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REVELSTOKE HERITAGE RAILWAY SOCIETY PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

The Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society is pleased to announce Doug Mayer's latest volume in his popular series on Canadian Pacific Railway's Revelstoke Division. "Volume Six: The Connaught Tunnel" chronicles the planning, construction, and remarkable century-plus working life of what was North America's longest railway tunnel. Completed in 1916, the Connaught Tunnel was a "game-changer" for the CPR and major engineering accomplishment, bypassing the worst sections of the iconic Rogers Pass. The Tunnel continues to be an important part of the Revelstoke Division and is well-known to generations of railroaders in the Revelstoke area.

Mayer has assembled a compelling story after researching far and wide in numerous public and private collections for archival and photographic content, some not previously published. He explores many topics, including the Tunnel's innovative design and construction, abandonment of the former Rogers Pass right-of-way, the massive 1931 flood, the Tunnel's infrastructure, and even the legendary stalled Selkirk steam locomotive incident. Richly illustrated, the hundred-page book is sure to please historians, railway buffs, industrial engineering enthusiasts, and anyone curious about the CPR's Revelstoke Division.

"This book has been over ten years in the making. I have been intrigued with the Connaught Tunnel even before we decided to build a model of the Tunnel's West Portal on the Revelstoke Model Railway Club's layout," says Mayer, "Most Canadians are unaware of just how significant the Connaught Tunnel was, and still is."

"This is a landmark work on a remarkable piece of engineering" says Jim Cullen, Executive Director of the Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society. "Not only is it the largest book our Museum has published, but its depth on the Connaught Tunnel story is unique and original. Doug has pulled together a big and complex, century-plus long story, drawing on material sourced from across the continent."

Mayer's book series is an important fundraising vehicle for the Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society, a registered charitable non-profit organization. Mayer donates his research time and expenses, and all profits from the sale of his books are retained by the society. He is a member of the Society's Board of Trustees and has been involved in the organization since 1988. Copies of the book will be available in the Revelstoke Railway Museum's Museum Store by early December, in time for holiday reading and gift giving. The book may be pre-ordered at the following link: <https://revelstoke-railway-museum.myshopify.com/products/cp-on-the-revelstoke-division-volume-6>

About the Revelstoke Railway Museum:

Revelstoke has deep roots with the railway. The Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society was incorporated in 1988 with the dream of bringing railway history back to Revelstoke, one of Canada's oldest railway towns. Its major project was development and construction of the Revelstoke Railway Museum in 1993, a grass-roots project driven by community leaders and which enjoyed the broad support of Revelstoke's citizens, businesses, and the public sector. Designed by Architect Paul Hughes, the Museum was built by local craftsmen using locally-sourced timber sawn at local mills. Widely recognized as one of the best small railway museums in Canada, the Museum has delighted over 500,000 visitors since opening in 1993 and has received numerous awards.

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