



## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Thursday, October 15, 2020**  
**Via Zoom, 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, B.C.**

### AGENDA

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**CALL TO ORDER      3:00 p.m.**

#### **AGENDA**

1. Adoption of Agenda

#### **PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

#### **MINUTES**

2. Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of July 16, 2020 - *receipt* Annex A  
pp 1 - 5

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **REPORTS**

3. Transit Schedule Options Winter and Spring 2021  
General Manager, Infrastructure Services / Manager, Transit and Fleet Annex B  
pp 6 - 9
4. Excerpt of transportation-related items from Q3 - Quarterly Report presented at the October 15, 2020 Infrastructure Service Committee meeting Annex C  
pp 10 - 11
5. BC Ferries Safe Restart Funding  
Paul Kamon, Sunshine Coast Tourism Annex D  
pp 12
6. BC Ferries Traffic Statistics 2020 and Media Releases  
Diana Mumford, Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee Annex E  
pp 13 - 15
7. Active Transportation Week and Active Transportation Report  
Alun Woolliams, Transportation Choices Sunshine Coast Annex F  
pp 16

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

8. Alun Woolliams, Transportation Choices Sunshine Coast dated September 28, 2020  
Regarding Active Transportation Improvements Survey Results Annex G  
pp 17

- |     |  |                       |
|-----|--|-----------------------|
| 9.  | <u>Andrea Holmes and Miyuki Shinkai, Langdale Elementary School Parent Advisory Council dated October 5, 2020</u><br>Regarding Request of Safety Signage and Improvements on Port Mellon Highway and YMCA Road | Annex H<br>pp 18 - 19 |
| 10. | Vancouver Coastal Health Webinar - Reverse the Trend of the Backseat Generation: Get Kids Moving through Active Travel to School   | Annex I<br>pp 20      |
| 11. | <u>Brian Anderson, Vice-President, Strategy and Community Engagement, BC Ferries dated October 8, 2020</u><br>Regarding Engagement Project Update  | Annex J<br>pp 21 - 22 |

## **NEW BUSINESS / ROUNDTABLE**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING**      January 21, 2021 at 3:00 pm

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
July 16, 2020**

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM

**PRESENT:**

(Voting Members)

Director, Electoral Area E, Chair  
Director, Electoral Area A, Vice-Chair

Donna McMahon  
Leonard Lee

Director, Electoral Area B  
Director, Electoral Area D  
Director, Electoral Area F  
Director, District of Sechelt  
Director, District of Sechelt  
Director, Town of Gibsons  
Transportation Choices (TraC)  
Trustee, School District No. 46  
BC Ferries  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee  
On behalf of MLA, Powell River Sunshine Coast  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Lori Pratt  
Andreas Tize  
Mark Hiltz  
Darnelda Siegers  
Matt McLean  
David Croal  
Alun Woolliams  
Sue Girard  
Robert Edwards  
Colin Midgley  
Diana Mumford  
Rob Hill (part)  
Michael Braun

**ALSO PRESENT:**

(Non-Voting)

Chief Administrative Officer  
GM, Planning and Community Development  
GM, Infrastructure Services  
Manager, Transit and Fleet  
RCMP  
Sunshine Coast Tourism  
SCRD Administrative Assistant / Recorder  
Public  
Media

Dean McKinley  
Ian Hall  
Remko Rosenboom  
James Walton  
Phil Atuni  
Paul Kamon  
Tracy Ohlson  
0  
0

**CALL TO ORDER**

3:03 p.m.

**AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted as amended to remove Item #10  
Redrooffs Road Safety Concerns.

**MINUTES****Recommendation No. 1**

*Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of  
January 16, 2020*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the Transportation Advisory Committee meeting minutes of January 16, 2020 be received.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS****Recommendation No. 2**     *Park and Ride Options*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the park and ride options be referred to the January 2021 Transportation Advisory Committee meeting.

**REPORTS****Recommendation No. 3**     *Transit Schedule Options Fall 2020*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the report Transit Schedule Options Fall 2020 be received.

*Discussion included the following points:*

- BC Transit presentation of July 16, 2020 to be provided to TAC;
- Continuation of 80% of regular transit service until end of 2020.

*The General Manager, Infrastructure Services provided an update on the Youth Transit Pilot program noting the project has been deferred to 2021 due to COVID-19.*

**Recommendation No. 4**     *Excerpt of transportation-related items from Q1- Quarterly Report presented at the April 16, 2020 Infrastructure Services Committee meeting*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the report titled Excerpt of transportation-related items from Q1- Quarterly Report presented at the April 16, 2020 Infrastructure Services Committee meeting be received.

**Recommendation No. 5**     *Excerpt of transportation-related items from Q2 – 2020 Quarterly Report presented at the July 16, 2020 Infrastructure Services Committee meeting*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the report titled Excerpt of transportation-related items from Q2- Quarterly Report presented at the July 16, 2020 Infrastructure Services Committee meeting be received.

**Recommendation No. 6**     *Active Transportation Improvements, Active Transportation Event and Knotweed*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that the report titled Active Transportation, Active Transportation Event and Knotweed be received.

*Discussion included the following points:*

- *Meeting with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding improvements to Active Transportation Infrastructure*
- *Community Safety Enhancement Program funding option for safety projects through Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)*
- *TraC conducted survey to determine Community priorities*
- *Next steps - TraC to prepare formal report and request another meeting with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure*



- *Active Transportation event being held week of September 28 – October 4, 2020*
- *Looking for provincial and local solutions and plans on how to deal with knotweed*
- *Concerns about knotweed obstructing paved shoulder, poor sightlines and no room to pass*
- *Ministry of Transportation and Highways' invasive plant program, trimming planned and treatment of knotweed where potential contamination of water requires approval from Environment Canada*
- *Highway 101 repaving project includes shoulder widening between Stewart and Reed Road, opportunity for bike lanes on both sides of North Road requiring Town of Gibsons support*
- *Resurfacing of Stewart Road to Pratt Road starting next week*
- *Improvements to communication to elected officials and public about transportation projects*

**Recommendation No. 7**      *Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Report*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Report be received.

*Discussion included the following points:*

- *Concern BC Ferries not receiving financial support from provincial or federal government and utilizing capital funding to fund operational expenses*
- *Challenges of priority boarding for residents*
- *Better signage on bypass regarding ferry traffic use right lane*
- *Importance of advocacy from business community, public and local governments*

Cpl. Phil Atoui, RCMP discussed the Ruby Lake Boat Launch on Ramp Road.

*Discussion included the following points:*

- *Vehicles blocking the roadway*
- *Challenges of towing*
- *Improvements to signage, installation of traffic barriers and possible parking lot options*
- *Ministry of Transportation and Highways, Capilano Highways and RCMP will set up meeting to further discuss*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Recommendation No. 8**      *Correspondence from Sunshine Coast Highway Society*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that correspondence from Robin Merriott dated February 21, 2020 regarding appointment to Transportation Advisory Committee be received.

**Recommendation No. 9**     *Correspondence from Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that correspondence from Diana Mumford, Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee regarding March 23, 2020 COVID-19 Update from BC Ferries be received.

**Recommendation No. 10**     *BC Ferries April 2020 Traffic Stats*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that correspondence from Diana Mumford, Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee regarding BC Ferries April 2020 Traffic Stats be received.

**Recommendation No. 11**     *Flume Road Safety Concerns*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that correspondence to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure dated May 27, 2020 regarding Flume Road Safety Concern be received.

**Recommendation No. 12**     *Correspondence from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that correspondence from Elena Farmer, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure dated June 11, 2020 regarding Flume Road Safety concerns be received.

**Recommendation No. 13**     *Speed Limit Reduction in Woodcreek Park Area*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that correspondence to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure dated May 27, 2020 regarding the speed limit reduction in Woodcreek Park area be received.

**Recommendation No. 14**     *Correspondence from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure*

The Transportation Advisory Committee recommended that correspondence from Elena Farmer, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure dated June 11, 2020 regarding response to Woodcreek Park safety concerns be received.

**ROUNDTABLE**

Committee members provided roundtable updates as follows:

David Croal (Town of Gibsons) – noted that the requested support from TraC and BC Ferries will be brought back to Town of Gibsons council.

Matt McLean (District of Sechelt) – noted increased communication between Ministry of Transportation and Highways and local governments appreciated.

Mark Hiltz (West Howe Sound) – Thanked Ministry of Transportation and Highways and Capilano Highways for the upcoming paving on Stewart and North Road to Reed Road.

Director Tize (Roberts Creek) – Inquired when the paving on Lower Road would be complete and Ministry of Transportation and Highways advised within the next week.

Director Siegers (District of Sechelt) – Noted the Trail Avenue work currently being completed includes walking and bike lanes and also noted the recent Active Transportation Infrastructure grant funding received for improvements to Wharf Avenue, Highway 101 and Dolphin Street in downtown Sechelt.

Alun Woolliams (TraC) – looking forward to release of Sunshine Coast Highway Corridor Review.

Colin Midgley (MOTI) – Noted that line painting is planned for almost every major side road to begin in late summer.

Leonard Lee (Pender Harbour) - Thanked Capilano Highways and Ministry of Transportation and Highways for the pothole repair work being completed in Pender Harbour. It is very appreciated by the community.

Paul Kamon (Sunshine Coast Tourism) – noted that he is following BC ferries closely and noted a Sunshine Coast Tourism Industry Forum will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 22, 2020.

Director Pratt (Halfmoon Bay) – Thanked Michael Braun from Ministry of Transportation and Highways for meeting with residents from Halfmoon Bay Citizens Association and Halfmoon Bay Community Association recently.

Sue Girard (School District No. 46) – mentioned a recent presentation by Lianne Carley, Vancouver Coastal Health, on June 23 on transportation strategies for students in School District No. 46. She noted there were great ideas to encourage our students to be active in their transportation choices to and from school.

**ADJOURNMENT**

4:15 p.m.

