



# A Golden Anniversary

## PCT proudly celebrates 50 years in Port Moody

The world's largest sulphur export terminal, PCT has worked diligently over the past 50 years to establish state of the art facilities, implement award winning environmental initiatives and contribute over \$1 million to Port Moody community groups and charities.

The year is 1960. Port Moody, although quickly becoming a "suburb" of Vancouver, is still a small community of around 7,000 residents mostly employed by the local sawmills, the pipe mill or oil refineries. The residential communities of Glenayre and College Park are under construction and for the first time since 1933, infrastructure projects are beginning.

Also looking to expand was Pacific Coast Terminals who since 1929 had operated a marine terminal in New Westminister. Port Moody quickly became the chosen location for the bulk terminal primarily because of its close proximity to the Canadian Pacific rail yard in Port Coquitlam. PCT secured the property on the southwest side of Burrard Inlet, constructed a rail car dumper and

ship loader, and in March 1960 loaded its first vessel with a shipment of coal.

In a 1960 statement from then PCT President Geoff Warren, "Port Moody represents an optimistic expansion opportunity for our company" says Warren. "Not only is it an excellent logistical location, but it is a nice community for our employees to live and work in."

PCT operated both New Westminister and Port Moody terminals until 1982 when they sold the New Westminister terminal, which is now home to Westminister Quay Public Market.

Although most know PCT from its signature yellow piles of sulphur, the company has handled over 150 million tonnes of a variety of export products for Western Canadian resource companies including

ethylene glycol, an important raw material for industrial applications and manufacturing of polyester resins, films and fibers.

Other significant achievements and contributions over the past 50 years include:

- Investment into sophisticated rail, ship and logistics technology improving health and safety and resulting in over 5,000 man-years of direct employment for Lower Mainland workers
- Receipt of environmental stewardship awards for site water recycling systems and improving coastal vegetation in Port Moody arm including the creation of a salt marsh for marine habitat enhancement

- Contribution of over \$1 million to Port Moody community groups and charities including Crossroads Hospice, Golden Spike Days and various groups from the Port Moody Arts Community

"Support and involvement in our community has always been forefront to our organization" says Ken Catton, Vice President and General Manager of PCT. "We have a long history here, and our team is proud of our contribution to Port Moody's growth and evolution into the beautiful city it is today. We are looking forward to continuing our commitment and a long future as part of this community."

To celebrate their golden anniversary, PCT will be hosting an Open House on July 3, 2010. Watch for the June issue of *Channels* for more information.



1960s

1966 – Terminal expands to its present size of 108 acres



1980s

1989 – Investment in new equipment to reduce noise pollution and improve dust suppression for enhanced air quality



2000s

2006 – \$25,000 sponsorship of the Port Moody Curling Centre

1965

1970

1975

1985

1990

1995

2005

2010

## 2010 activities include a new look for PCT and an Open House community celebration



To celebrate their 50th Anniversary, PCT is undergoing a few changes and will be inviting the community to celebrate with them in July.

One change that residents will notice is the new look for the *Channels* newsletter and a shift in profiling information related to PCT business,

community involvement and environmental stewardship.

“We felt it was time to refresh how we present our organization to the community and our stakeholders” says Ken Catton, Vice-President and General Manager of PCT. “It is important that we consistently engage our community and demonstrate our continued involvement in and care for Port Moody. We hope to educate residents on who PCT is in a new engaging and approachable way.”

On July 3, 2010 PCT will be hosting a 50th Anniversary Open House during Golden Spike Days. Maintaining its tradition of being a fun, family-friendly event, the Open House will showcase activities and entertainment. Visitors will be able to tour a Canadian naval vessel in celebration of the Canadian Naval Centennial. Watch for more details in the next issue of *Channels* arriving in June.

## “Operation GEM” set to unveil first vehicles at PCT in February

Maintaining its strong commitment to environmental stewardship, PCT will be rolling out phase 1 of “Operation GEM” in February with the arrival of two electric vehicles on site. The vehicles – Global Electric Motorcars or GEM for short, will be used to transport employees from one end of the site to the other.

“We are excited to be implementing this program on our site,” says Kent Smith, Manager, Engineering & Maintenance. “If the new vehicles are as reliable as we anticipate, we hope to expand the program and replace the majority of our fleet within a few years.”

Following the two electric vehicles will be an electric truck currently in production in California and set

to be on site in April. The truck will be used in the maintenance department and may be the beginning of a replacement of all the commercial trucks on site.

“Since the early 1990’s, PCT has consistently been looking for ways to reduce its carbon footprint” says Smith. “This initiative is just another proactive step we are taking to ensure in whatever way possible, PCT contributes to a healthier community.”



## Q&A

### Ask a PCT Employee

We asked Kent Smith what he thought the most significant technological advancements have been at PCT over 50 years. Hands down, it’s the Stakrake and Rotary Car Dumper/Positioner.

**Q: What exactly is a Stakrake?**

A: The Stakrake is the large crane-like machine that sits in between the large piles of sulphur. It’s basic function is to stack and reclaim the sulphur into the large piles and ensure it remains contained as it is stored on site.

**Q: Why do you consider it a significant advancement?**

A: Prior to its arrival at PCT in 1987, we were using mobile equipment (front-end loaders) to move and position the sulphur. The Stakrake replaced a fleet of six mobile units and instantly transformed our business into a new era of increased efficiency, control and reliability while at the same time reducing costs and our environmental impact.

**Q: A Rotary Car Dumper/Positioner sounds complicated, is it?**

A: Actually no, but the technology is quite advanced. The Rotary Car Dumper/Positioner is the equipment used

to position the sulphur rail cars into the dumper then rotating the cars to dump their contents. The “Positioner” is a robotic arm that maneuvers the cars up and down the track – it is a major advancement as prior to its arrival at PCT in 1989, we relied on mobile equipment to move the cars. This was not only extremely inefficient and costly, but also very noisy.

**Q: You’ve mentioned that there have been environmental benefits with these advancements, can you elaborate?**

A: There is no question that with these advancements, PCT has significantly reduced its carbon footprint. The transition from diesel mobile equipment to the electrified Stakrake and Dumper/Positioner reduced our CO2 emissions by 80%. In addition, these machines have greatly reduced the noise pollution for the surrounding community residents and improved air quality through dust collection and suppression technology.



Kent Smith is Manager, Engineering & Maintenance and has been with PCT for 13 years.

## Around Port Moody

This regular section is dedicated to showcasing some of our partnerships and providing important information to the residents of Port Moody.

### WEARABLE ART AWARDS

Mantel Sponsor, PCT  
February 5 – March 21

Presented by the Port Moody Arts Centre Society, the 2010 Exhibition features 100 intriguing garments at 11 locations around Port Moody. Displays include entries submitted to three categories – Olympic, Canadian Spirit, and Mantel. Visit [www.wearableartawards.com](http://www.wearableartawards.com) for Exhibition locations.

### PORT MOODY NATURALLY SEMINAR

Wednesday March 24, 7 p.m.

With the growing season upon us, everyone’s talking about healthy soil. Join invasive species experts as they discuss your gardening needs and offer advice on how to avoid invasive species. Free at Inlet Theatre, 100 Newport Dr. [www.cityofportmoody.com/Environment/default.htm](http://www.cityofportmoody.com/Environment/default.htm)

### BEAR ESSENTIALS SEMINAR

Wednesday April 28, 7 p.m.

After a fairly mild winter, black bears are already emerging from their annual slumber. If you live in bear country this seminar is for you. Learn how to stay safe at home and in the community. Free at Inlet Theatre, 100 Newport Dr. [www.cityofportmoody.com/Environment/default.htm](http://www.cityofportmoody.com/Environment/default.htm)

### FINGERLING FESTIVAL

Sponsored in part by PCT

Saturday, May 1, 11 a.m.

Bring the family and join us at Noons Creek Hatchery as we release young chum salmon and help them on their journey. There will be Bobs and Lolo performances, learning sessions from local wildlife groups OWL and Critter Care and children’s activities. [www.noonscreek.org](http://www.noonscreek.org)

### HIKE FOR HOSPICE

Silver Sponsor, PCT

Sunday, May 2

This pledge-based annual family event raises funds to support people living with a terminal illness and their loved ones. Hike starts at the Port Moody City Hall and runs through a nature reserve within Shoreline Park. There are prizes, musical entertainment and a barbeque lunch by donation. [www.crossroadshospice.bc.ca/calendar](http://www.crossroadshospice.bc.ca/calendar)

## Contact

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Your comments and contributions are welcome. Please forward them to us at:

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