

From: ["Levitt, Karen" <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>](mailto:karen.levitt@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council"](#)
Date: 3/17/2025 10:52:06 AM
Subject: EMBARGOED: Stanley Park Train to Remain Offline This Spring

EMBARGOED

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the note below from John Brodie, the Board of Parks and Recreation's Director, Business Services, concerning the cancellation of the Stanley Park 2025 Easter Train.

Please keep this information confidential until the news release is issued later this morning.

Thanks,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
karen.levitt@vancouver.ca

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱m̱ḵ y̱m̱/Musqueam, S̱wx̱ú̱817̱_wú7mesh/Squamish and s̱lilw̱ ta̱ /Tsleil-Waututh nations

From: Park Board GM's Office
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2025 10:00 AM
To: CMOOffice <cmoffice@vancouver.ca>; Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Park Board GM's Office ; Brodie, John <John.Brodie@vancouver.ca>
Subject: Advance notice news release: Stanley Park Train to remain offline this spring

Hello,

I am writing to inform Mayor and Council that the Park Board will be issuing a news release later this morning regarding the cancellation of the Stanley Park Train's 2025 Easter Train event scheduled for April 18—21, 2025. Key messages from the information bulletin are included below for reference:

- Train operations have been suspended since emissions safety concerns canceled the Bright Nights Christmas Train event in December 2024.
- An engineered solution was designed and implemented to mitigate the emission concerns, but recent testing of the aged combustion engines indicates efforts to address emissions concerns were unsuccessful.
- With the existing combustion engines at their end-of-life, there is uncertainty on the viability of continuing with the existing engines.
- Staff will be assessing potential paths forward for the Stanley Park Train and reporting back to the Board in Q2 2025.

Thank you,

John



John Brodie, PMP | Director, Business Services

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

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Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

News release

March 17, 2025

Stanley Park Train to remain offline this spring

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation regrets to announce that the Stanley Park Train will not be back in operation in time for our popular Easter Train event. The train will need to remain offline for the foreseeable future.

"Our staff have been working tirelessly to get the train back on track for Easter and we recognize how disappointing this news is for so many people and their families," says Steve Jackson, General Manager of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

Train operations have been suspended since late last year when emission safety concerns prompted the cancellation of the Bright Nights Christmas Train. Recent testing of the locomotive engines, all of which are 50 years old or more and showing signs of their age, indicates efforts to address emissions concerns were unsuccessful.

“Our mechanics have a high degree of expertise working on the train’s aged combustion engines and have been working tirelessly with the Park Board’s external third-party train engineer on designing solutions to the exhaust issue,” says Lon LaClaire, General Manager of Engineering Services for the City of Vancouver. “Unfortunately, through this work, it’s become clear that refurbishing the aged engines to meet the regulatory requirements and return them to service does not have a clear solution.”

Over the past several years, numerous steps have been taken to extend the functional lifespan of the Stanley Park Train. However, this latest closure puts in question the operational and financial viability of operating the train with the existing combustion engines.

Staff are therefore undertaking a comprehensive analysis of potential paths forward which they will present to Park Board Commissioners for consideration in June 2025.

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