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Committee Chair

## SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

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**TO:** Infrastructure Services Committee – October 15, 2020

**AUTHOR:** Remko Rosenboom, General Manager, Infrastructure Services  
James Walton, Manager, Transit and Fleet

**SUBJECT:** TRANSIT SCHEDULE OPTIONS WINTER AND SPRING 2021

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### RECOMMENDATION(S)

**THAT the report titled Transit Schedule Options Winter and Spring 2021 be received;**

**AND THAT staff are directed to work with BC Transit to continue the current conventional transit schedule based on approximately 80% of the originally budgeted amount of service hours until mid-May 2021.**

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### BACKGROUND

At the July 23, 2020 Board meeting the Board adopted the following recommendation:

267/20(in part)    **Recommendation No. 1**    *Transit Schedule Options Fall 2020*

AND THAT staff request BC Transit to incorporate the balance of the SCRD Local Transit Fund in the upcoming amendment to the 2020-2021 Annual Operation Agreement;

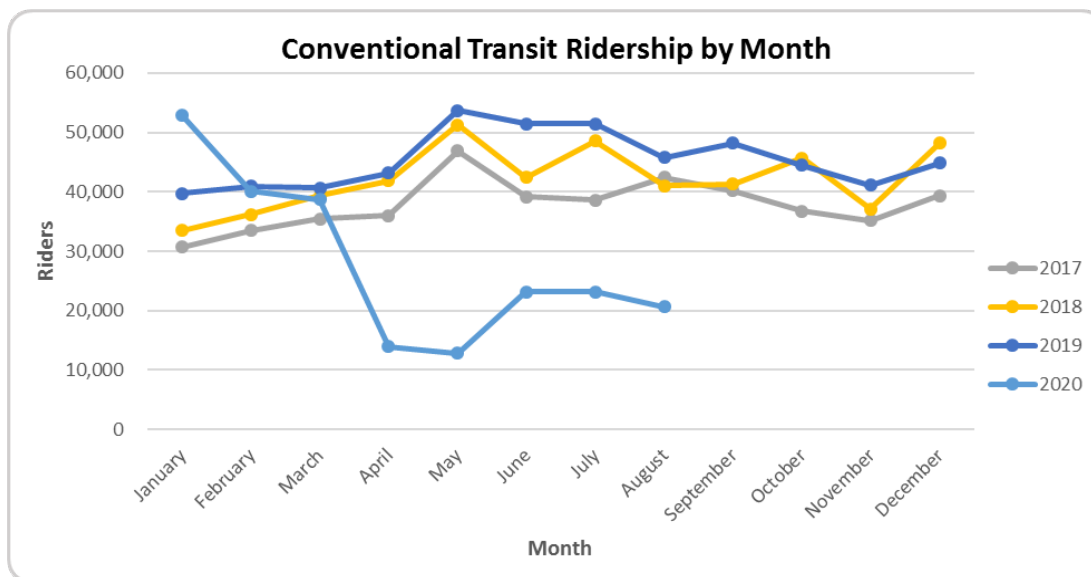
AND THAT staff are directed to work with BC Transit on the development and implementation of a September-December 2020 conventional transit schedule based on approximately 80% of the originally budgeted amount of service hours.

The purpose of this report is to seek confirmation of the service level for the conventional transit service between early January and mid-May 2021.

### DISCUSSION

#### *Status of Current Service*

The graph below depicts the ridership to date in 2020 compared to earlier years.



The graph indicates that since June the ridership has average at about 22,000 per month, while during the same period in the last couple of years it was at least double that amount. With the current amount of service hours and schedule there are very minimal concerns expressed by drivers and riders with respect to safety in and the capacity of the buses.

Due to the status of the pandemic, SCRD and BC Transit staff are not expecting a significant increase in ridership in the upcoming months or in early 2021. If a noticeable increase were to occur, the current amount of service hours and schedule would have the capacity to absorb this without creating any substantial concerns for the safety of passengers and drivers or the on-time performance of the buses.

Since the start of the pandemic several drivers have opted to retire or are less able to take shifts. At the same time it is currently challenging to hire new drivers.

#### *Status of financial support*

The SCRD will share in \$86 million in financial support announced from the federal and provincial governments to support transit services provided by TransLink, BC Transit and BC Ferries. This funding is intended to respond to transit-related revenue losses and incremental COVID-19 expenses experienced. The funding will cover both the current and subsequent operating years (April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022).

Due to the current interregnum the Province and/or BC Transit is not able to provide additional details on the allocation of these funds or provide the amended Annual Operating Agreement (AOA) for this operating year (April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021) to the SCRD. Consequently, the uncertainty remains about which portion of the costs and reduced revenue since the start of the pandemic will be covered by BC Transit.

Staff are hopeful that the amended AOA will be received in time to be presented at a Committee meeting late Q4 2020. Until such time staff are not able to present a comprehensive overview of the current financial status of the transit service or a financial outlook for this service for 2021.

*Service level January 2021 and onwards*

The current conventional transit schedule is in effect until January 9, 2021. Staff will need to collaborate with BC Transit shortly on any potential changes to the schedule after this date and start the scheduling process for drivers and support staff.

Given the apparent stabilization of ridership in the conventional transit service and the ability to serve the current and any increase in ridership with the current amount of service hours, the current amount of service hours are sufficient to meet current and near future demand. It is not likely that increasing the amount of service hours early in 2021 would trigger an increase in ridership. If the amount of service hours were to increase substantially, staff would be challenged to find sufficient drivers to fill the shifts without incurring significant additional costs due to overtime.

