Taking Your Kids to New Heights – Literally

Submitted by Steven Lee, Executive Assistant

About 163 metres above the Fraser River, a group of Grade 9 kids, all children of South Coast Region employees, stood quietly in awe of the breath-taking view – well, not really, they were busy taking selfies and Snapchat videos. But you get the idea.

Every year for “Take Your Kids to Work Day,” the South Coast Region transports teens to the top of the Port Mann Bridge. On Nov. 6, with the coordination of Adelle Corrado, Steve Robertson, Krista Drury, Josh Kuffner and Steven Lee, 10 students had the privilege of going up one of the tallest and widest bridges in B.C.

Gathered initially underneath the Port Mann Bridge, the kids climbed up three sets of long caged metal ladders attached to the cement wall of the tower, hopped on a manually controlled elevator that was way too cozy for their liking, took on two more sets of ladders and finally stepped into an area at the top of the tower. Brisk, sunny fall weather enhanced the view and contributed to a perfect photo opportunity for some social media action.

Amid all the Snapchats, Instagram stories and Facebook posts, an utter respect for the people who build, operate and maintain this megalithic structure seeped into the minds of the teens. The group was treated to a demonstration by the region’s snow and ice team of how they remove occasional build-up from the bridge during cold winter seasons and saw why the cable-clearing operation is critical to the safety of travellers below.

At the end of the day, what seemed like a regular field trip for the kids turned into an unforgettable excursion. (Let’s face it – who in their lives has the chance to go up a major bridge?!) Ultimately, the experience echoed the importance of their parents’ work in serving the people of British Columbia.

It was a proud day for South Coast Region employees, and an indelible day for the kids.

▲ The Grade 9 students atop the Port Mann Bridge – an unforgettable excursion.

▲ Climbing one of three sets of ladders up the bridge tower.
Editor’s Note

Wow, we’re launching into a new decade! There’s lots of new things ahead in the 2020s for our ministry, as you’ll read in this issue.

So far, our era has not fulfilled some of the wackier predictions from last century. For instance, we don’t have apes helping us as domestic assistants and chauffeurs, as forecast in 1996.

It was suggested that the primates might be better drivers than homo sapiens. There hasn’t been a species found yet that’s better than humans at operating motor vehicles. Still, we’re not perfect, and it’s encouraging that at the B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure we’re testing new highway surfaces to reduce rear-end crashes at high-collision intersections.

Personal helicopters haven’t become the reality predicted by Popular Mechanics in 1921. Also, we’re not driving our vehicles into nearby pneumatic tubes to be whisked away to our destination.

As of late 2019, motor vehicles continue as a foundational form of transportation. So at the ministry, we’re aiming to lower greenhouse gas emissions by finding ways for more people to travel using active modes, like cycling, walking and even skateboards or paddle boards. The British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide is a thing of beauty with its well-detailed technical information and diagrams and will help our ministry, municipalities and other organizations to develop routes and facilities to support human-powered mobility.

In 1905, French scientists envisioned a tool for supporting human-powered mobility. So at the ministry, we’re testing new highway surfaces to reduce collisions.

In 1996, we’re testing new highway surfaces to reduce rear-end crashes at high-collision intersections.

In 2020, we’re testing new highway surfaces to reduce rear-end crashes at high-collision intersections.

New method to connect employees and share information, by recording and offering podcasts, to suit our modern, mobile lifestyles.

Mail delivery by parachute was prophesied in 1921. As it turns out, mail and many other goods, are transported these days using heavy duty vehicles. Our ministry has stepped up to reduce fuel consumption and emissions from those transport trucks, by offering incentives for operators, to manage fuel more effectively and reduce consumption.

Not all predictions from the past are off-base. And without people imagining what might be possible, there would be no progress. But I’m glad that I’m not consuming milk and butter derived from kerosene. I’m thankful too that the idea of wearing clothes made of asbestos never took off. However, I could really enjoy housework that only requires switching on a water hose.

