

First Division Report
Rich Pitter, Superintendent

First Division focused primarily on preparation for the PNR 2020 Convention, "Make Tracks to Eugene," which was to be held on April 21-24, 2020, at the Valley River Inn. The convention, as well as the Eugene Swap Meet and Train Show, which was scheduled to be held April 25-26, were canceled.

Due to the potential danger of COVID-19, Oregon Governor Kate Brown has ordered the shut-down of virtually all gatherings since March. We are awaiting re-opening guidelines before pursuing a continuation of our periodic Mini-Meets.

PNR 2020 Convention Report
Rich Pitter, Convention Chair

First Division began meetings concerning PNR 2020 in 2016 at Salmon Arm, B.C. From the fall of 2019, to early spring of 2020, First Division held regular committee meetings to prepare for the PNR 2020 Convention, "Make Tracks to Eugene." Due to the rise and risk of COVID-19 disease in March, the convention was canceled. While we missed the opportunity to host a great convention and to briefly thaw visitors from more polar latitudes, we are happy that everyone is safe.

Thanks to efforts by Larry and Lori Sebelley, convention registrations were refunded to purchasers in full, including all online fees normally incurred for such transactions. Although we are still awaiting one or two refund checks, First Division minimized the financial loss for holding a canceled convention. We appreciate the support and advice of PNR board members on several matters, including alerting us to the *force majeure* clause in our hotel agreement. We hope the National Convention will be as lucky as we were in that regard. Our final accounting awaits resolution of the items. We are not requesting support from PNR at this time, and will not do so unless the hotel changes its mind and declines to issue a refund for our deposits.

Our order of 30 laser-cut MOW buildings from Motrak Models, for a special model-building clinic as part of the convention, was filled in full and arrived in April. The kits are being stored until we hold the clinic at a future convention.