It is common for the SCRD's winter and spring schedule for the conventional transit to continue until just before Victoria Day when the ridership usually increases and the ferry schedule changes. The current ferry schedule is not expected to change before mid-May 2021.

Staff are therefore recommending the continuation of the current schedule based on 80% of the regular amount of service hours until mid-May 2020. If the ridership were to increase substantially triggering safety and capacity concerns, staff will inform the Board and seek direction on next steps.

*Financial Implications*

The financial implications of the continuation of the current schedule based on 80% of the regular amount of service hours for this time of year is expected to align with those presented in the report Transit Schedule Options Fall 2020 presented at the July 16, 2020 Infrastructure Services Committee.

Staff will bring forward to Committee the amended AOA for the current operating year (April 1, 2020- March 31, 2021) as soon as it has been received and reviewed, most likely late Q4 2020. Until such time, staff are not able to provide an update on the significance of the announced provincial and federal financial support for the transit budget in 2020 and 2021.

*Timeline and Next steps*

Based on the direction by the Board, staff will work with BC Transit to develop and implement a schedule for the period January to mid-May 2021.

**STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES**

This report aligns with the Board's Financial Sustainability Policy.

**CONCLUSION**

As per the direction from the Board provided in July 2020 the current schedule for the conventional transit service is based on 80% of the original budgeted amount of service hours. The current conventional transit demand seems to be met with this schedule. A modest increase in ridership is also expected to be supported without any substantial concerns.

Due to the current interregnum, clarity about the significance of the announced provincial and federal report for the transit budget in 2020 and 2021 is not expected until late Q4 2021.

Staff are therefore recommending the continuation of the current schedule based on 80% of the regular amount of service hours until mid-May 2020.

Reviewed by:			
Manager		CFO/Finance	X - B. Wing
GM		Legislative	
CAO	X– D. McKinley	Other	

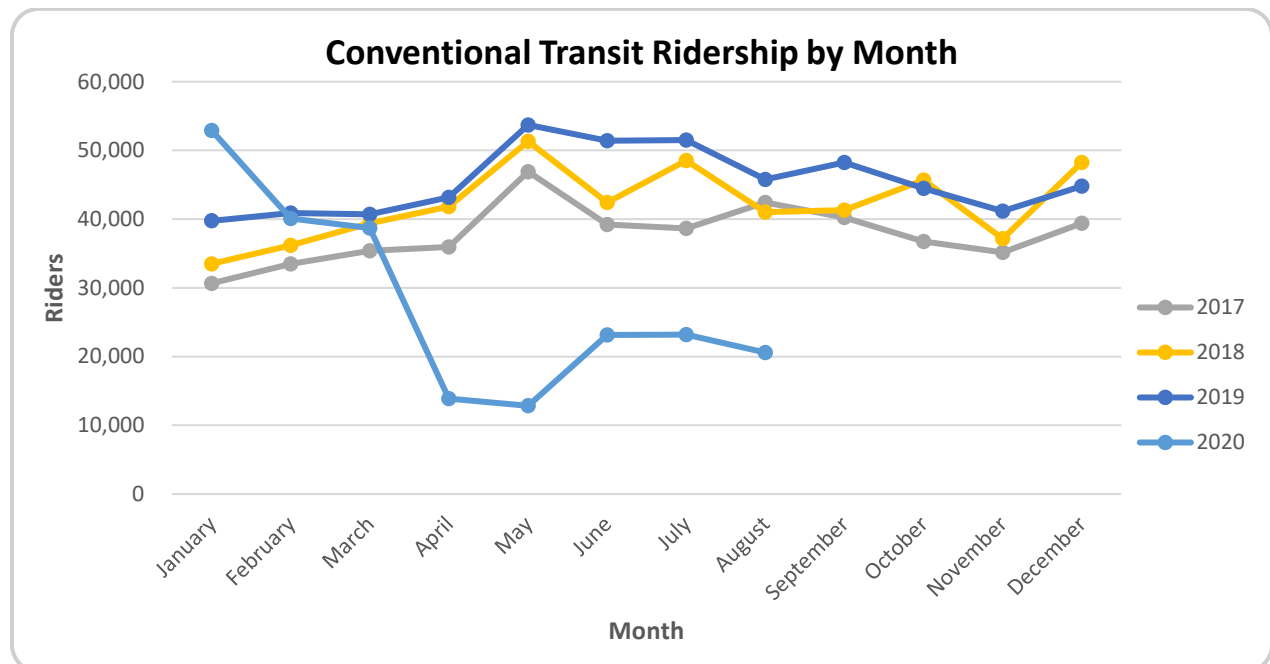
***Transit and Fleet Maintenance [310, 312]***

In contrast to most BC Transit systems, the SCRd functions as both the Local Government partner and the service contractor in relationship with BC Transit. This provides a clearer picture of costs than would otherwise be the case.

