

## Welcome to Hells Gate Airtram!

Have you ever felt like you were being watched? Have you ever had a feeling that you weren't alone even though you were the only one in the room? Did you ever walk around looking over your shoulder while you ignored or laughed off that mysterious disembodied noise that literally came out of nowhere.....we have.



### Disclaimer

The story of "Hell's Gate" is a monumental chapter in the British Columbia history books therefore it could be argued that what is happening at this attraction is just another story waiting to be written. We want you to know that the information compiled within this leaflet is to entertain you while maintaining a level of respect and dignity for those souls of which this news story is conceived. It is not an attempt to alter anyone's personal or religious belief with our convictions or explanations. Whether the story is fiction (or not) will ultimately be left up to you, our guest.

### Hells Gate and the Fraser Canyon Folklore, legends, history and mystery

Folklore and Legends have similar meanings at least in the way most people think today. Both words are used to mean a story or tale that has not been proven to be real or false.

History is described as a "chronological record of events, as of the life of people".

The word mystery is described as "something not fully understood or understandable".

The Fraser Canyon therefore is FULL of folklore, legends, history, and mystery. From the voyage of Simon Fraser to the historic Fraser river Gold Rush, the building of 2 railways to the linking of the coast lines of Canada via the Trans Canada Highway.

## Death, carnage, tragedy and turmoil

**1808** - Simon Fraser and his voyagers battled their way through this rugged area in search of an alternate fur trading route to the Pacific Ocean. According to historic documents along with Simon's original journal which was later found by researchers, the following quote was nervously inscribed "we had to travel where no human being should ever venture for surely we have encountered the gates of hell".

**1850's** - Gold! - The rumbling of thousands of prospectors from around North America shook the Canyon walls as the rumours of gold findings sparked the now famous Fraser river Gold Rush. During this period one of the most famous battles took place above the Hells Gate gorge when a group of waiting natives ambushed a pack of eager gold prospectors as they made their way along the canyon walls. The prospectors were taken by surprise in the middle of the night as the angry natives who were understandably upset with the increasing flow of traffic across portions of their land, attacked and decapitated the miners. Their headless bodies were thrown into the river and sent down stream to a back eddy just above Yale where they were later recovered. Locals now refer to this section of the river as Deadman's eddy.

**1880** - Man's ingenuity - The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Disease, terrible working conditions, hard labour, and a lack of respect for Chinese railway workers led to death, despair, and tragedy for a lot of unfortunate souls. A dangerous terrain and mountainous backdrop provided grave markers for thousands of hopefuls.

**1920's** - The Trans Canada Highway - From the early 1920's to the early 60's, traveling by vehicle through the Fraser Canyon was risky to say the least especially above a section of the river called Hells Gate. Many vehicles plunged into the river below and many lives were lost because of the cliff hanging pieces of road which gave way under the weight of heavy old vehicles.

So given all of this information, your tram ride is here. It is now time for your descent into the paranormal.

## What lead us to believe that our attraction is haunted?

Products falling off shelves, mysterious thumping noises, soft voices, and the feeling of not being alone are just some of the spooky testimonials. Until one day a staff member was in the restaurant preparing his lunch when suddenly someone walked behind him, even though he was the only one present on the property. He, along with all of us were visibly shaken. This incident provided the final piece of evidence needed to start asking some serious questions.

### The British Columbia Ghosts and Hauntings Research Society - BCGHRS

Based out of Vancouver, the BCGHRS is a volunteer driven organization comprised of members whom are interested in the paranormal. They are a team of ghost researchers who take their responsibilities serious and simply capture data while doing all the historical and background searching required.

After two members of the BCGHRS did a preliminary tour of the property, it was concluded without a shadow of a doubt, the premises warranted an official visit by the full BCGHRS team.

The evidence (put forward from the overnight vigil conducted prior to opening day) concluded that this attraction is visited by various spirits. Gendering from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, some of the spirits stem back over 200 years! Apparitions (ghostly figures), sudden changes in temperature, voices, and strange disembodied noises were just some of the reports that were recorded on this spooky night. To quote one member of the BCGHRS team: "the Hells Gate Airtram file is by far the most active investigation we have ever been a part of".

