MOVING BACK: HISTORICAL ROOTS

Co-op Radio is moving back to the Downtown Eastside - into our previous location at Columbia Street which has recently been renamed the Irving Hotel.

What’s new is old again as the Irving Hotel was the original name of the building which opened in 1907. A decade after its opening, during Prohibition, the bar of the hotel became one of the city’s foremost jazz spots.

Throughout the history of Co-op Radio, some of our most popular shows have featured jazz and live music from some now-gone venues in the Downtown Eastside. How fitting that when the station underwent its first move in 2001, it was to the location on Columbia Street that had such a rich musical history.

At that time, our station at Columbia St was specifically designed and built for Co-op Radio. It includes open meeting spaces and a large studio where musicians can play live on air. Co-op Radio’s very first station in 1975 was in the same neighbourhood – just a block away in Pigeon Park in an old bank building – where live music in the studio was also common.

We are going back to where Co-op Radio’s history is rooted - in the Downtown Eastside, the heart of the city. We have not turned our backs on our history and our roots.

Our tech team is currently reclaiming and preparing the station space for Co-op Radio’s return to the building. See below for more details. And check out our website for more history both of the Irving and of Co-op Radio.

Be a part of history – Co-op Radio is community radio with roots.

- Become a Sustainer Member: Sustainers are the present, past and future of Co-op Radio.
  Sign up to contribute $10, $15, $20 or more per month from your credit card or bank account.
- Take Out an Annual Membership: Only $60/year. For the amount it cost in 1916 to rent a furnished 1 bdrm apartment, you can own a part of a radio station. We have always done a lot with little.
- Give an extra $15 this fall to support station renovations and Co-op Radio’s move back to the heart of the city.

Donate at coopradio.org, call 604-684- 8494 ext. 230 or drop by the station.

EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT CO-OP RADIO

HOW YOU HEAR US
Radio: 100.5 FM
Web: www.coopradio.org

HOW WE HEAR YOU
On air/Studio Line: 604.684.7561

STAFF
Office Line: 604.684.8494
Director of Member Services
Pam Bentz, community@coopradio.org, ext 230
Director of Programming Administration
Lesia Chimish, programs@coopradio.org, ext. 226
Director of Technical Services
Anju Singh, technical@coopradio.org, ext. 239
Director of Financial Administration
Wendy Montgomery, admin@coopradio.org, ext 227
Public Service Announcements can be sent to
info@coopradio.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Amber McHorn
Henry Moondarane
Gaundolyn Brenchi
Carina Hoppen
Harriet Toussaint

MAILING ADDRESS
110 - 360 Columbia St
Vancouver, Coast Salish Territories
British Columbia, Canada V6A 4L1

All mail is forwarded to our current station location at 204 Wall St. (until we move.)

THANK YOU
City of Vancouver, Canada Council for the Arts, Community Radio Fund of Canada, Vancity, Unifor, Health Sciences Association, Vancouver Community Networks, BCCEU National Campus Radio Association, and our members

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MOVE BACK:

I like the space on Wall Street. Why is Co-op Radio moving back?”

We moved to our location on Wall St. in 2014 as a temporary location. The space was built quickly in order to meet our immediate needs but was not built as a permanent location.

What is better about the station space in the Irving Hotel building on Columbia Street?”

- The control rooms and studio are more thoroughly soundproof
- The studio is bigger, allowing us to have more live musicians playing on air (which is an important part of Co-op Radio’s history and character)
- There are more common areas for meetings, training and in-station events
- Doesn’t it cost a lot to move back?”

It does cost a lot to move a radio station. But, since the rent for the Columbia Street location is so much lower, the move back is, in fact, a more financially sustainable option for the organization in the long run.

What are the renovations to the Columbia St. location and the moving costs being paid?”

We have received some grants to cover some of the costs but not all. We are asking members to help support the move by giving a little extra ($15 or more) during this Fall Member Drive.

But I thought the Columbia St. location was already renovated?”

The construction at the Irving Hotel was to improve the housing that is located above the station. Co-op Radio’s station space was completed empty and used as the construction site office during that project. As a result we have work to do to make the space useful as a radio station again.

What specific things are needed?”

- We have to replace our Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system as a result of changes made during the construction ($estimated cost of $25,000) we need a new phone system (about $12,000)
- We want to equip our noise control rooms with new CD players ($350 each) and computers ($600 each)

How can I help?”

If you are a member of the station, consider donating an extra $15 (or more) to the station during this Fall Member Drive. If you are a monthly sustainer, consider pledging an extra $1.50/month. If you’re not a member, please consider becoming one. Or simply make a donation. Your contribution directly supports the running of the radio station and our renovation costs.

What else do I need to know?”

The move from Columbia Street was unexpected, the move back was not. However, the Board of Directors considered all options before making the decision to move back. We expected this move back to happen last fall, but there were delays caused by circumstances out of our control.

We have negotiated some compensation to cover the extra costs that this delay created, but we still need your help.

We expect that this will be the last move the station will have to make. Once renovations are done and Co-op Radio is settled back at Columbia Street, we will be able to benefit from our experience at Wall Street and to focus our energy on making Co-op Radio the best non-profit community-based, cooperatively-owned station that it can be. We have been resilient and achieved so much with few resources for over 40 years. We will continue to do so when we arrive back home on Columbia Street.
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**CHECK OUT COOPRADIO.ORG**

This programming schedule is also available on our website - and it’s interactive! You can find out more information about each show and access previously broadcast shows. You can also find out about our training programs, how to become a volunteer and more information about the station. We are always open to new programming ideas and we are particularly looking to provide airtime for different language communities. Check out coopradio.org or contact programs@coopradio.org for more information.