***Transit***

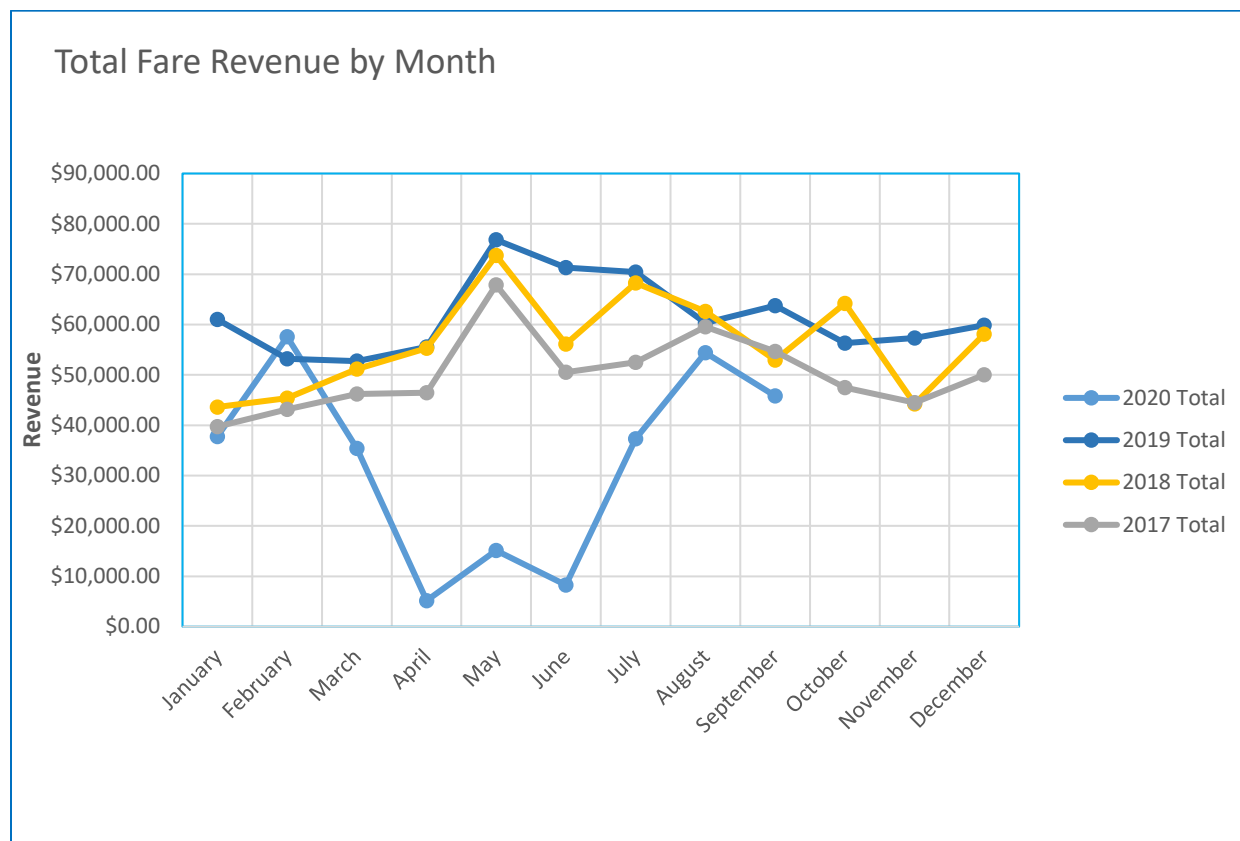
The new fare structure and the DayPASS on board were implemented on July 1st. Transit operated at 80% of the regular scheduled summer hours due to COVID19 and seating capacity remained around 70%. The average monthly ridership for Conventional buses throughout the summer was 22,000 trips which is about half of the monthly average from the summer of 2019.

Revenue has increased significantly over the summer months. The actual monthly revenue might differ slightly to what is presented in this graph due to an increased irregularity in the timing of registration of cash revenue.



\*Includes all data received from BC Transit to date





\*Includes all data received from BC Transit to date

### ***Fleet***

The replacement of the entire motor of eight Nova buses has started, taking several weeks per bus to complete. To date six replacements have been completed with another two buses scheduled for over the next few months.



For Immediate Release  
20-050  
September 18, 2020

## BC Ferries' President & CEO issues statement regarding Safe Restart Funding announcement

We appreciate receiving confirmation that the federal and provincial governments have allocated funds for BC Ferries, as well as TransLink and BC Transit, to assist transportation and economic recovery. BC Ferries thanks both levels of government for their collaboration during the pandemic to assist British Columbians during this difficult time.

In concert with the Province, BC Ferries has submitted a detailed plan to meet the public interest and the interests of customers in the provision of safe, reliable and affordable ferry service. We look forward to working out the formal agreement with the Province so we can maximize the benefit of the Safe Restart Funding Program for ferry users, and help restart the B.C. economy.

The Safe Restart Funding Program has great potential to assist the ferry system and the coastal communities that we serve. BC Ferries has a responsibility to provide lifeline ferry services and work in the best interests of the public and our customers. This investment in the ferry system ensures commuters get to work, children get to school, visitors get to coastal communities and goods get to market.

We look forward to working with the government to come to a formal agreement regarding the program. In the meantime, we'll maintain our focus on safe marine transportation for British Columbia.

