



Sea to Sky Model Train & Hobby Show 2025

Exhibitor Show information:

Show: Saturday March 22 (10-5), Sunday March 23 (10-4)

(Setup: Friday March 21 - 11 am to 7 pm, Saturday March 22 - 8 am to 9:45 am)

The West Coast Railway Association – Railway Museum of British Columbia

The volunteer members of the WCRA/RMBC would like to extend an invitation to you to participate in the Sea to Sky Model Train & Hobby Show 2025. We are looking for model train layouts, model rail / general hobby / RC / railway exhibits, and model rail / hobby vendors. We trust this show will support the model railway and overall hobby community, clubs, groups and vendors to share and promote our hobbies while raising awareness of our volunteer efforts to preserve and share B.C. and Canadian railway history at the Railway Museum of British Columbia.

New for 2025 (based on feedback from participants of past shows):

- The RDC Budd car will be operating all weekend with extended runs on the BC Rail Mainline through Squamish and possibly to MP2 to see our car shops. There will also be free guided behind-the-scenes tours of the museum and full-sized trains as well as RC Car and hill climb racing heats. Finally, we will offer a discounted 2-day pass.

For exhibitors and model train layouts that are not selling anything, we offer some significant advantages to participate in our show and support the museum. As a volunteer for the show (thus supporting the Railway Museum of British Columbia), you are able to submit a tax form for your expenses to participate. This includes mileage to and from the show, hotel, ferry, meal receipts and any other expenses to attend the show. The museum will issue you a charitable donation tax receipt at the end of the year, and (depending on your tax situation) you may get some of your expenses back as a tax refund.

Note: the museum no longer has meals available as our food trailer will not be operational nor chefs employed for a food service. We will offer a lunch that we bring in from outside the museum for a subsidized \$10 per person per day if you are interested, please complete the details on your registration form.

Why the Railway Museum of British Columbia in Squamish in March?

1. The Railway Museum of British Columbia (RMBC) in Squamish is available in March with no museum events until our spring opening. We have the space and volunteers available. The museum owns the table / chairs etc. rental company that we use for the event, as this is a slow time of year everything is available at this time.
2. The RMBC offers additional attractions: Full-size train ride \$10 and our mini rail train rides around the museum site (\$5 each ride), (subject to weather conditions and equipment being operational), the Royal Hudson on display in the roundhouse, our new White Pass G scale layout and a rail car with model railway displays and an operating layout.
3. The RMBC has been building a strong social media following and an e-mail list of families interested in activities at the museum. Our events typically sell out well ahead of time. Families are looking for a fun event to attend during spring break and we love sharing the model railway hobby and other hobbies with the community. RMBC expects that through our advertising we will have good attendance at the show.
4. RMBC will be selling tickets for the model rail / hobby show ahead of time, including family packs - on line at discounted prices. Higher priced tickets will be available at the gate. Also discounted 2-day passes.
5. This is an opportunity with the support of our volunteers to promote the Railway Museum of British Columbia and earn some money for the museum to support the on-going operations and restoration of railway history.
6. Free parking for all to the event.

Questions / Information:

1. Exhibitors, please fill in and return the Exhibitors registration form, get them in soon so we can add you to the website as attending. You can send in at a later date; your list of participants and those that might want to purchase a lunch.
2. Most of our exhibitors and vendors from past years have expressed an interest in attending this year's show.
3. For those selling anything please fill in the vendor registration form, the costs are; Vendor: 1 - 8-foot table, 2 chairs and draping between vendor booths \$50. Additional tables at \$45 each.
4. Will there be food on site? Yes, we will have limited snacks and hot dogs available for purchase. (but not the food trailer – will not be in operation)
5. Where will we be setting up? Can we drive in to unload? We have 2 buildings available for displays.
 - a. The Roundhouse: You cannot drive inside the Roundhouse, but there are entrance doors at either end of the building. We would like to have vendors and smaller layout exhibits set up in the Roundhouse. The Roundhouse has a flat cement floor with sunken railway tracks in the floor.
 - b. The Car Shop: Drive in but mostly large layouts will be in the car shop.
6. Free parking across the road from the museum, unloading on site available for set up. We will have limited parking on site the gates are closed to vehicle traffic between 9:30 am and 5:15 pm Saturday, 9:30 am to 4:15pm Sunday. If you need to move your vehicle during the day, be sure to park across the road as you can not get through the pedestrian gate with a vehicle during the day.
7. Saturday night dinner, social; The WCRA is looking at hosting a dinner social for layout groups / exhibitors / vendors, if possible, at a local restaurant on Saturday March 22. More information to follow.
8. Our hours allow for folks driving a distance from the city an easier starting time at 10 am. We close at 4 pm Sunday to allow for take down and return home at a reasonable hour. Driving time from Vancouver is under an hour.
9. This is a Model Train and Hobby Show so you are welcome to sell other hobby items, models, RC vehicles, Lego, Hot Wheels, doll house etc. This allows vendors more sales opportunities and more hobby variety for the public.
10. Please help us promote the event on your social media platforms and by printing out our show poster.
11. Updates watch our website: <https://www.wcra.org/model-train-hobby-show/>

Hotels: Please note that with the on-going gas pipeline and construction work one entire hotel in Squamish is booked up with workers and others are partially booked up, if you do a search, you will find several properties are not available. There are some cheaper options downtown. We have been able to arrange a very limited # of rooms at a special discounted rate for our train show weekend for exhibitors at the Sandman hotel in Squamish near the museum.

Please e-mail trainshow@wcra.org for the details to book these special rates.