May the next decade be a delightful discovery for you!

Nancy McLeod
Editor

Thanks to Best Life Online and Popular Mechanics for your research and hilarious collection of predictions made for the 21st Century, which are referenced extensively here.
Active Transportation Strategy Aims for Lower Emissions

Submitted by James Hill, Planning Analyst

The Provincial Active Transportation Strategy was launched by Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Claire Trevena, at the Active Transportation Summit in New Westminster, on June 17.

An initiative under CleanBC, Move. Commute. Connect, will encourage and enable more people to choose active transportation modes such as walking and biking. Among many benefits, this will lower greenhouse gas emissions, to help meet the Province’s legislated climate target of reducing emissions by 40 per cent by the year 2030 (based on 2007 levels).

The Programs and Corporate Initiatives Branch is working across our ministry and other ministries to facilitate implementation of the strategy. Since the strategy launch, there have been a few changes in the team, and a lot of progress on active transportation initiatives.

Let’s start with the changes... Two new staff have been brought in to help deliver active transportation projects: Manager of Transportation Programs Kate Berniaz and Active Transportation Grant Analyst Maryanna Macintyre.

To support communities in building active transportation facilities, the already popular Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant program has been aligned with the new strategy, to include all forms of active transportation. Now local and Indigenous governments can apply for grants to cost-share projects that support many types of active transportation. (See Page 4: What is Active Transportation?)

Supporting the grant program is the new British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide. The guide is a free online resource published by the B.C. government that will help ministry employees, and municipalities and communities, to build safe, effective active transportation infrastructure. The ministry is delivering one-day training workshops to ministry staff and local governments that provide a comprehensive.

More on Page 4…

Taking Your Kids to New heights – Literally… Continued from Page 1

- Rolling, as shown in Victoria, is one type of active transportation.

- The stunning vista from the Port Mann Bridge on Take Your Kids to Work Day, Nov. 6.

- South Coast Region employees and employees’ children below the bridge.

- Jesse Skulmoski speaking at the Active Transportation Summit where the Provincial Active Transportation Strategy was launched.
Active Transportation Strategy Aims for Lower Emissions... Continued from Page 3

We’re looking for stories and photos for the March RoadRunner
Please email them to RoadRunner@gov.bc.ca

Active transportation, a ministry team signed up for Fall Bike to Work Week, to encourage employees to adopt active transportation. Active transportation will continue to be a focus for our ministry, so keep an eye out for new initiatives coming in the new year. In the meantime, if you have any questions about active transportation, check out the new resources or contact us at ActiveTransportation@gov.bc.ca.

Overview of the guide, using a range of learning tools. Workshops will be held in six locations across the province into January 2020.

The goal of the Active Transportation Strategy is to double the percentage of trips taken using active modes, by 2030, in B.C. While there is some data available on active transportation in our province, more information is needed. To this end, one of the first initiatives underway is working with BC Statistics to survey British Columbians to gain a clearer picture of who is and is not using active transportation, and why. This information will help shape future initiatives to encourage and enable more people to walk, bike or use other forms of active transportation.

Several other initiatives are underway, including an Everyone Rides Grade 4-5 pilot program to get kids comfortable riding bicycles safely. The ministry is also updating its cycling policy to become an active transportation policy. As well, recognizing the importance of placing the ministry in a leadership role with respect to active transportation, winter-based modes of transportation are another active way to get around.

What is Active Transportation?

Walking includes people walking dogs, people jogging, and people using mobility devices such as wheelchairs, walkers and strollers.

Cycling includes all people travelling by bicycle using a full range of types of bicycles such as bicycles with trailers, children’s bicycles, recumbent bicycles, cargo bicycles, electric bicycles, adult tricycles, fat tire bicycles and bicycles built for people with mobility challenges.

Rolling is skateboarding, longboarding, scootering, in-line skating and roller skiing.

Winter-based modes require conditions only available during colder winter months such as cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, kicksledding and ice skating.

Water-based modes could be canoeing, kayaking and standup paddle boarding.

Small, one-person electric vehicles are e-scooters, electric skateboards, hoverboards, segways, self-balancing electric unicycles and other emerging modes.

(from the British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide).
“What about a podcast?”

I couldn’t really believe the words coming out of my mouth! No one in the public service had done this before as an internal communications tool, and the work involved wasn’t going to be light.

But as a platform to transfer knowledge, using podcasts made a lot of sense. We are a geographically widespread ministry, we’re on the road a lot, and we continue to welcome and onboard new staff.

In a nutshell, we consist of many new and mobile employees. And podcasts are a great way to let them know about work underway across the ministry, and introduce them to the people who do it. Podcasts are audio files (similar to music) and they can be played anytime or anywhere the listener wants.

I felt pretty comfortable recommending a podcast, as I have some experience in the area. As a former radio announcer (lots of training, very short career), and former host of more than four personal podcasts, I had an idea of what I was getting into. With some amazing support from our Succession Planning Co-chairs — Strategic Human Resources Manager of Workforce Programs Brittany Speed and Lower Mainland District Development Technician Nikki Schneider.

As the podcast was for our ministry only (not for public distribution), we decided not to host the episodes on Apple or Google, which are the two traditional ways of offering shows. Rather, we decided to distribute the episodes through a unique web address (or RSS which stands for Really Simple Syndication) which can be subscribed to using traditional podcast apps on smartphones, or played on desktop computers.

As a way to shine a spotlight on some of the resources we have in our ministry, each episode has a “sponsor” to point listeners in the right direction for their professional development and knowledge management. This fits the usual format of a podcast while also adding succession planning value.

And so far, so good. We’re sharing knowledge from across our ministry, from transit to Indigenous relations, to the history of our Road Runner newsletter. Some of the employees featured have more than 40 years with our ministry. As we release one episode per month, and the show is getting a little more attention all the time, I’ve even been asked by other ministries and the BC Public Service Agency about what we’re doing in our ministry, and how they can start their own podcasts.

As we celebrate our one-year anniversary, the road so far:

- I’ve only had to edit out one swear word.
- The longest episode is an hour and four minutes: District Manager Roundtable.
- The shortest episode is 15 minutes: former Highways Executive Director Norm Parkes on communicating with Executive.
- We’ve hosted 29 guests in 17 episodes.
- Pat Marsh is adamant that Toronto is neither east or west of you (Talk to her, or listen to Travel the World of Corporate Finances).
- I’ve learned our staff are really passionate about what they do, all have something they can teach us and they’re pretty interesting. It’s an exciting project and I’m having a blast listening, and learning. I invite you to do so as well.

If you’re curious about the podcast, whether it’s about how to subscribe, how it’s created or suggestions for future guests, I’m all ears. Just email me at transmissions@gov.bc.ca

A little podcast history:

- Podcasts were “born” in September 2004 through the activities of software developer Dave Winer and former MTV video jockey Adam Curry.
- “Podcast” was named “word of the year” in 2005 by the New Oxford American Dictionary.
- In 2005, Apple added podcasting to iTunes, and to this day iTunes is the biggest and most popular directory for podcasts.
- In 2011, Edison Research and Triton Digital reported there are now more than 800,000 podcasts worldwide (different shows, not episodes).
- Journalist Ben Hammersley named these audio files “podcasts” and seven months later it became a more widely accepted term.
- “Podcast” was named “word of the year” in 2005 by the New Oxford American Dictionary.
- In 2005, Apple added podcasting to iTunes, and to this day iTunes is the biggest and most popular directory for podcasts.
- In 2011, BBC claimed more people had downloaded podcasts than used Twitter worldwide.
- Then in 2014, Serial happens. An investigative journalism podcast, digging into a high school murder, it’s the most popular podcast to date with 12 episodes downloaded 420 million times.
- This year, Edison Research and Triton Digital reported there are now more than 800,000 podcasts worldwide (different shows, not episodes).
New Treatment Provides a Quick Stop for Motorists

Submitted by Shena Changirwa, Engineer-in-Training, Traffic and Highway Safety Engineering Department

Did you know that rear-end collisions are one of the top three collision types on provincial highways, after off road-right and off road-left collisions?*

In fact, rear-end collisions are the most common kind of collision in the South Coast Region. So, in September 2017, the ministry partnered with ICBC to determine interventions that could be used to reduce an increasing number of these crashes. The reasons to stop the collisions are many, including rising claims costs and steep insurance rates, as well as pain and suffering for crash victims and impacts to their loved ones.

This led to an Intersection Safety Program that would fund innovative safety countermeasures at intersections with the highest potential for collision reduction. One of those countermeasures was high-friction surface treatment (HFST).

HFST involves the application of high-quality aggregate to the pavement surface, using a binder, to improve pavement friction. The increased friction helps motorists slow down faster in both dry and wet driving conditions.

The treatment can be applied using mechanical or manual methods. Mechanical methods involve a truck and result in a more uniform application and lasting treatment. They are also more time efficient than doing the work by hand.

Using an automated truck-mounted machine, crews lay down specialized aggregate overttop a resin binder. The type of aggregate is called calcined bauxite, which is extremely hard and retains the sharp edges produced from crushing – a combination that provides a big boost to skid resistance.

This $3.9-million pilot project was launched this summer, when HFST was applied at 10 intersections and four interchanges in the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island. These locations were chosen using a Collision Reduction Program developed by our ministry and ICBC, to analyze crash data, using criteria focused on provincial intersections and interchange ramps where high rates of rear-end collisions were occurring.

As HFST is a pilot project, the ministry may consider its application in other locations, after evaluating the safety effect.

Stay tuned for future developments! *

* An off road-right collision is when the vehicle departs completely from the lane of travel, to the right. In an off road-left collision, the vehicle leaves the lane of travel toward the median or oncoming traffic.
Employees Honoured at 2019 Long Service Awards Ceremony

Submitted by Jamie Weiss, Public Affairs Officer

On Oct. 2, Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Claire Trevena presented Long Service Awards to long-time public servants, celebrating major milestones of 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years, at Government House in Victoria.

A total of 123 recipients were honoured that evening: 65 from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, 53 from the Ministry of Health, four from Elections BC and one from the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.

While all ministry recipients deserve kudos, two of our dedicated employees were honoured for an extraordinary 45 years of public service.

Thomas Haggard, or “Tank” as he’s known by his co-workers, started with the Department of Highways in August 1974. While he’s worked with various units and other ministries, his career really took off with Field Services. That role has allowed Thomas to take his quick wit and great sense of humor all over the province, working on a number of projects, both large and small. He’s always been a dedicated worker, bringing energy and fun to the job and the people around him.

Dan Templeton also celebrated 45 years of service. He has spent his entire career in the field, literally building the province. Dan was a major part of projects like the Nisga’a Highway, Pitt River Bridge, Gibsons By-Pass and many supporting transit projects within the Evergreen Line’s construction. Dan is truly loved by his staff and viewed as an extremely thoughtful mentor and leader.

The sense of accomplishment and pride was high throughout the evening as pictures were taken and awards were presented. You can view additional candid photos of ministry honourees enjoying themselves at @Work.

“It was a wonderful evening, well worth attending, it really made me feel very appreciated,” says Roxanne Lorette who was recognized for 25 years with the BC Public Service. “I’m already looking forward to the next one – only five short years away!”

Congratulations to all public servants who were celebrated for their dedication during the Long Service Awards!

