



The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) gratefully acknowledges the support of:



Official Record Of The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association

★★★ FINAL

THE SWITCH IRON

December 2018

Volume Eleven

Issue Number Three

Editor: Alex Regiec

MTHA: **BAGGAGE IDENTIFICATION TAG**
 All baggage must be tagged before boarding bus.

DESTINATION: _____
 VIA: _____
 NAME _____

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) is non-profit museum and registered charitable organization whose volunteers collect and preserve historic public transit memorabilia and classic vehicles. The MTHA is a proud affiliate member of the Canadian Transit Heritage Foundation.



END OF THE LINE FOR GREYHOUND'S WESTERN ROUTES ...



Greyhound #1140 was the last eastbound Trans-Canada bus to arrive at Winnipeg depot.

... GOING PLACES FOR 89 YEARS!

In 1922 John Learmouth began the Kootenay Valley Transportation Company Limited serving Nelson, Trail, Balfour and Nakusp in British Columbia. R.S. "Speed" Olsen purchased the company on November 30, 1929 changing its name to Canadian Greyhound Coaches.

Also on November 30, 1929 George Fay and H. B. "Barney" Olsen purchased the Foothills Transportation Company operating out of Calgary to Nanton, McLeod, Lethbridge and Cardston, Alberta. Barney owned of Canadian Yelloway Lines running Calgary to Edmonton.

After merging the companies in November 1930, and with headquarters in Calgary, Alberta, Canadian Greyhound Lines set out to build a national bus network. They acquired Winnipeg-based Trans-Continental Coach Lines crossing the vast Candian Prairies.

Under the leadership of George Fay, and later Robert Borden, the company continued to add routes and bring Canadians together. In June 1962, with the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway, Greyhound Lines of Canada Limited introduced the first-ever thru-bus schedules from Vancouver to Toronto. The 1980s saw the introduction of pup trailers for its parcel and courier express service.

The acquisition of regional companies like Grey Goose Bus Lines, Canadian Coachways, Voyageur Colonial Bus Lines and Penetang-Midland Coach Lines continued to build Greyhound's extensive inter-city bus network and essential passenger transportation service.

Sadly, on July 9, 2018, Greyhound Canada announced that after recent years of declining ridership and mounting financial losses, the company would have to cease operating its routes in Western Canada (west of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario) on October 31, 2018. Goodbye old friend! ■

Detroit-Los Angeles-Sacramento-Victoria-Nanaimo-Regina: 1954 GM bus has been everywhere ... welcome to the MTHA!

In 1959 General Motors introduced their redesigned transit bus as the "New Look". That led to calling the previous design the "old look". Old Look's were produced by GM from 1940 to 1969 and while Winnipeg's transit system got buses from five different builders in the period, 22 "old look" units were bought new in 1944 and 1956, and 5 more came used when Transcona Bus Lines was absorbed in 1963. GM made "old looks" in several lengths, from 25 feet to 41½ and Winnipeg had 28ft, 30ft, 35ft, and 40ft models, both gasoline and diesel.

GWTC 188 isn't an exact match for any of Winnipeg's "old looks". At 37¾ft it falls in between the 35ft models bought in 1956 and the 40ft units acquired from Transcona in 1963. Bus 188 is new to Winnipeg, and has had one of the most unusual histories for a preserved bus anywhere. It was originally built to its odd length in 1954 for California's then-current axle loading restrictions, and delivered to the transit system in Los Angeles. It was eventually sold second hand to Sacramento before being resold third hand to BC Transit. BC Transit assigned it first to Victoria, and then later to Nanaimo. Its commercial career came to an end in 1987 when it was sold, fourth hand, to a private collector. As part of preparations to celebrate its 2011 Centennial, Regina Transit purchased it, fifth hand, and restored it. Number 188 came to its sixth owner (and seventh home) in 2016 when Manitoba Transit Heritage Association received #188 as a donation from Regina. ■



MTHA bus #188 freshly painted in the GWTC livery.



Regular meeting of the MTHA Board of Directors

HELD ON MONDAY, OCT. 29, 2018 AT MOTOR COACH INDUSTRIES IN WINNIPEG

PRESENT:

Alan Brunsel (chair), Linley James, Alex Regiec, Ross M. Smith, David Wyatt, Jim Legg, Roger Hamelin, Kuba Golebiewski, Logan Poole, John Kapusta, Dennis Cavanagh, Peter Elwick and Jon Williams.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 19:11.

MINUTES OF MEETING:

Review of Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2018.

MOTION: Peter Elwick moved the approval of the minutes as read. Dennis Cavanagh seconded. Carried.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Alan Brunsel reported that the Santa Claus Parade is on November 17th. In coordination with CJNU and the Winnipeg Goldeyes there will be two buses in the parade, #751 (1971 GM "new look") and 112 (1983 MCI MC-9). The Goldeyes have garland to replace the MTHA garland which expired last year. The parade organizers have waived our entry fees. Linley & Logan will coordinate. Transit will be asked to decorate 751. MTHA volunteers together with volunteers from CJNU and the Goldeyes will have to decorate 112.

Linley and Alan participated with Concordia Village to take seniors to CMU as part of its 90th Anniversary. Forty people were transported. Event occasioned Linley receiving some training on a standard.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Alex Regiec presented a summary of the MTHA financial position updated to October 29, 2018.

