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MEDIA RELEASE

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Get started planning the journey of a lifetime through the Canadian Rockies at a free informational session

Put your timetable on “go” for a spectacular trip, The Canadian Rockies by Train, at a free informational session to be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 25, at the Renaud Spirit Center (RSC), 2650 Tri Sports Circle, O'Fallon, Missouri 63368. The session includes a detailed day-by-day itinerary of the nine-day trip, which will begin on Thursday, September 27, when the motor coach will take travelers from the Civic Park parking lot to the St. Louis airport for a flight to Vancouver, British Columbia. Travelers will return to O'Fallon on Friday, October 5.

“We are excited to offer this trip, which includes an unforgettable, two-day excursion across the province of British Columbia aboard VIA Rail’s legendary train, *The Canadian*,” said Paula Creech, recreation specialist for O'Fallon’s Parks and Recreation Department. “Nothing beats the comfort and style of an old-fashioned journey by train. *The Canadian* offers first-class meals, private sleeping quarters, and a chance to see some of the most incredible scenery in the world from the glass-topped Dome Car, where you can see in all directions.”

Travelers will spend Friday sightseeing in beautiful Vancouver, and then board the train for a relaxing journey across British Columbia, with views of the Monashee Mountains, Pyramid Falls cascading down Mount Cheadle, and the glistening Albretha Icefield glaciers. On Saturday, passengers will disembark in Jasper, Alberta, a turn-of-the-century railroad town nestled in the heart of the Canadian Rockies. For the remainder of the trip, travelers will continue by motor coach. Highlights include sightseeing along the breathtaking Icefield Parkway, and stops at dramatic Maligne Canyon, the Columbia Icefield, dazzling Lake Louise, historic Banff, and vibrant Calgary, Alberta.

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CANADIAN ROCKIES TRAIN TRIP
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Throughout the trip, travelers are likely to see bears, elk, moose, and other wildlife, charming alpine towns, crystalline lakes and shining rivers, cascading waterfalls, stunning forests, majestic mountain peaks and valleys, and rolling prairies. The tour features leisure time to shop and explore destinations, opportunities for side trips, and overnight accommodations that include the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, and the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, nicknamed “the castle in the mountains.”

The trip’s cost covers all roundtrip transportation, including fees and airfare to Canada, the train journey, motor coach transportation in Canada, 13 meals, all lodging and all hotel transfers. The current price (a “book now” rate good through March 27, 2012) is: \$5,249 per person for single accommodations, \$4,349 per person for double, and \$4,299 per person for triple accommodations. After March 27, the rates will increase by \$250.

Trip reservations for The Canadian Rockies by Train will be accepted until Saturday, April 14, with a \$250 deposit due when reservations are made, plus a cancellation waiver and insurance fee of \$305 per person. All fees will be explained at the free informational session.

To register for the informational session, call 636-474-2732, or register online at www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec and enter program course number 31675. Or, sign up in person at the Renaud Spirit Center, or at the O’Fallon Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 400 Civic Park Drive (63366).

For more information, contact Paula Creech at pcreech@ofallon.mo.us or call 636-474-8121.

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