25 YEARS

| Arthur McClean | Leonard Sielecki |
| Barb Klassen   | Maria Cianelli   |
| Brad Moores    | Michele Ihas    |
| Bradley Bushill| Paul Riegert    |
| Glen Roberts   | Perry Dennis    |
| Greg Czernick  | Robb Andersen    |
| Hugh Eberle    | Roxanne Lorette |
| Ivor Marriott  | Salem Bahamdun  |
| Jay Porter     | Salvatore Parise |

Samantha Eburne   Teresa Bepple
Sandra Toth Nacey  Vicki Willow
Satish Prasad     Vincent Welland
Steven Haywood     Zbigniew Radzimowski

30 YEARS

| Boyd McNamar    | Jin Oh          |
| Carol Magee     | Kathy Strobbe   |
| Catherine Grisewood | Ken Aura  |
| Catherine Seel  | Lisa Gow        |
| Dave Bachynski  | Lori Otto       |
| David Edgar     | Lynda Petruzelli|
| David Fisher    | Michael Kiessling|
| Deanna Ramsey   | Mike Scott      |
| Hali Davenport  | Renee Mounteney|
| Heather Syfchuck| Vina Sianen     |

More on Page 8...

Diana Lucas (right) celebrated 35 years of service, with partner Ron Yee (who is retired from the BC Ambulance Service).
Reflections on Public Service Careers

The Public Service Agency brought together some of this year’s Long Service Award recipients to talk to each other about their careers, for a short video that you can watch here.

Find out about some of your colleagues’ (Udo Sommer and Greg Czernick) work beginnings and how the workplace and technology has advanced from multi-layered coloured forms and black computer screens with green displays. Long-term BC Public Service employees also share their experiences on making the government work better, solving problems and taking on challenges.

If you’d like to send a Long Service Award e-card to your colleagues, it’s not too late!

Employees Honoured at 2019 Long Service Awards Ceremony… Continued from Page 7

35 YEARS
Carol Woykin
Diana Lucas
John McKenzie
Kevyn Hryhirchuk
Mike Zakus

Richard Philbrick
Sheldon Harrington
Steve Szabella
Todd Hubner
Wayne Elke

40 YEARS
Douglas Pearce
Jim Gallagher
Ken Gallagher

Paul Eftodie
Udo Sommer

45 YEARS
Richard Philbrick
Ministry employee Udo Sommer (right) with Ron Johnson (Ministry of Attorney General).

Dan Templeton
Thomas Haggard

Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program to Improve Operators’ Efficiency

Submitted by James Hill, Planning and Performance Analyst

Climate change, and how governments respond to the progression of climate change, is increasingly a significant focus of the public eye.

The BC government is addressing climate change through the CleanBC strategy. Released in December 2018, CleanBC is a pathway to achieving the Province’s legislated climate targets of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40 per cent by the year 2030, based on 2007 levels.

As the transportation sector accounts for about 37 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions in B.C., it’s clear our ministry has a big role to play in achieving CleanBC’s targets.

Our Climate Action Programs group is made up of employees whose primary focus is finding ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. The group works with various ministry business units, stakeholder partners and other provincial government ministries on initiatives like creating a network of electric vehicle charging stations across B.C., the electrification of the province’s inland ferry fleet, and most recently, reducing emissions from heavy-duty vehicles.

According to ICBC, 66,000 heavy-duty vehicles are insured in B.C., and they account for 14 per cent of total greenhouse gas emissions in the province. Currently, there are no readily available electric or alternative fuel options for commercial vehicle operators. While shifting the heavy-duty commercial vehicle industry away from fossil fuel use is not feasible at this time, the ministry, through Climate Action Programs, has partnered with the BC Trucking Association to deliver the new CleanBC Heavy-duty Vehicle Efficiency Program.

The program focuses on improving overall efficiency of heavy-duty vehicles on B.C.’s roads. By operating more efficiently, fuel usage and related emissions will be significantly reduced, and commercial vehicle operators will save money.

The CleanBC Heavy-duty Vehicle Efficiency Program provides qualified companies with cost-sharing incentives to purchase and install fuel-saving equipment for heavy-duty vehicles.

To access the incentives, operators are required to take a one-day course that teaches participants...
Getting Ride-Hail Going at the PT Branch
Submitted by Katrina LaRoy, Communications Officer

If you read September’s edition of the Road Runner then you know about the Passenger Transportation Branch (PT Branch) and our role in bringing ride-hail services to B.C.

There have been major milestones along the way as we anticipate the start of ride-hail operations. On Sept. 3, applications from ride-hail companies began to arrive, and to date 20 have been received, processed and transferred to the Passenger Transportation Board (PT Board), for its review.

The next milestone will be information published in the PT Board’s Weekly Bulletin, which will announce the board’s decisions on the first applications it received. Very soon, we’ll know what ride-hail companies will be officially authorized to operate in B.C., using online technology to connect people needing transport, with drivers using their personal vehicles to carry paying passengers.

These milestones are being achieved by an incredible amount of work behind the scenes. Although implementing the ride-hail file has required a collaborative approach across the provincial government, the PT Branch’s involvement will be ongoing. The branch has experienced a lot of change as a result.

Change management is critically important during a time of rapid transformation. The branch staff team has doubled in size in less than a year, new policy teams have been added to support implementation of new regulations and business processes, new management positions have been created to support the larger team, the office changed locations, a new version of our data management system was released to support ride-hail, a new data warehouse is being implemented to collect and store industry information, and new powers now rest with the Registrar.

In short, a lot of change has happened in a brief amount of time.

To support this transition, the branch hired a consultant to assist with a change management strategy. Change management is defined as, “the application of a structured process for leading the people side of change, to achieve desired business outcomes.” The principles applied for change management were:

1. Grow and develop the PT Branch team to effectively implement ride-hailing (also known as Transportation Network Service) as a new line of business;
2. Develop and communicate policies and procedures to effectively implement and enforce ride-hailing;
3. Create a positive operating/work environment that enables employees to effectively implement and enforce ride-hailing, including required technology, work space and financial resources; and,
4. Reduce uncertainty associated with work flow changes for employees and external stakeholders.

A day-long change management workshop was held with our consultant, to formally draft a change management action plan. It involved assessing the branch’s readiness for change, analyzing results from two staff surveys and putting pen to paper for next steps.

To support staff with the new regulation changes, training began in May and is ongoing. So far there have been more than 22 training sessions, which have included:
- the new features of our passenger transportation database to support ride-hail;
- a new ICBC insurance product for ride-hail companies;
- a new data warehouse which will house data submissions made by licensees;
- vehicle identifier requirements for ride-hail companies;
- a new record review process for those seeking a review of their criminal or driver record; and,
- the new audit powers of the Registrar.

Although this is already an extensive list, more training is still to come. However, we are confident of the branch’s success not only because a formal change management strategy is in place, but because there is strong and committed leadership supporting this transition and a highly engaged and participatory team.

One significant leader supporting the branch’s transition has been on loan from Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement since May, Perry Dennis. Perry is filling the role of Deputy Registrar and Director of Operations with the branch and he recently received recognition for 25 years with the BC Public Service. (See Page 7).

We’re happy to have Perry with us and his sense of humour contributes to an enjoyable workday. He is commonly quoted as saying, “I’ll go wherever you tell me.” For our benefit at the PT Branch, we hope he’s told to stay with us for many months to come. ❖
Changing Lives One PECSF Donation at a Time
Submitted by 2019 PECSF Campaign Coordinators Kelly Laferriere, Finance and Administrative Clerk; and Rakiya Larkin, Branch Coordinator

It was a wild ride for us as first-time PECSF co-leads for the Provincial Employees Community Services Fund (PECSF) campaign, at headquarters, Oct. 1-31.

We were joined in supporting the overall campaign, by regional leaders Millie Furlong (Northern Region), Nicole Folk (Southern Interior Region) and Katrina Estoque (South Coast Region) and many hard-working volunteers. We were also grateful for the support of our ministry’s PECSF executive sponsor Major Projects, Infrastructure and Properties ADM Kevin Volk.

