



Ho Ho Ho, Halfpipe!

Have you ever seen a **squadron of Santas** carving down a hill? It's quite the sight to behold. Each year on Dress Like Santa Day (Dec. 13; page 32), the first 75 festive folks who arrive at Whistler Mountain, outfitted from hat to boots like Old Saint Nick or Mrs. Claus, receive the greatest Christmas gift of all: a free lift ticket.

A Christmas Tradition

When the *Nutcracker* ballet (page 49) returns to Vancouver this month, expect your old favourites—Clara, the Sugar Plum Fairy, the Nutcracker Prince, the exquisite music of Tchaikovsky—along with a **few uniquely Canadian additions**: a hockey game on a snowy pond, a battle on Parliament Hill. Catch all the fun Dec. 12 to 14 at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.



Making Spirits Bright

Canyon Lights at Capilano Suspension Bridge Park (to Jan. 3; page 31) does more than just light up the forest with **thousands of twinkling lights**. It also raises money for the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund.