



Photo: Gilles Gagné

Alan and Nina Freed of Massachusetts will travel through the region aboard their yellow 1957 Pontiac, specially adapted for use on railway tracks.

Another mobilization to push for the prompt return of the passenger train take 2

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE – After their June 21 visit was cancelled because of mechanical problems, railway enthusiasts Alan and Nina Freed will return to the Gaspé Peninsula on Sunday, July 26, as part of a renewed campaign to promote the return of passenger rail service.

Travelling from Massachusetts in a yellow 1957 Pontiac modified to run on railway tracks, the couple will begin their journey at the Matapédia station before stopping in Carleton-sur-Mer, New Richmond, Bonaventure, New Carlisle and Port-Daniel.

Their approximate arrival times are 9 a.m. in Matapédia, 11 a.m. in Carleton-sur-Mer, 12:30 p.m. in New Richmond, 2 p.m. in Bonaventure, 2:30 p.m. in New Carlisle and 4 p.m. in Port-Daniel.

A public gathering will follow at The Green in New Carlisle at approximately 5 p.m. to highlight the importance of passenger rail service to the region's social, economic and tourism development.

Organizers also plan to provide an update on VIA Rail's preparations for the gradual return of passenger service to the Gaspé Peninsula.

The event is organized by the Coalition of Gaspesians for the Return of the Passenger Train, together with the Gaspé Peninsula Rail Transport Exchange and Mobilization Table. It will also highlight the rehabilitation of the railway to Port-Daniel–Gascons and the need to complete the remaining work to Gaspé as soon as possible.