

Release press

Montreal, October 31, 2024

Exporail presents its exhibition on one of the great builders of Canadian railways: Sir William Cornelius Van Horne

The travelling exhibition offers an insight into his remarkable achievements as a collector, artist, and patron

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Montreal, October 31, 2024 – Exporail, Canada’s largest railway museum located in Saint-Constant, presents the travelling exhibition “Journey into the Heart of the Arts with Sir William Cornelius Van Horne,” highlighting his love for art—a must-see for enthusiasts of Quebec history. This deep dive into the mythical world of this influential 20th-century railway figure will be accessible from November 8, 2024, to April 30, 2025. Exporail will feature more than ten original works by this artist, patron, collector, and entrepreneur, who helped shape modern Canada until his death in September 1915.

Mr. Jean-Paul Viaud, the museum curator and lead creator of the exhibition, will offer the Exporail team a private tour to reveal unique aspects of the exhibition. The Exporail team would like to invite interested media to attend this tour on November 14, 2024. A full virtual tour of the exhibition is also available.

A Man of Many Facets

Born in 1843, Sir William Cornelius Van Horne was an impetuous figure of the British upper class. Beyond being a railway magnate, he had a deep passion for the arts, culture, and travel. His love for painting and collecting artworks reflected an insatiable curiosity about the world around him. A visionary and patron, he

not only shaped the future of transportation in Canada but also left his mark on the country’s artistic heritage.

This initiative is made possible with the participation of the Government of Canada.



About

Born out of the Canadian Railroad Historical Association (CRHA), Exporail has carried on the legacy of its passionate volunteers, who have made it possible to preserve and showcase this rich railway heritage. Exporail delights its audiences by operating a living railway museum that provides information and entertainment thanks to its outstanding museology and all its research, conservation, museological, educational, archival and publishing work.

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