Please note that all of us here at Hells Gate Airtram have been assured (by all parties involved with the investigation) that the subject matter does not contain anything in the way of harmful or evil intent.

The following areas around the property contain information based on actual witness testimony along with case study results compiled from various paranormal sources not just those of the BCGHRS. These areas and the individuals identified to be connected with them are being investigated to this day.

## 1) "Edward"

Supposedly there is a man that lives under the deck by the gold panning station. He apparently goes by the name of Edward. On the end of his leash are two dogs with red eyes. The red eyes symbolize "guilt" and it is believed that many of the spirits that dwell on the property met their demise because of Edward. Perhaps it was through false promises, raw deals, or corruption that Edward now lives in the afterlife weighed down by heavy sorrow for the carnage and damage he caused when he was alive on earth. Some of your pets may get an interesting reaction in this area while using their "sixth sense". We have been told that Edward plays with your emotions as his negative energy is hard to disguise but don't let him make you grouchy while you're here!

## 2) The smoking man

In the south end corner of our family restaurant there sits a man who likes to watch people while smoking his cigar. He is quite mysterious and not a lot is known about this particular character. He comes across creepy - but minds his own business. As strange as it may seem, during the overnight vigil, one team member of the BCGHRS claimed that she smelled a burning cigar. While unbeknownst to someone else and not having had an opportunity to exchange stories, another team member asked if anyone had seen the "guy smoking the cigar in the far corner of the restaurant". Ask your server if you can sit with him!

## 3) The little oriental fellow on the deck

We have been told there is a fun loving spirit that resides on our deck next to the Patio Pub! He has been described as a middle aged Asian fellow who is upbeat and "funky". At this point researchers have not been able to come forward with a name or a place of origin but he tells us through various channels that he likes it here and enjoys company - so go join him!

## 4) The lady behind the Gift Shop door

Visitors to our attraction may not know that the building which houses the gift shop was once a cook house that fed many CP rail workers during the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Is it the old original flooring that does the talking? Or is it the young girl that stands behind the curtain on the door at the back of the gift shop? Well it depends on who you ask. During the evening investigation, one BCGHRS team member would not go near the door as it gave her a strange feeling. She also claimed there was an aroma of fresh baked apple pie that scented the darkened room. Since that evening, staff and customers have had unexplainable encounters around the door. Some customers have received "interesting energies" coming from underneath it. One staff member also claims to have had a

conversation in the back hallway with a young lady who goes by the name of "Genevieve". Strangely enough in a soft voice she mentioned to our staff member that her favourite dish is apple pie. The ghostly image is described as being approximately 5ft, 4 inches tall with a slim build, dark brown hair, healthy complexion, wearing an older style blue dress while sporting a white coloured bonnet around her head. Research on this bizarre event continues today.

Other areas and strange goings on:

- The fudge kettle in our fudge factory which turns itself on and off
- the "Hospice" poster in the lobby at the upper terminal which has come off the wall
- the "Spirit of the Woods" carving in the restaurant claims to have positive energy flowing from it
- voices being heard in front of the glass doors entering the restaurant and gift shop
- the little girl who walks the hallway in our upper terminal

We'd like to hear from you!

If you had something spooky happen to you during your visit or have a picture that contains something you can't explain, you can send it along to us and we will have it analyzed for authenticity. Contact us at: [brian@hellsgateairtram.com](mailto:brian@hellsgateairtram.com)

Some final thoughts

Although no solid scientific proof can be found that ghosts truly exist, strong evidence shows us otherwise. In a recent survey, it was determined that one person in every ten of us has had a ghostly encounter of some kind.

In the meantime as long as there is "the dark" or the camp fire stays lit, there will always be ghost stories.

Let's pay homage to the folks of which these experiences have been chronicled. Let's give thanks to the BCGHRS and groups like them who continue to search for the truth. And lastly let's give thanks to an open mind, for as long as there is a "pot of gold at the end of the rainbow" there will always be the un-explained.

# The story of the Hells Gate Airtram Hauntings

From history.....

To mystery.....



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[www.psican.org/ghrs/bc/](http://www.psican.org/ghrs/bc/)

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