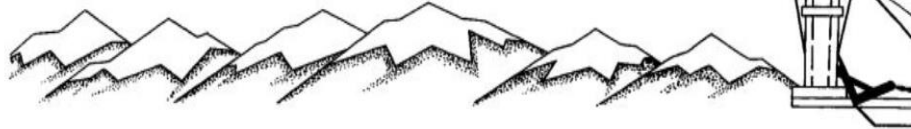


Highball!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 6TH DIVISION PNR

December 2019



CP unveiled its new SD70ACU locomotives with paint schemes honouring the armed services on Remembrance Day adjacent to the company's Ogden HQ. CP 6644 wears the camouflage colours applied to Royal Canadian Air Force "Spitfire" fighter planes flown at the Allied invasion of Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944.

(photo by Gord Smith)

6th Division Officers

Superintendent

Ed Molenkamp 6divsuper@pnr.nmra.org

Phone: 780-455-1479

Assistant Superintendent

Peter Ulvestad ulvestad@telus.net

Phone: 780-410-0788

Secretary

Doug Johnson djca@accesscomm.ca

Treasurer

Rick Walker walkr@telusplanet.net

Achievement Program

Doug Burton dwburton1234@gmail.com

Convention Coordinator

Doug Burton dwburton1234@gmail.com

Highball! Editor

Rob Badmington highball@pnr.nmra.org

Superintendent's Report - Ed Molenkamp, Superintendent 6th Division

Hello everyone,

I hope you all had a good fall of model railroading and are looking forward to Christmas. Hopefully you can take some time this holiday season to get into the basement to work on some projects.

The books from the Kootenay Express were cleared up and finalized recently. We were able to pay out some monies to the layouts that were there and the 6th Division has been sent a cheque for \$ 800.00.

All in all, the entire turnout was good and financially we did pretty good also.

Speaking of conventions... I am looking forward to Camrose in the spring. This is always a good time to see old faces and meet some new. From what I hear it will be great time.

As the New Year approaches watch for announcements regarding the "spring circuit" as I like to call it.

The 6th Division will have a booth at Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, SUPERTRAIN and Regina so come out and see us.

Hope to see you all at the upcoming events!

From the Editor – Rob Badmington

As usual, the fall and winter seasons in Alberta and Saskatchewan are packed with model railroad activities. This issue of Highball! contains reports on some of the past events, and descriptions of what is in store for us in the New Year. While I won't personally be able to get to all of the shows, I hope to attend the conventions in Camrose and Burnaby in May. I strongly urge you to support these events as well as all the shows in your vicinity.

As I have said here many times before, one of the biggest benefits of our hobby is the friends you make. One of my longest friendships is with Mark Johnson of Edmonton. When Mark and his wife Marilyn said they were coming to Calgary to visit us, it didn't take me long to arrange for Mark to participate in a couple of operating sessions, along with visits to two more layouts. Many thanks to the gentlemen who welcomed Mark to their homes.

This past October, Bonny and I traveled to Europe for a 10 day cruise, a few days in Italy, and a week

of train riding in Switzerland. One of the thrills was riding the Frecciarossa high speed train from Rome to Milan and watching the display show our speed at 300 kph, while passing traffic on the adjacent freeway that looked like it was parked. We also rode meter gauge cog trains to the tops of mountains, and standard gauge intercity trains that arrived and departed like – Swiss clockwork.

The downside was that I missed the 40th Annual Boomer Auction, which I was reminded of many times by my fellow South Bank Short Lines club members.

I sincerely wish you and your family a Very Merry Christmas, with plenty of train stuff in your stockings, and a Healthy and Happy New Year!

And if you happen to find a lump of coal in there, take a few pictures and send us an article on how you turned it into realistic coal loads for your hopper cars.

Achievement Program Report - Doug Burton, 6th Division, PNR AP Chair

Well things are starting to pick up again with a turn in the weather. So get out the tools and get at it. I was at GETS and was looking for candidates for Golden Spikes and maybe some AP. I did find 5 that I was hoping to approach but 3 were from Div 7 so I left them to the Div 7 AP. The other two I am working with to get Golden Spikes. One has to become an NMRA member. Once we have them finished I will post their names here. It is just a matter of finding time to get together. So if you are from Saskatoon or Calgary I will be at those shows and we can find time to look at Golden Spikes for modules that you may have in layouts or maybe you have your own layout at one of these shows. We can't give anything to a club but we can look at modules and models that you have that are part of a club layout. For information on Golden Spikes go to this page <https://www.nmra.org/golden-spike-award>

I also have also just been approached by someone who is from Edmonton who should qualify for a Golden Spike and wants look at AP of which I am expecting that he has 3 if not 4 certificates that he could receive easily. So we will be working on that.