Mark Collins  
President & CEO  
BC Ferries

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Media Contact:  
BC Ferries, Communications  
Victoria: (250) 978-126

**Note to newsrooms:** For urgent media inquiries off-hours, call our off-hours at (250) 516-7211.

# BC FERRIES TRAFFIC STATISTICS - 2020

<https://www.bcferreries.com/in-the-community/resources>

## ANNEX E

ROUTE #3	Vehicles							Passengers						
Month	Month current Year	Month Previous Year	% to Previous Year	YTD Current Year	YTD Previous Year	% to Previous Year	Total Previous Year	Month current Year	Month Previous Year	% to Previous Year	YTD Current Year	YTD Previous Year	% to Previous Year	Total Previous Year
January	70,461	77,701	-9.32%	1,018,146	61,037,425	-1.86%	1,195,220	149,202	165,977	-10.11%	2,343,740	2,387,863	-1.85%	2,728,376
February	77,141	66,212	16.51%	1,095,287	1,103,637	-0.76%	1,195,220	164,328	139,488	17.81%	2,508,068	2,527,351	-0.76%	2,728,376
March	64,245	91,563	-29.84%	1,159,532	1,195,200	-2.98%	1,195,220	123,034	201,025	-38.80%	2,631,102	2,728,376	-3.57%	2,728,376
April	38,407	94,023	-59.15%	38,407	94,023	-59.15	1,159,532	59,284	205,845	-71.20%	59,284	205,845	-71.20%	2,631,102
May	61, 890	105,496	-41.33%	100,297	199,519	-49.73%	1,159,532	108,037	239,859	-54.96%	167,321	445,704	-62.46%	2,631,102
June	84,999	107,006	-20.57%	185,296	306,525	-39.55%	1,159,532	165,471	252,955	-34.58%	332,792	698,659	-52.37%	2,631,102
July	109,116	127,173	-14.20%	294,412	433,698	-32.12%	1,159,532	242,364	319,459	-24.13%	575,156	1,018,118	-43.51%	2,631,102
August	116,405	137,346	-15.25%	410,817	571,044	-28.06%	1,159,532	269,459	353,821	-23.84%	844,615	1,371,939	-38.44%	2,631,102
September														
October														
November														
December														
SYSTEM	Vehicles							Passengers						
January	498,446	555,851	-10.33%	7,764,713	7,728,563	0.47%	8,886,499	1,126,101	1,261,030	-10.70%	19,431,745	19,528,134	-0.49%	22,286,723
February	560,873	475,919	17.85%	8,325,586	8,204,482	1.48%	8,886,499	1,285,924	1,111,788	15.66%	20,717,669	20,639,922	0.38%	22,286,723
March	475,313	682,017	-30.31%	8,800,899	8,886,499	-0.96%	8,886,499	959,671	1,646,801	-41.73	21,677,340	22,286,723	-2.73%	22,286,723
April	261,141	710,414	-63.24%	261,141	710,414	-63.24%	8,800,899	396,688	1,685,728	-76.47%	396,688	1,685,728	-76.47%	21,677,340
May	404,921	805,979	-49.76%	666,062	1,516,393	-56.08%	8,800,899	693,196	1,987,621	-65.12%	1,089,884	3,673,349	-70.33%	21,677,340
June	592,558	843,883	-29.78%	1,258,620	2,360,276	-46.67%	8,800,899	1,152,199	2,155,560	-46.55%	2,242,083	5,828,909	-61.54%	21,677,340
July	823,178	1,011,464	-18.62%	2,081,798	3,371,740	-38.26%	8,800,899	1,817,543	2,759,205	-34.13%	4,059,626	8,588,114	-52.73%	21,677,340
August	919,231	1,077,787	-14.71%	3,001,029	4,449,527	-32.55%	8,800,899	2,127,162	2,997,164	-29.03%	6,186,788	11,585,278	-46.60%	21,677,340
September														
October														
November														
December														

For Immediate Release  
Sunshine Coast Media  
20-049

September 9, 2020

## **HORSESHOE BAY – LANGDALE CUSTOMERS MAY REMAIN IN VEHICLE ON MAIN (LOWER) CAR DECK**

VICTORIA – BC Ferries is informing Horseshoe Bay – Langdale customers that they may remain in their vehicles on the main (lower) car decks.

As of Sept. 30, Transport Canada is rescinding the temporary flexibility it granted ferry operators that allowed passengers to remain in their vehicle on enclosed vehicle decks in response to COVID-19. However, BC Ferries has approval from Transport Canada to allow passengers to remain in their vehicles on the main car deck on the Horseshoe Bay – Langdale route.

The vessels on the Horseshoe Bay – Langdale route operate in ‘sheltered’ waters as defined by Transport Canada. BC Ferries received approval from Transport Canada to operate the ships on that route with the stern doors open, which makes the deck an ‘open’ vehicle deck. The company added a new steel barrier gate across the opening to ensure safety and meet the requirements of an ‘open’ main car deck. There may be situations where the ships operate with the stern doors closed, in which case customers on the main car deck will be required to leave their vehicle.

