjoyed playing little jokes on fellow travellers to add humour to the long trips.

Bruce was the second Van Fraser Santa Letter Writing Co-ordinator succeeding Yuki Matsuba and followed by Fred Danells. Following his term as Van Fraser Co-ordinator he organized groups of volunteers in the Langley area to respond to Letters to Santa. During his time he helped Santa respond to the thousands of letters.

He volunteered in Langley working part time with Langley RCMP, served as a Safety Bear, and worked at the Community Police Offices. For his community activities he awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal in and the Langley Township Eric Flowerdew Volunteer Award of the Year in 2012.



Spurring on the Horses during a Van Fraser Bus Trip.

Marking his family's long history in the Langley area Bruce was heavily involved with the Fort Langley Historic Site. Active all through his life he carried the Olympic Torch through the Fort in 2010.

Bruce Mavis was an individual described by some as "larger than life" and someone who exemplified the Heritage Club Motto "People Helping People".



Bruce Mavis: April 24, 1940—March 16, 2022. Predeceased by wife Marie, survived by son Kevin, daughter in law Michelle, grandchildren Elodie, Maude and Max and great grandchildren Cassandra and Brianna



Bruce will long be remembered for acting as Santa at the Annual Van Fraser Christmas Luncheons.

PPC WELLNESS CENTRE REOPENS

The PPC Wellness Center reopens after being closed for two years during the pandemic.

Employees were thrilled to learn that the Wellness Centre reopened in mid April, once again providing a convenient and well equipped gym for them to workout pre or post shifts.

Van Fraser Heritage Club manages the Centre for the corporation and employees and have been busy this month ensuring all the equipment was serviced and functioning properly, members were reregistered and reviewed the new Covid safety procedures.



Van Fraser members, Stan Wong and Peter and Jean Wong volunteer to maintain the registration list, collect fees, assign lockers, arrange orientation sessions and ensure cleaning and sanitizing done as well as resolve day to day operational issues related to the Centre.

PLANNING A MOVE?

Planning a move and a change of address in the near future?

Please don't forget to let us know! It is essential we keep our records up to date, particularly with our members who utilize Johnson/ Medoc of their insurance services.

You can give us a call, send an email or drop us a note. Just take a moment to let us know.

Thank You



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2022/23 VAN FRASER HERITAGE CLUB TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

May and June 2022 There are some fantastic deals to Alaska, Vancouver return starting at \$439.00 plus taxes \$256.00 CAD pp. in May and \$649.00 plus taxes in June on the Koningsdam. The Zuiderdam has specials in June starting at \$379.00 plus taxes pp. Just \$1550.00 including all taxes for 14 days on the Majestic Princess, June 18/22 Vancouver return. Now is the time to take advantage of low rates to Alaska. Call or email the Heritage Club for more details.

June 14/22 10 days Alaska cruise, Vancouver return on Cunard's Queen Elizabeth .The Heritage Club has a group for this sailing and already a large number of members have booked. There are some last minute specials starting at \$957.00 plus taxes \$350.00 CAD per person. Visit Juneau, Skagway, Sitka, Ketchikan, Victoria and both Hubbard Glacier and Glacier Bay.

June 26/22 and July 6/22 There is still space on our Alaska cruise/Denali land tours. Call for details.

September 30, 2022 9 night repositioning cruise on the Ovation of the Seas (one of the largest cruise ships with lots of activities) from Vancouver to Honolulu with a day in Seattle and two days over night in Maui. Of course, plan to stay a few extra days at Waikiki or elsewhere before flying home from Honolulu **OR** stay on the ship and continue to Sydney, Australia! Inside cabins start at \$1449.00 plus tax. Call for more pricing and possibly lower rates and join those already booked.

October 9/22 20 day repositioning cruise on the Ovation of the Seas from Honolulu to Sydney ,Australia. Visit the islands of Tahiti-Bora Bora, Papeete and Moorea , then Napier, Wellington and Picton, New Zealand before arriving in Sydney. Lots of fun seas days on route. Inside cabins from \$2646.00 and balconies from 4309.00 plus taxes \$250.00 pp. This trip can be combined with the September 30/22 cruise for 29 days from Vancouver to Sydney. (limited space left).

November 20/22 3 night Tulalip bus trip. Call or email for registration form.

January 11, 2023 22 Day Antarctica cruise on the Oosterdam , departing Santiago, Chile around South America to Buenos Aires, Argentina. On route visit Antarctica for 4 days. Inside cabins from \$5074.00 CAD pp plus taxes.

February 2, 2023 22 Day Antarctica cruise on the Oosterdam , departing Buenos Aires, Argentina to Santiago, with 4 days in Antarctica. **Note:** these two cruises can be combined for a 44 day experience and double the time in Antarctica. Call for current prices and promotions and join other members who have already booked this trip.

Note: Be sure you have adequate out of country medical and trip cancellation insurance before confirming your trip. Call The Heritage Club office, 604-482-4311 for info on Medoc insurance. With the current Pandemic, cruise schedules and prices frequently change as sailings are cancelled and new itineraries and promos are introduced. Call or email the Heritage Club your preferences for travel and we will keep you advised of latest offers. Also, new options will be sent to the travel club list as available.

