



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For immediate publication**

## **New Exhibition at Exporail: *Meals on Wheels***

**From December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

SAINT-CONSTANT, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 – From December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Exporail, the Canadian Railway Museum invites visitors to its new exhibition: ***Meals on Wheels***. Railfans will find this exhibit to be like a culinary trip and gourmets will have a unique opportunity to discover the evolution of food aboard trains. This exhibition provides a look at the exceptional contribution made by railway catering to modern culinary art through vintage crockery, silverware, menus, archival documents and billboards.

### **Exhibit Theme**

Faster! Further! Long before the advent of aircraft and cars, railways changed the way we travel. At that time only comfort and luxury were missing from enjoying the beauty of breathtaking landscapes. Longer distance travel created dining cars to satisfy the traveller's appetite.

#### ***Designing the dining car: innovation in motion***

In 1858, George Mortimer Pullman (1831-1897) filed a patent for his sleeping car design. In 1867, he developed the original concept into a hotel car, and in 1868, he filed a new patent for a dining car. Train travel would never be the same! Through this exhibition, visitors will appreciate in particular the development of equipment, service and life in the dining car.... Until Black Tuesday in 1929.

#### ***Serving with class: an exceptional staff***

The quality of service on trains, especially in the dining car, was a virtual trademark of the industry. And while the train staff were extremely proud of their contribution to this prestigious image, they worked in difficult conditions. The steward had full responsibility for the dining car and supervision of onboard staff. The kitchen brigade was composed of a chef and three other cooks, a pastry chef, and four or five waiters.

#### ***Good meals enhance the pleasure of travel***

When American William Cornelius Van Horne became general manager of Canadian Pacific in 1882, he immediately sensed the potential of Canadian scenery as a tourist attraction for wealthy travellers from the United States and Europe. To lure them here, he offered travel packages that included accommodation, gourmet dining and beautiful scenery. Canadian Pacific had launched a new national industry: luxury tourism and resorts.

## Acknowledgements

This exhibition was produced by Exporail, the Canadian Railway Museum. The project has been made possible in part by the Government of Canada, and through the support of the ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec and MRC de Roussillon.

## Useful information

**Until December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015:** open weekends from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Open for groups only during the week, reservations required (Outdoor site is closed).

**Holiday Schedule:** open December 27, 28, 29 and 30, 2015 and January 2, 3 and 4, 2016, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (Outdoor site is closed).

**From January 9<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016:** open Weekends from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Daily Rates (including visit and activities):** Adults \$18, Retirees (ages 65 and over) \$15, Family (2 adults and 2 children 4 to 12) \$48

## Holiday Season at Exporail

### Railway Christmas: from November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Exporail presents the Magic of Christmas. Several vehicles in the Grand Gallery will be decorated for your pleasure, Holiday family activities will be added... Santa is waiting for you! All Aboard!

**A Christmas Cookie Decorating Workshop,** from 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and from 14.00 p.m. to 15.00 p.m., will enable children to be creative and custom decorate their own holiday treat!

### Tea Service: from December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

**Exporail, the Canadian Railway Museum** will be **serving tea** to visitors (aged 13 and over) aboard a luxurious business car in the Grand Gallery of the Angus Pavilion, which once belonged to Charles Melville Hays (1856-1912) the President of the Grand Trunk Railway. Seating is limited and this special one and a half hour activity is available **by reservation only**.

**Menu:** Gingerbread cookies, sugar cookies, shortbread cookies, butter tarts, mincemeat tarts, fruit cake, plain or raisin scones and Orange Pekoe tea served with cream and lemon.

**Schedule:** Tea is served at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and lasts one hour and a half. Seating is available on December 12, 13, 19, 20, 27, 28 and 30, 2015 and January 2 and 3, 2016.

**Price:** \$30 p.p. + taxes (includes admission fee to Exporail).

**Reservations:** 450 638-1522 ext. 231

**exporail.org**

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## Contact:

Bruno Cordellier  
Communications Officer  
Phone : 450 638-1522, ext. 249  
E-mail : [bruno.cordellier@exporail.org](mailto:bruno.cordellier@exporail.org)