This approval to operate safely with the stern doors open does not apply to ships on any other routes. As of Sept. 30, BC Ferries will reestablish its procedures for clearing the main vehicle deck on the three Metro Vancouver to Vancouver Island routes, Vancouver Island (Comox) – Sunshine Coast (Powell River) and Metro Vancouver (Tsawwassen) to Southern Gulf Islands routes as these routes operate in open rather than sheltered waters. Customers on these routes may remain in their vehicle on the upper car deck only. For more information visit [bcferrries.com](https://www.bcferrries.com).

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Media Contact:  
BC Ferries, Communications  
Victoria: (250) 978-1267

Customer Contact:  
Victoria: (250) 386-3431  
Toll-free: 1-888-BCFERRY (1-888-223-3779)

For Immediate Release  
20-051

September 22, 2020

## **BC FERRIES' NEW WEBSITE PROVIDES CUSTOMERS WITH MORE CHOICE AND CONTROL**

### **Plan, book and pay online and on-the-go through the device of your choice**

VICTORIA – BC Ferries launched its new mobile-friendly website today, which lets customers easily book and manage their bookings online and on-the-go and delivers dynamically updated schedules and current conditions information.

As British Columbians return to safely travelling within B.C., BC Ferries' new website will make it easier for customers to get where they need to go. The new mobile-friendly website simplifies planning, booking and paying. Customers can take advantage of all the new features, on any device, wherever they are.

Features of the new website include dynamically generated, real-time daily and seasonal schedules available for all routes, as well as travel conditions at major terminals to provide greater travel certainty. Enhanced account management capabilities let customers manage all their bookings in one place, and add, change or cancel bookings with ease on their own. The new trip planner tool helps customers find sailings and calculate fares on any route before travelling.

The BC Ferries and BC Ferries Vacations™ websites have been combined, so creating a customized vacation package with hotel and ferry in the same booking is now more convenient. Customers can choose from over 140 hotels and 35 activities in 65 destinations throughout B.C.

On Northern and Central Coast Routes, customers can now book and pay for vehicle and passenger fares online, including Resident fares. On applicable Northern vessels, cabins and seats are also available to book online in advance, on direct sailings.

Customers with an existing account do not need to recreate their online account. The first time they log in, they will need to re-register their email address and password as a verification process. The system will prompt them to complete this step and they will have full access to their account once they re-register.

An important change for customers and traffic reporters to note is that Current Conditions now displays percentage of space available, rather than percentage full.

As BC Ferries navigates these uncertain times, the company continues to work to keep everyone safe and make travelling the Coast a better experience than ever. BC Ferries is listening to customers and evolving the website. The company invites customers to share their feedback and suggestions about the new website. Please visit [bcferreries.com](https://www.bcferreries.com) and submit comments using the Feedback tab.



## TraC Agenda Items for Oct 15th 2020

### Active Transportation Week

Active Transportation Week was Monday September 28 – Sunday October 4.

TraC hosted a series of events: Sufferfest II, Distanced Bike Polo, E-Bike Photo Scavenger Hunt and a Walking Challenge.

<http://transportationchoices.ca/wp/active-transportation-week/>

### Active Transportation Improvements Report

In early 2020, members of TraC met with regional management at MOTI to review active transportation infrastructure issues. One item we discussed was the **Community Safety Enhancement Program** which was launched following the 2010 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) convention. Under this program, active transportation enhancement projects are chosen by MOTI through consultation with local governments and law enforcement.

To aid in this deliberation, TraC developed a survey in June 2020 to provide more information regarding active transportation infrastructure needs on the Sunshine Coast. The survey identified twelve locations of concern and asked respondents to indicate which ones posed the highest risk to cyclists and pedestrians.

The resulting report details these high-risk locations along with a description of current problem conditions, suggested remediation, and comments provided by survey respondents. You can download the results from our website:

<http://transportationchoices.ca/wp/survey-results-2020/>

SEP 28 2020

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER

Tracey Hincks

**From:** TraC <coasttrac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 28, 2020 7:55 AM  
**To:** Council@sechelt.ca; mayorandcouncil@gibsons.ca; Board Chair  
**Cc:** Mark Hiltz; Donna McMahon; Colin Midgley; Braun, Michael TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Active Transportation Improvements Survey Results

External Message

Dear Mayor Beamish, Chair Pratt, and Mayor Siegers,

In early 2020, members of TraC met with regional management at MOTI to review active transportation infrastructure issues. One item we discussed was the **Community Safety Enhancement Program** which was launched following the 2010 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) convention. Under this program, active transportation enhancement projects are chosen by MOTI through consultation with local governments and law enforcement.

To aid in this deliberation, TraC developed a survey in June 2020 to provide more information regarding active transportation infrastructure needs on the Sunshine Coast. The survey identified twelve locations of concern and asked respondents to indicate which ones posed the highest risk to cyclists and pedestrians.

The resulting report details these high-risk locations along with a description of current problem conditions, suggested remediation, and comments provided by survey respondents. You can download the results from our website [here](#).

We are currently in the process of arranging to present these results more formally with each of the local governments (TOG, DOS, SCRD).

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

TraC looks forward to working with you to address these issues.