Incredible events took place all over our province to raise funds for PECSF during the month of October. At headquarters, our Win-it-Wednesday 50/50 draws were a huge success, and we kept everyone well fed throughout the campaign with a pancake breakfast, pizza lunch, chili cook-off and bake sale.

Our Transportation, Policy and Programs Department, led by ADM Deborah Bowman and Divisional Operations Manager Kim Pilkington, hosted an amazing book sale, with all the proceeds going toward the Victoria-based charity pool. Ministry colleagues in the South Coast Region also ran a book sale to give some books a new home.

With the help of some great donations and volunteers, we were able to host an incentive draw across the ministry. The following prizes were awarded to five lucky winners:

- A large emergency kit (donated by Emergency Management BC) – Nicole Comeau
- A Day in the Life of a BC Transit Operator package (learning how to drive a double decker bus) – Tahna Neilson
- Lunch and a tour of Government House on behalf of Lieutenant Governor Janet Austin’s private secretary – Tanya McKinney
- A ride-along with our very own Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement branch – Brittney Speed; and,
- A private city tour hosted by one of Victoria’s senior urban designers – Carol Magee

In the Northern Region, employees put the “fun” in fundraising with a chili cook-off, impressive gift basket raffle and Halloween office decorating contest. We were also a little bit jealous because they received a visit from a sweet puppy named Bullet, and his owner who volunteers with the BC SPCA.

South Interior Region office employees took their snacks for a spin with their mobile snack cart, filled their bellies at a chili and corn bread contest and entered their names for a gift basket raffle. In addition to the cook-off and basket raffle, the South Coast Region also hosted a samosa sale and parking spot auction. It seems 50/50 draws are popular no matter where you go in our ministry, as all the regional offices held draws, as well as headquarters.

As co-leads for this year’s campaign, we know that we couldn’t have done it without all the amazing volunteers that stepped up to support this important work. We would like to thank everyone who volunteered time toward this amazing cause, whether it was cleaning up after an event, serving food, informing people about how to donate or selling 50/50 tickets. Everything you did was appreciated. We would also like to thank Jenna D’Arcy from Strategic Human Resources, for her guidance and helping keep us on track!

More on Page 11…
About 135 payroll donors and ministry employees who participated in PECSF events collectively raised $47,920. This was more than our record-setting total from last year!

The funds collected help organizations in more than 100 B.C. communities, including food banks, hospice and palliative care centres, animal shelters and violence prevention and support services.

It’s safe to say that 2019 was another successful year for PECSF, thanks to each and every one of you who generously contributed to local charities in your community!

Northern Region employees enjoyed hanging out with Bullet, a cute BC SPCA rescue dog: (back row) Rebecca Sanderson, Micayla Trudel, Sarah Powell and Dylan Bennett; and (front row) Alyssa Stauble (BC SPCA), Sydney Mellett, Lauren Sheedy and Pam Castle.

Northern Region Office and Fort George District employees dressed up in some spooktacular Halloween costumes in support of PECSF.

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**Changing Lives One PECSF Donation at a Time**

...Continued from Page 10

Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program to Improve Operators’ Efficiency... Continued from Page 8

In additional to our fantastic regional reps, and those already mentioned in the article, the following employees were a huge help in planning, organizing and supporting regional and headquarters PECSF events:

- Dana Aljanaby
- Danny Arndt
- Mackenzie Berry
- Tamara Brooks
- Michelle Campbell
- Loretta Carlson
- Shena Changirwa
- Adrienne Chow
- Adelle Corrado
- Diane Edgar
- Krista Englund
- Shelly Ewen
- Ashley Gaffney
- Renee Gordon
- Catherine Grisewood
- Kevin House
- Morgan Hurn
- Kara Imhof
- Shannon Jares
- Agnes John
- Pearl Judge
- Jessica Ling
- Porya Khorsandi
- Emma Krakow
- Steven Lee
- Sandy Lu
- Ashley McRae
- Andrea Mercer
- Mahsa Mohajerani
- Sara Neate
- Alysha Piccini
- Cora Prentice
- Rae-Lynn Olson
- Shery Owen
- Shelley Ruiz
- Rebecca Sanderson
- Sarah Schaefer
- Pratima Singh
- Victoria Smith
- Jessica Taylor
- Micya Trudel
- Rudolph Wetselaar
- Kattia Woloshyniuk