We have also added a new judge to the team for the Edmonton area. Ray Clifford, who as you may have read, received his MMR in the spring.

I personally received my Master Builder Structures this summer and am currently working on Cars which I hope to have done by Spring 2020.

Here is who helps to make up the 6th Div AP Team:

Doug Wingfield	MMR	Lethbridge
Dale Sproule	MMR	Calgary
Roger Walker	MMR	Calgary
Greg Orme		Airdrie/Calgary
Doug Hunter		Regina
Dale Armstrong		Swift Current
Jeff Betcher		Regina
Cal Sexsmith		Saskatoon
Doug Burton		Edmonton/Camrose
Ray Clifford	MMR	Edmonton/Camrose

Please feel free to send me a note or talk to anyone above about AP questions you may have and I/we will get you the answers you need.

2020 Convention Preview - David Halliday

Camrose, Alberta – There will be a variety of accommodation options for people attending Battle River Rails, the PNR 6th Division 2020 convention, including a nearby campground.

Convention registrants who want to bring their RVs along can stay at Exhibition Trail RV Park which is only a few blocks from the convention hotel. This is a Good Sam Club park that features a selection of pull-through and back-in sites with full hookups (30-amp power), WIFI and shower and laundry facilities. Reservations can be made online at www.camroservpark.com or by phoning 780-678-2888.

Battle River Railway Modelers are hosting the convention, looking to build on the success of the 2010 convention. Layout tours have been

confirmed, clinics planned and the host hotel chosen. Prototype tours are still in the planning stages — a shutdown of the Evraz pipe plant means that prototype tour may not go ahead. The host club is looking at alternate tours.

Le Chateau Hotel, 3911-48 Ave, Camrose, is the convention venue. This is a newly renovated hotel that has a mix of premium and budget rooms. It's well located for access the Camrose Railway Station where the barbecue will be held May 16, 2020. Le Chateau is also the venue for the convention banquet on May 17, 2020.

Registration: \$60 (early bird) before March 15, 2020, \$70 after March 15. Barbecue May 16 \$15, banquet May 16, \$25. Deadline for registration is May 1, 2020.

At the moment, four layouts are on the itinerary for tours.

Model railroaders consider a range of possibilities when they build a layout, such as an existing railway, a modified version of a railway or one that grows from their imagination.

Randy Kvill's layout is built on the premise that Canadian Pacific Railway decided against building the Spiral Tunnels in the mountains of British Columbia. The time period is about 1920 and the grades on the CPR near Field, B.C., are steep. This is a layout where trains are small and pusher locomotives move in to help them conquer the Big Hill at low speeds.



Field BC yard on Randy Kvill's layout of the Laggan Sub on the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Kvill started with a four by eight foot layout 20 years ago, then moved on to a larger layout that was on the tour for the 2010 convention. Since then, Kvill has continued work, completing the yard and scenery at Field — a focal point on the layout and an action centre for the climb up the Big Hill. Trains on Kvill's layout make the journey through the mountains to the ports of Vancouver or Port Arthur (now Thunder Bay).

Kvill chose MRC Prodigy Advance for his DCC system and appreciates its user-friendly features. Many of his steam locomotives are Bachmann Spectrum.

Where many model railroaders struggle to get the space for a layout, Doug Burton, who is both 6th Division AP chair and 6th Division convention



Part of Randy's layout is still under construction, but this also allows visitors to see how the benchwork is constructed and how the scenery is put into place.

coordinator, found the answer in the open basement of a new house. While he has a large layout, he's also combined it with a home theatre. The layout, depicting the transition era when steam and early diesel locomotives moved side-by-side on the rails, follows the exterior walls of the basement, leaving plenty of room in the middle for the theatre. The openness of the basement also helps create the feeling of the wide-open spaces we're so familiar with on the Prairies. Doug has painted backgrounds on the walls to add depth and perspective to the layout.

Burton says his CN Prairie layout is set in June 1959 with scenes from Saskatchewan and Alberta that he believes represent the Prairies. Burton started this layout, his third, in 2007 — the yard represents a division point on the CNR main line loosely based on Melville, SK. The main industries are grain, livestock, freight and passenger service.

