

Presentation to the BC Transit Independent Review Panel

Thank you for the CRD's interest in making a presentation to the BC Transit Independent Review Panel. The following provides additional information to help you prepare for the presentation.

The CRD Transportation Select Committee presentation to the Panel has been scheduled for May 23, 2012, 11:30am-1:30pm at the Capital Regional District Offices in Victoria.

The meeting is an opportunity for the Committee to present its ideas, concerns or recommendations regarding BC Transit. You may determine the format of the presentation, who will be invited to attend the meeting and whether the meeting will be open or closed to the public. I have attached a list of questions from the Panel to provide guidance on issues the Committee may want to address in its presentation. However, the Committee may address any issues within the Panel's Terms of Reference (www.th.gov.bc.ca/BC_Transit_Review).

The session with the Panel will include an opportunity for the Panel to ask questions on the presentation. The Panel will use this information to write a report and develop recommendations to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. The Panel plans to submit a final report to the Minister by the end of July 2012.

We ask that you provide the panel with a hard copy and electronic copy of the presentation or submission. This will help us to keep an accurate record of what we have heard when we prepare our final report.

Submissions made to the Panel will be publicly available on our website (www.th.gov.bc.ca/BC_Transit_Review). If you do not wish your presentation to be posted publicly, please let us know.

Chris Trumpy, Chair
BC Transit Independent Review Panel

Questions:

- 1) Please describe for us what you have responsibility for (in terms of the provision of transit services).
- 2) BC Transit and local government have different fiscal years and planning cycles and we are interested in understanding whether the current processes accommodate both.
 - a. Can you outline the decision making process associated with developing and approving transit services and budgets for your community. Please include information on timelines and responsibilities in your organization.
 - b. What information does BC Transit provide to local governments to support decision making on transit issues? Do you feel it is timely and sufficient to support local decision making?
 - c. When BC Transit informs a community of a decision on transit services, what opportunities are there for you to recommend changes or comment on that decision?
 - d. How well do you feel BC Transit understands municipal government operations and decision making processes?
- 3) What are the key metrics or performance measures that you believe should be used to assess BC Transit services in a local community? Do you get information on these metrics or performance measures? Is it timely?
- 4) BC Transit provides a range of management services to local governments as part of its mandate.
 - a. What services do you receive?
 - b. Are there transit related costs which you incur not included in your agreement with BC Transit?
 - c. Does BC Transit provide good value for money?
- 5) What do you see as the future of transit services in your area (e.g. Expansion of service, employer agreements, regionalized operations, different fuel source for buses, etc.)? Do you see BC Transit as helping you to achieve this goal? Why or why not?
- 6) Do you have any suggestions for improving BC Transit – in particular its governance or funding model? Is there a model, or are there practices, used by another organization that you think could work well for BC Transit?
- 7) Is the transit system in your area better off or worse off because of BC Transit?
- 8) Is the information you are providing confidential? Can it be posted on the Panel's website?