MOTION: Alex Regiec moved that the financial report be approved as presented. Roger Hamelin seconded. Carried.

We now have a tenant insurance policy covering our activities on storage property. The policy is for \$2 Million general liability, with various liability terms required by landlord.

Draft Agreement: The draft MTHA/City of Winnipeg agreement. Plan to meet with the Director of Transit soon (perhaps before Christmas). The Director will navigate the agreement through the senior City approval process.

Fundraising: 1.) Initial discussions have taken place with the Winnipeg Foundation. They have a granting program that would cover both capital and operating costs. Suggested grant application for capital funds to finish the Museum Bus and also for programming. Museum bus will have a schwag sales counter as a revenue component. Grant application deadline is 01 January 2019. Two private bus companies have made inquiries about using heritage buses for city tours. Discussions on-going.
2.) CJNU Fundraising. Radio station wants to help out the MTHA.
3.) NFI Group. Preliminary discussion with Janice Harper.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

Jim Legg reported that #188 (1954 GM "old look") has been painted. Some decals have been applied. Some additional work to be performed includes more decals, farebox exchange (possibly including stanchion modifications), drain old fuel, driver's half-door, brake drums, and several small repairs.

Bus #111[N] (1966 WFC P-41 Canuck). Several panels have been fixed. More work remains. On anodized panel was ground out in the mistaken understanding that it was to be painted.

Bus #112 (1983 MCI MC-9). Work on the radio. Jim wants to replace the radio with a 1980s model.

Buses #75 (1958 WFC T40) and #20 (1956 WFC T36-2L). Jim is working to fix the horn (not the air horn). Plan to make the buttons in the centre of both steering wheels work.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

Ross pursuing opportunities with Waverley Rose Senior Centre, Deer Lodge Hospital, and the Shaftsbury and Sturgeon Creek seniors homes.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Alex Regiec reported that retiring Greyhound Lines of Canada driver Doug Stern would like to volunteer with the MTHA.

Ideas for the next issue of The Switch Iron were discussed.

The MTHA/Winnipeg Transit annual calendar is at the printers.

NEW BUSINESS:

CJNU radio would like to undertake a Christmas season tour to high schools to raise food for Winnipeg Harvest.

A possible bus display at Polo Park after Christmas was discussed.

A motorman's handle has been brought to our attention. If it is accessed, we should transfer it to the #356 project. Proposed that we also donate one of our two handheld conductor's fare boxes also.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Jim Legg moved to Adjourn the meeting at 20:25. ■

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 3 at 7:00 PM at New Flyer Industries.

Recorded by David A. Wyatt.



MTHA VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

People, parades and places visited in 2018 (Part Two)



MTHA volunteers at 2018 Santa Claus Parade.



The 109th Annual Santa Claus Parade.



MTHA volunteers at Fab 50s Ford Flashback Weekend.



MTHA volunteer explaining bus operation at Dawson Trail Days in Ste. Anne, Manitoba.



MTHA at the Motor Coach Industries Family Fun Day & BBQ

As a not-for-profit charity and museum group, the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association takes a "hands on" approach to displaying its collection of vintage buses by offering outreach visits to senior centres, schools and by participating in various community festivals, parades and antique vehicle show & shines.



MTHA & CJNU at Turn Back The Clock Night at Shaw Park.



MTHA volunteers with guests at the Touch-A-Truck fundraiser in Dugald, Manitoba.



In the second half of 2018, Manitoba Transit Heritage Association volunteers took the historic vintage vehicles to:

- Motor Coach Industries Family Fun Day & BBQ
- Goldeyes Transit Driver Appreciation Day
- Quarry Days in Stonewall, MB
- Goldeyes Turn Back The Clock Night
- Dawson Trail Days in Ste. Anne, MB.
- Labour Day Parade & Walk
- Touch-A-Truck Fundraiser in Dugald, MB.
- Fab 50s Ford Club Show & Shine at Garden City
- 109th Annual Santa Claus Parade ■



The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) gratefully acknowledges the support of:



THE SWITCH IRON - END OF THE LINE

PAGE 4



Membership *has its perks!*

CONTACT US TODAY!

SUPPORTING YOUR FAVORITE NON-PROFIT RADIO STATION
LEADERSHIP IN NOSTALGIC MUSIC & LEGACY PROGRAMMING
CJNU FAMILY ♦ VOTING RIGHTS ♦ MEMBERS ONLY CONTESTS
KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH MANY CHARITABLE ENDEAVOURS

\$25.00 per year & renewals

Phone 204.942.2568 or
visit our web-site at www.cjnu.ca



NOSTALGIA BROADCASTING COOPERATIVE INC.

ON THE AIR | ON THE WEB | ON BELL/MTS TV
93.7 FM | CJNU.CA | CHANNEL 725
1350 A - One Lombard Place
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0X3
Phone: 204.942.CJNU (2568)
E-mail: info@cjnu.ca

COMMUNITY NON-PROFIT RADIO



PHOTO MEMORY FROM THE ARCHIVE



Celebrating 100 Years of Motor Buses In Winnipeg ...

This wonderful photograph comes from the collection of the late Peter A. Cox.

This picture was captured by Peter on October 6, 1969 on Main Street near Union Station just north of Broadway.

This bus was a 1956 General Motors model TDH-4512 and because of an enclosure over the driver's compartment these were known as "head knockers".

If you have a picture you'd like to share with us, please send it to: contact@mtha.ca