Norm Skretting's layout is based on the CN Clearwater Sub in British Columbia and the Okanagan Sub (although the Okanagan Sub is not modeled).

Here's how Norm describes his layout:

"I have used actual siding names and they are in the correct geographical order, but are not accurate representations of the locations. I have also located several industries on the layout that are not there in real life, such as the cement

plant at Avola and the fruit packing plant in Exlou. I did that to add to the way freight and switching possibilities. The operating scheme is based on trains that ran during the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s and I use a car card system for the movement of cars. The centre of operations is Kamloops Junction where through freights and passenger trains change crews, set out local traffic and pick up traffic for east and west of Kamloops Junction. There are three local trains that originate and terminate in Kamloops Junction. All other trains originate and terminate

in the staging/fiddle yard.”

“The Clearwater Sub is controlled by CTC designed and built by Kevin Rudko of Signalogic Systems. This system is very prototypical and is based on Canadian signal systems.

“The layout is powered by a Digitrax simplex radio system, so crews can follow their trains around the layout. There is a lot of activity that happens in the layout rooms and I am pleased with the reality that can be achieved in such a relatively small space (main layout room is 14x22 feet and the staging area is about 10x14 feet).”

Area Reports

Moose Jaw - Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club - Greg King

The club worked on a new winter scene train table to display at the Western Development Museum (WDM) in Moose Jaw during the Christmas Season. We displayed a smaller table last year (to good reviews) and got the opportunity to display this larger one this year. The display is situated in the main lobby of the Museum for the enjoyment of all staff and visitors during the holiday season. (attached are pictures).



TCMRC has decided to register as a non-profit organization to protect the members from possible liability issues.

Our Club is busy preparing for our 25th Annual Model Railroad Show at the WDM on March 28/29, 2020. We are also investigating and planning road trips to the various train shows including SUPERTRAIN, Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Regina. Our website is www.tcmrc.org.



Calgary - Dale Sproule

Members of the Calgary Model Trainmen’s Club participated in the annual Heritage Park Railway Days in Calgary September 28 and 29 but the weather made participants think it was closer to December with a heavy snowfall keeping

attendance to a minimum. In fact numbers were so low that no one, staff or visitors, were seen on Main Street on more than one occasion. It was cold and miserable outside but warm and friendly

at the model displays in the Roundhouse and other buildings in the Park.

The South Bank Short Lines club held their annual Boomer Auction October 19, always the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and since this was their 40th Auction, cake was the order of the day..40 years! The auction started at 10 am ending up at 3:15 pm. Typical deals might a pair of Accurail ready to run cars for 30 bucks.

The Calgary Model Railway Society (CMRS) held its annual Fall Mini meet the following day. Members were encouraged to bring a diorama measuring 25 cm x 25 cm in honour of the Society's 25th anniversary. Six very dioramas were entered in the popular vote challenge. Photos are on the CMRS website. This diorama modelling challenge was a participation session, not a contest! Well over 100 attended the AGM and associated day long clinics.

Next up was the CMRS Slide Night on November 8th, an evening filled with railfan photos from all over the world. This year there were even photos of a well-done and very realistic model railroad. Each year's show is a surprise-filled evening and the half-time pizza and pop is a good deal too!

The Calgary Model Trainmen's Club opened its doors to over 40 visitors at the annual Open House on Saturday, November 9th. Highlight this year was the around the wall track being operational. Congratulations to Garth Praestegaard, Mike Bromley and entire track gang for meeting the deadline of getting the line up and running. Membership show and tell was another favourite for visitors. As always, the CMT open door policy is that potential members and

visitors are always invited any Wednesday evening after 7 pm, while a bunch of members are always working Saturday mornings after 9:30 am.

November 11th, REMEMBRANCE DAY is always a special day of reflection. For years I was aware that CPR Ogden Shops had their own service of Remembrance for the thousands of Railway employees involved. This year they really did it up right. From CP's website: "On November 11, Canadian Pacific pays tribute to the more than 33,000 CP employees who served in the last century's two world wars, and to those who continue to serve today. This tradition continues every year, with every CP locomotive sounding its whistle at 11:01 a.m. local time, if safe to do so, to start a moment of silence."