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How to develop a fuel management program for any size of fleet, incorporating measures to improve fuel economy based on what will work best for each operation. Strategies include implementing efficient driving techniques, improving vehicle maintenance programs, installing aerodynamic devices, utilizing wide tires and reducing idling times.

The ministry is providing $1.4 million annually for this initiative. The funding is administered through our Climate Action Programs group, which is housed in the Transportation Policy and Programs Department.

Climate Action Programs Manager Alan Callander says, ”This program will act as a bridge by lowering the current fleet’s fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, until zero and low emission heavy-duty vehicles become more accessible and affordable.”

By linking improved fuel efficiency now, to an alternative fuel future for commercial vehicles; working on creating an extensive network of electric charging stations for smaller motor vehicles; and, building a new electric-ready ferry for Kootenay Lake, our ministry is making strides to achieve CleanBC’s emissions reduction goals.
Transit Branch Celebrates Halloween
Submitted by Renée Finn, Acting Branch Coordinator

Well, the Transit Branch outdid itself again! They took part in Halloween festivities with a potluck luncheon with fellow team members and co-workers, on Oct. 31, at headquarters.

Everyone participated by decorating and bringing something for the potluck. A big thank you to all for your assistance in making this a great lunch hour Halloween activity.

The team also welcomed trick-or-treaters from beyond the branch, including some well-disguised ones.

Kamloops Baseball Team Tops in Tournament
Submitted by Bonnie Cameron, Regional Contract Administrator

Southern Interior Region’s Kamloops baseball team won their year-end tourney with five straight wins.

Talk about teamwork! We braved the cold, the wind, and a few hits to the head and face. But all in all, no one died, and we stood up to the plate and claimed our victory.

Ministry employees and one spouse made up our amazing team. We started in early August and had our final year-end tournament in Kamloops, at the Tournament Capital Ranch ball diamonds on Sept. 28 and 29.

Playing on a team with fellow co-workers and colleagues helps to build bonds and friendships that are carried back into the workplace. As we all know, teamwork is important to have in the workplace and what better way to build on that than with some fun, exercise and amazing peeps.

Way to go team!
CVSE Joins in Law Enforcement Memorial 2019
Submitted by Allison Kelly A/Supervisor CVSE

To honour officers who lost their lives in the line of duty, and show support for the officers’ loved ones, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) officers participated in the British Columbia Law Enforcement Memorial, Sept. 29, in Victoria.

The annual event was attended this year by 11 CVSE officers coming from all three regions.

Tragically, CVSE has lost three officers in the line of duty. The most recent was Toni Kristinsson who was killed in a motor vehicle collision in the Northern Region, in 2015.

A memorial parade is part of the event, and was extremely emotional for those who knew Toni. It was a dark reminder of the risks that officers face while serving the people of this great province.

Toni’s name appears on the BC Law Enforcement Memorial, known as “The Bastion,” located on the grounds of the B.C. Legislative Assembly. The structure was created by the BC Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation which was formed as a not-for-profit registered foundation in 2003, to develop a provincial monument dedicated to officers who lost their lives in active service to the citizens of British Columbia.

The foundation saw this task completed, with the monument being unveiled in September 2004. At that time, 96 names appeared on the memorial. Since then, the foundation has researched past events throughout B.C. where the circumstances around the loss of a peace officer are not fully known.

Today, there are 125 names inscribed on the monument, including the names of the three CVSE officers.