

## Transit in the Tri-Cities

*John Day*

Sabina Inter-City (or Intercity?) Transit ran to the Coquitlams and Port Moody. I had almost forgotten about them. They got started with a major push from BC Hydro who sold them 6 Twin 44S at knock-down prices and kicked in quite a bit of free repair work. This to avert the growing pressure for BC Hydro to run their own services into Coquitlam, which in those days ended at North Road with the exception of the Brunette service to Maillardville. When I worked for transit in 1973, we declined to buy out the Sabina operation as we felt that it was a speculative venture designed to stake out territory in anticipation of just such a government takeover. We adopted this as a policy wherever we went which with hindsight was pretty harsh.

Prior to Sabina taking over, Columbia Stage Lines ran a service in the tri-cities. They had some GM TGH-3102's, an ex-BCER/PSL C-36 Brill (I believe M.103) and a front-engined Fitzjohn from North Battleford. We took the Fitz out on a charter shortly before operations ceased. CSL ran from a base in New Westminster and were quite a fine little operation. They folded the transit operation when their request for a small subsidy was turned down.

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