"This year Canadian Pacific (CP) unveiled five specially painted locomotives on Remembrance Day in Canada and Veterans Day in the U.S. honouring the culture and history of the armed forces. The five Electro-Motive Diesel SD70ACUs will take the message of military pride across the CP system." Watch for these locomotives in general revenue service across the system.

For us John Allen fans, (new to me) a set of photos can be seen at: JOHN ALLEN COLLECTION: http://www.gdlines.org/GDLines/GD_Galleries/The_Slides/index.html

Good news for scratchbuilders: an employee of NWSL has bought the business and it continues as normal.

Guess that is it for now from Calgary. Well, back to viewing the Revelstoke Railcam, always entertaining as long as there are trains moving.

Lethbridge - Paul Smith

The Southern Alberta Model Railway Club is wrapping things up for the Christmas period and will be resuming activity in January. Our annual Christmas/New Year's Dinner will be held on January 25th and our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for February 20th. The SAMRC Spring Open House will be held on Saturday, March 21 and Sunday, March 22 from 1100 to 1600 hours both days.

We're making progress on all three of our club layouts. Our G scale layout is suspended from the ceiling and awaits the installation of the final sections of roadbed to complete our loop plan. Trackwork and electrical work will be tackled in the new year. Work continues on the scenery for the harbour extension on the HO scale layout and we continue to refine our operating systems. The N scale layout trackwork is near completion with the addition of some new turnouts and

weathering/painting of rail and ties. Scenery will be on the agenda for 2020.

Regular club meeting nights are on Tuesday starting at 1900. We meet in our building in Gyro

Park. Visitors are always welcome and should enter by the north door.

Regina – Echo Valley Railroad Guild - Doug Johnson

Members of the Guild have been active this fall with modular and home layouts. The weather outside seems to have been conducive to indoor activity! Planning has commenced for the fourth annual Regina Railfest to be held at the Caledonian Curling Club on May 2nd and 3rd, 2020. This is the same large venue which was used in 2019 and which met with enthusiasm from all

participants. Rumours are circulating regarding the possibility of additional railroads for the show. The 2019 show had a record attendance and we hope to increase that in 2020.

Information can be obtained by contacting Ron Coburn at (306) 545-4883 or rdcoburn@accesscomm.ca

Olds - Didsbury - Carstairs - Rick Astle

The Mountain View Model Railroad Club activities in September during the Mountain View Arts Festival included setting up of a G-scale operation on the museum lawn, running our club HO-scale layout and our two portable layouts - one in HO-scale and one in N-scale. We continue to work on scenery details for all layouts and hope to have both portables ready for our show in Carstairs May 23rd and 24th. The G-scale operation was such a great hit with festival goers

that the club has decided to embark on a permanent G-scale layout at the museum. The area of the layout has been determined and a probable configuration has been arrived at. Now comes the challenge of funding the project. Stay tuned, we will have more in the new year. If you would like to visit the club's layout, give me a call to arrange a suitable date and time. Rick Astle – (403) 507-3314

Airdrie / Iron Horse Park - Greg Orme

With the Thanksgiving weekend came the end of another successful season at Iron Horse Park. A very good year all in all with loyal support from our regular ridership keeping us on our toes right to the end.

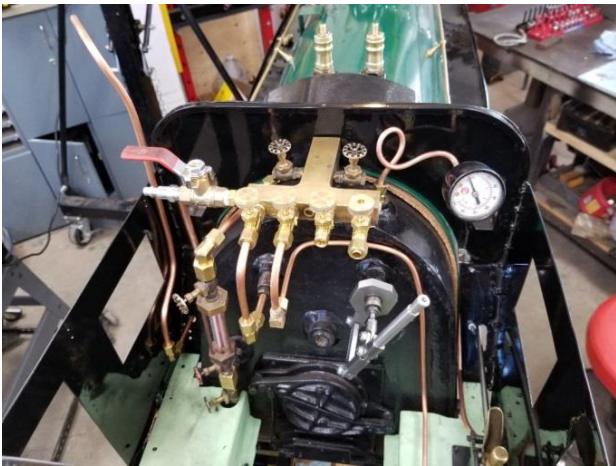
The Shuswap Sub also saw some progress with work being done to extend trackage over towards the Mountain Sub and hopefully by early next summer a new switch will be cut in to allow for continuous running from one subdivision to the other.

It's been just over a year now since work was started on the CN Northern and it is fast approaching its maiden run since the major overhaul started last winter. The tender has been repaired and is in the process of having all the

water, gas and brake connections being mated with the locomotive.

