

Canadian National in Nova Scotia - Springhill Sub

| Mile | Stations | Siding (feet) |
|------|-----------------|---------------|
| 0.47 | Truro | |
| 4.8 | Belmont | 15340 |
| 12.1 | talking hot box | |
| 16.9 | Londonderry | 6635 |
| 24.0 | Folly Lake | 7160 |
| 24.9 | talking hot box | |
| 37.7 | Atkinson | 6150 |
| 42.5 | talking hot box | |
| 46.7 | Oxford Jct | 6360 |
| 52.9 | Saltsprings | |
| 53.1 | talking hot box | |
| 59.5 | Springhill Jct | 11350 |
| 69.0 | Maccan | |
| 69.1 | talking hot box | |
| 76.8 | Amherst | 8785 |

Amherst Area

CN's main line enters Nova Scotia from New Brunswick at the border and will be on the south side of the 104 highway (also called Trans Canada) and will cross under the highway just past the weigh scales when the highway swings right. The track then runs parallel to Laplanche Street for while and then swings away towards the south as it enters into Amherst. The track will lead to the old station in Amherst found on Station Street. It then continues and crosses Pleasant Street and crosses to the south side of the 104 between exits three and four. The track then heads due south to Maccan and Athol following route 302 before it swings compass east to Springhill. If you want to pace a train you should just take highway 104 between Springhill and Amherst.

Springhill Area

I don't know nuttin about this!

Folly Lake Area

If you want some close up action of a meet or a high trestle/viaduct you need to take exit 7 from the 104 if you are eastbound or exit 11 if you are westbound and follow what is now Highway 4. This used to be the main highway between Truro and Oxford but when the new toll highway was built this became less used. By doing so you avoid the toll but the speed is greatly reduced (70 kph vs 110kph) so prudent pacing is required. You cannot miss the tracks in Folly Lake as they are on the compass east side of the road along the lake. Meets often take place here or at Belmont, which is closer to Truro. Westbound trains are climbing the hill so seeing them on the trestle, which crosses highway 4 near Londonderry and then compass north at Folly Lake is not impossible.

There are back roads between Folly Lake and Debert where the tracks run parallel to the tracks and allow some more shots but again positioning for following shots must be taken into account. You can also get to Belmont through Debert.

Belmont

Belmont is the longest siding on the three subdivisions just shy of three miles long. The mainline crosses under the 104 just east of the 102/104 interchange and the siding begins just north of there and runs west to the community of Belmont which is located north of highway 104 between the interchange and the Debert exit. Access to the east end of the siding would take some long pants, a saw and GPS. The west end of the siding is located near a local road. Easy access back to the highway from the west end of Belmont siding is time consuming so if you plan on being here you may miss other local opportunities.

Truro

The track from Amherst follows route 2 into Truro from the 102/104 interchange. The VIA station is located at the Esplanade, one block south of Queen Street. The CN yard and interchange with CBNS is found on the east leg of the 'Y' east of here straddled by Queen St/Salmon River Road and Prince Street. There is a road bridge over the CN yard further down and a walking bridge is further down over the CBNS yard. The CN mainline to Halifax begins to exit Truro paralleling the Esplanade/Arthur street and then veers south following Willow Street.