

## [bustrackers] Prestige Coach Lines

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### Peter McLaughlin

to bustrackers

Hi guys,

I am trying to find some more information on Prestige Coach Lines (Victoria, BC). I have photos of coach #'s 101 and 105 for Prestige. #101, I believe is an Ex-PCL unit and I also believe it is an MC-2.

But I am not sure what spotting features there are to distinguish an MC2 to an MC-4. IIRC, the MC-4 still has the 3 smaller baggage doors on each side just like MC-1 thru 3, but the MC-4 has a very similar back end as the first MC-5's. Would this be correct?

I also have photos of what I believe is an MC-5B for Prestige as #105. It kind of looks like an Ex-Maverick unit. Can anyone confirm?

They also at one time ran a GM Fishbowl Suburban model SDM-5302. I am pretty sure I heard that one with a standard transmission. But I never did get any photos of that bus and had wondered if they had more than one.

I also seem to remember seeing their P8M-4905A which I believe is Ex-Laidlaw #4562.

What else did this small but very interesting company operate? Thanks for any help and it is appreciated.

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### Jim Bowman

to bustrackers

103 was an MC-7 11766/9309 ex GLE 6003 via ?. The SDM5302 is believed to be ex PSL 6613 (SDM5302-046) which for some reason never migrated to the Small Communities fleet and withdrawn early (compared to other SDH5302s)

101 is believed to be an ex Green Line Charters unit and likely an MC-2. Most of the changes made to MC2s-MC3s-MC4s were internal but some very minor aesthetic items differed such as marker lights and the number and width of panel creases. PSL also had a reputation for mixing up baggage bay doors resulting in some MC-3s getting MC-2 doors which resulted in body creases not lining up (to the tune of 1/2 inch)

Someone once swore that 101 was one of the ex Fraser Valley Charter units but I had already accounted for all of them and none were operable when Prestige was around.

Note also that MCI was happy to customize an MC2, 3, or 4 to appear identical to an earlier MC-1 if the owner wished and there are several examples of this and of MCs that differed from "stock"

I believe that 101 is ex PCL (1979). If you look at the photo the livery is exactly the same as PCL, except in different colors. Also, if you look at the bumpers, they have rubber bumperettes in the middle which were installed when Levette Auto Metal repainted the ex PSL coaches into the PCL livery.

In 1984 when the PCL fleet was sold off 6501/03/04/05 went to Cascade Cht. Service. 6507/08 went to Connassieur, 6509 was a combo: that leaves 6502/06 unaccounted for. As for Green Line, they got the ex PSL- MC -1s in 1979 when PSL was merged with VICL to form PCL (1979). Green Line was out of business by 1980 after a major accident in Squamish. Most of the GL fleet then went to Fraser Valley Charters.

DR.