Our third annual Halloween run on the 27th of October was a great success with over 800 riders dressed in costume to support the Airdrie Veterans food Bank. Anyone dressed in costume or who made a donation to the Airdrie Food Bank were rewarded with a free ride. Ticket sales from those who just showed up for a ride was donated to the Rockyview School District Kids Breakfast Program. The club rounded up this donation to \$1000.00.

We are now once again into maintenance mode on all of the club's equipment as well as members' equipment in preparation for next year. It starts off with our Frostbite Run on Family Day in February followed by SUPERTRAIN. Our



opening day for the 2020 season will be on the Sunday of the May long weekend.



As I have said in the past we are always looking for new members or volunteers to help out at the park so if you have a bit of time and would like to get involved we would be happy if you would consider joining us. Information is available on our Web site.

With this being the last report of the year I would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

(3 photos by Greg Orme)

Volunteerism and You - Rick Astle

Do you currently volunteer or have you thought it might be nice to do so in order to help make an organization stronger, share some knowledge or skill you have, or maybe just to fill a void left by someone else? Do you have a passion for something? Have you benefited from the knowledge shared by someone or been helped along the way by another just because they could? Do you have a passion for something? Well, this is the essence of volunteerism.

In this busy world we live in, volunteering requires a commitment to everything we are doing in our daily lives, an ability to devote some of that much valued me time and a desire to be part of something bigger. Volunteering should be fun for all concerned as it can provide a respite

from the vagaries of daily life but it must not conflict with home and family.

Now you might ask how can I write these things and you should certainly question the validity of what I have said. So here is a very brief synopsis of my experience as a volunteer. My first volunteer position was that of a Cub Leader with Scouts Canada in 1967 which encompassed 35 years in various roles. I had also volunteered with Search and Rescue for 17 years and am currently with Special Olympics, Didsbury and District Historical Society, Olds Association for Community Living and of course, Mountain View Model Railroad Club. All of this has spanned more than fifty years of my life and I have been retired for the last six years.

I have a passion for each of the volunteer positions I have had and for what those positions represented to the larger community. They have taught me a great deal about myself and I have met an enormous number of new friends along the way. I have also left some of these positions when the passion faded and the body said enough but the friendships remain.

I have taken on another task with NMRA PNR 6th Division as part of the Nomination Committee in

search of individuals willing and able to fulfil elected positions within the division.

How about you? Aare you willing to step forward and volunteer within your community, club or NMRA and challenge yourself? I still wake up each morning looking forward to what life has in store.

To quote our friend Jack Hamilton, *“Those are my thoughts. What are yours?”*

CANADIAN PACIFIC Historical Association

Nelson 2020 Convention

Nelson, British Columbia — September 19-23, 2020

This is a unique opportunity to attend the first-ever joint CPHA-GNRHS convention, and the first-ever national CPHA convention. Nelson, B.C., was chosen as the location based on its rich history for both railways, world class tourism opportunities and the beautiful natural surroundings it affords us all.



Nelson is located in southern British Columbia along the CPR "southern main line", and was home to CPR divisional offices and a major yard for many years. At milepost 0.0 of the Boundary Subdivision, situated on the west arm of Kootenay Lake and on highway #3, Nelson is centrally located in the Boundary/Kootenay area of B.C.

The convention program is already taking shape and promises to keep you very busy for the duration of the event. We are extremely pleased to report that noted author and historian Robert D. Turner will be joining us as the banquet keynote speaker and guide for the K&S circle prototype tour. The program will also include:

- Historic and community tours
- Clinics and presentations
- Meet-and-greet patio BBQ
- CPR models and photo displays
- Model railroad layouts
- Opportunities to socialize with like-minded people
- Events for non-rail partners

With so much to enjoy, we are confident this convention will provide a great time for our members. Watch for more information in future issues of *CP TRACKS* and on the CPHA website (www.cptracks.ca) . A Facebook page will also be launched later this fall. Please remember that you must be a member of either [CPHA](#) or [GNRHS](#) to attend this event. See you there!

For more information, contact [Scott Calvert](#), Co-Chair, Nelson 2020.

6th Division Nominations Requested

With 2020 being an even year, the terms of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent end on August 31.

Our current Superintendent, Ed Molenkamp, has told me he is currently serving as VP NMRA Canada and although he enjoys his present role as 6th Div Superintendent would be willing to step aside if someone would like the job.

Our current Assistant Superintendent, Peter Ulvestad, has informed me that he would like to hand over the reins this year.

At the business meeting in Cranbrook, Ed asked for volunteers to form a nomination committee. At that meeting Ron Coburn and Doug Hunter together with myself stepped forward.

This is our second call for nominations. We will declare nominations closed on May 1, 2020 as this will allow time to conduct a full election should multiple nominations be forthcoming.

If you are interested in what the jobs entail, please refer to the PNR's Superintendent Handbook located at <http://pnr.nmra.org/policies/>

Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee with a nomination, or if you have any questions.

Rick Astle
Nominating Committee Chair
rdcoburn@accesscomm.ca
ve6rla@gmail.com

Ron Coburn
rdcoburn@accesscomm.ca

Doug Hunter
hunter25@sasktel.net



Upcoming 2020 Events in the 6th & 7th Divisions

See all the PNR events and our most recent additions at www.pnr.nmra.org

Feb 22-23, (Sat-Sun), Saskatoon, SK

All Aboard Model Train Show, Western Development Museum 2610 Lorne Ave. Saturday 9:00-5:00, Sunday 9:00-4:30. Layouts and Vendors. Info:- www.prairierailworkshop.com/train-show , allaboardtrainshow@gmail.com

Mar 15, (Sun), Calgary, AB

CMT Annual Flea Market, Glenmore Inn, 2720 Glenmore Trail SE (corner of Glenmore Trail & Odgen Road, SE). The Flea Market runs from 8:30 to 10:30. Time to start putting aside those items you no longer need so that you can buy more stuff that you do need! Tables are \$20 each, half tables can be booked for \$10. To book a table contact Brookes Harrow at bharrow@nucleus.com or 403-201-4937.

Mar 15, (Sun), Calgary, AB

CMRS Spring Mini-meet follows the CMT Flea Market at 11:00 at the Glenmore Inn with several clinics lined up, along with Show and Tell. <http://www.calgarymodelrailway.ca/mini-meets.html>

March 28-29, (Sat-Sun), Moose Jaw, SK

Model Train Show. Sponsored by the Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club. Western Development Museum, 50 Diefenbaker Drive. The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$10.00 for adults which then provides full access to the show and all museum exhibits. There is no charge for show participants or vendors who may rent tables for a small fee. Info:- www.tcmrc.org

April 18-19, (Sat-Sun), Calgary, AB

SUPERTRAIN 2020, Canada's Largest Model Train Show. 9 AM to 5 PM both days. Genesis Centre, 7555 Falconridge Blvd. NE, Calgary. FREE PARKING at McKnight-Westwinds C-Train Station with free shuttle. Adult - \$15, under 16 - free. Over 70,000 sq. ft. of operating layouts, exhibits and displays, railroad artists, hobby shops, model manufacturers, demonstrations, clinics, museums and railroad historical associations, Lego and Thomas Play Area, garden railways, ride-on trains, and much more. Info:- www.supertrain.ca or email to info@supertrain.ca

May 2-3, (Sat-Sun) Regina, SK

Regina Railfest 2019, Over 25,000 sq. ft. of model railroad layouts, displays, exhibits, and vendors!. Caledonian Curling Club, 2225 Sandra Schmirler Way,. Information can be obtained by contacting Ron Coburn at (306) 545-4883 or rdcoburn@accesscomm.ca, or visit <https://reginarailfest.com/railfest-2020>

May 15-17, (Fri-Sun), 2020, Camrose, AB

Battle River Rails, 6th Division, Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, convention at the Le Chateau Hotel, 3911-48 Ave, Camrose. Prototype tour of the Evraz Pipe Mill, and layout tours. Clinics to be announced.

May 22-24, (Fri-Sun), Burnaby, BC

Railway Modelers Meet of British Columbia (RMMBC) at Simon Fraser University ****New Dates****. The emphasis is primarily on "modelling," as the name implies, with many interesting clinics, layout tours, and operating sessions. Full information and registration is at: railwaymodellermeeetofbc.ca/

May 23-24 (Sat-Sun), Carstairs, AB

Model Railroad and Hobby Extravaganza, Carstairs Curling Club, 350 11 Ave. Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 10am to 4pm. \$5.00 per person with 5 and under free. Info:- Rick, 1mvmrc@gmail.com, 403-556-8121 (home), 403-507-3314 (cell)