



SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS: Rail GD delivers, and gets new business

GILLES GAGNÉ

NEW RICHMOND – New Richmond's rolling material repair shop Rail GD, delivered VIA Rail coach, number 8131, at the beginning of May. The coach was in for some upgrading work. That unit (left picture, leaving the shop on May 6) was built in Philadelphia by Budd Company in 1947. It had three American owners, including Amtrak, before being acquired by VIA Rail in 1989.

A week later, Rail GD received two generator cars (right picture) from British Columbia-based Rocky Mountaineer, which operates a luxurious tourist train in Western Canada (Alberta and British Columbia) and the



State of Washington. Rail GD director general Gabriel Bélanger cannot disclose for now the details regarding the type of work that will be carried out on the two cars, as the

contract with Rocky Mountaineer has not been signed yet. The cars were brought to the Rail GD on flat cars. Units 9487 and 9488 were built in 1948 by Pullman and acquired



Photos: G. Gagné

in 1990 by Rocky Mountaineer.

Rail GD employs between 30 and 40 people, depending on the contracts at the time. Since May 2024, the company

has been working on the thorough upgrading of two Tshiuetin Rail Transportation passenger cars. Tshiuetin is an Innu First Nation firm based on the North Shore.