



APTA Peer Reviews

Benefits and Value

Mike Richard, Vice-President Operations

BC Rapid Transit Company Ltd.

Vancouver, BC

Context

- BCRTC operates and maintains Vancouver's SkyTrain
- Fully driverless and automated rail transit
- Commenced revenue service 1986 – (~27 years)
- Most Phase 1 trains and infrastructure original - no refurbishment...yet!

Issues

- Aging fleet and infrastructure
- Little change to existing maintenance practices
- Replace or refurbish?
- No similar automated system to compare with
- Approached APTA for two separate Peer Reviews - Rail Vehicle Maintenance and Wayside/Fixed Facility Maintenance

Process

- APTA sourced and recommended international experts
- APTA coordinated and disseminated all system documentation
- APTA set up the site visit/peer review
- APTA facilitated discussions and prepared reports with key recommendations

Results

- Gleaned some excellent “best practices” from panel members
- Received excellent and realistic recommendations - ~20 for Vehicle Maintenance, ~32 for Wayside/Fixed Facilities
- All of the recommendations put forward have or are being actions - none have been declined!

Benefits

- Cost is very reasonable
- Panelists are industry professionals interested in helping, not looking to generate their next contract
- Recommendations are realistic and guide decision making, including resources justification/allocation
- APTA does most of the work, following a structured process, quickly and efficiently
- Ongoing contacts established