Sincerely,  
Alun Woolliams  
TraC President

Cc:  
Michael Braun  
Colin Midgley  
Gibsons Council  
Sechelt Council SCRD Board

This message originated outside the SCRD. Please be cautious before opening attachments or following links.



**LANGDALE ELEMENTARY PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
 1551 Johnson St. Gibsons, BC V0N1V6

October 5, 2020

**VIA E-MAIL**

Mr. Michael Braun  
 MOTI Operations Manager for Howe Sound/Sunshine Coast Sechelt Manager  
 BOX 356 Sechelt BC V0N3A0  
 (604) 398-5677

TO: Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure,

**RE: Request of Safety Signage and Improvement on Port Mellon Hwy and YMCA Road**

We are pleased to explore this avenue by inviting you for the Langdale Elementary School's 'Walk/Bike to School Campaign'.

We have recently applied to the Vancouver Coastal Health 2020/20201 Vision Zero Seed Grant Program, hosted in partnership with the Public Health Association of BC. Our grant proposal was to improve the walkability of neighbourhoods and safe active transportation for our children by creating road signage for Port Mellon Hwy; particularly at the intersection of YMCA Rd.

As a PAC we are committed to the health and safety of our students and our wider school community. By residing near a highway, we are limited in options for active transportation whether it be students and faculty to school, families to extra-curricular activities, or even just walking and/or biking around our neighbourhood.

While our application made clarity with their grant adjudication committee, we were asked to have a prior engagement with key stakeholders and approval of our intervention plan from MOTI before VCH could fund our project.

Our suggestions to improve and implement highway safety for pedestrians are:

- Cross-walkers Signages with flashing lights similar to Mission Rd and HWY101, Davis Bay.
- Speed Limit Signage to communicate drivers about residents walking across and along the Port Mellon Hwy.
- Specified Walk/Bike Lanes along Port Mellon Hwy.

Thank you for taking the time to consider and approve safety on this particular section of Port Mellon Hwy. Children and Langdale families' safety are essential to the reputation of Langdale PAC and our school. We are confident that you feel the same.



We are looking forward to working with you as soon as your review process is complete. Should you have any questions or are interested in discussing this request with us, please do not hesitate to reach out to us via phone or email.

Sincerely,

Andrea Holmes, LES PAC President [jaglholmes@gmail.com](mailto:jaglholmes@gmail.com) (604) 886-1700  
Miyuki Shinkai, LES DPAC Rep [mellonglass@dccnet.com](mailto:mellonglass@dccnet.com) (604)741-8206



WEBINAR: CO-HOSTED BY VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH &amp; LANGDALE PAC

# REVERSE THE TREND OF THE BACKSEAT GENERATION: GET KIDS MOVING THROUGH ACTIVE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

**OCTOBER 29, 2020 7PM-8:30PM**

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/activetravelforkids>

The 2020 Physical Activity Report Card gives kids in Canada a D+ grade for Physical Activity, a D- for Active Transportation and an F for Active Play. Surely we can do better on these essential ingredients for child health and development, particularly given the impact of the pandemic on kids' well-being. Increasing active travel for kids also has effects that benefit the broader community such as more socially cohesive neighbourhoods, safer streets and cleaner air.

This event will feature a presentation and Q&A with international experts **Mariana Brussoni** and **Guy Faulkner** on the current research on the importance of active travel and active play to child mental and physical health and development. We will also look at the state of active travel for kids on the lower **Sunshine Coast** and **Powell River**, present some examples of what is currently being done, and have some discussion on what more could be done to enable kids' independent mobility.

The target audience for this event is parents, PACs and schools but the content will be relevant to other stakeholders such as urban planners, transportation authorities, etc.

Prior to this event, we strongly encourage participants to view the documentary produced by Guy Faulkner: **Running Free - Children's Independent Mobility** [link here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OKOXfa8NfTY>]

**Dr. Guy Faulkner** is a Professor and Chair of Applied Public Health in the School of Kinesiology at UBC. His research focuses on two interrelated themes: the effectiveness of physical activity promotion interventions and physical activity and mental health. He also has a particular interest in active school travel and the independent mobility of children and youth.

**Dr. Mariana Brussoni** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and the School of Population and Public Health at UBC and an investigator with the BC Children's Hospital's Research Institute and the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit. She is dedicated to studying child injury prevention and children's outdoor play.

For more information, please contact:  
[lianne.carley@vch.ca](mailto:lianne.carley@vch.ca)  
[nadia.fourik@vch.ca](mailto:nadia.fourik@vch.ca)







British Columbia Ferry Services Inc.  
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Victoria, BC V8W 0B7  
Tel (250) 381-1401  
Fax (250) 360-2093  
bcferries.com

October 8, 2020

Board of Directors  
Sunshine Coast Regional District  
1975 Field Road  
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A1

Dear Board of Directors,

We would like to update you on the community engagement project, Moving Ahead Together on the Sunshine Coast. As noted in previous correspondence, this engagement opens conversation with our customers, employees, and the wider Sunshine Coast community that will help us develop practical, near-term solutions to improve ferry service on the Sunshine Coast.

### **Results of First Online Community Engagement Now Available**

We have closed the first phase of online community engagement and results are now available on our project page: [www.bcferriesprojects.ca/aheadtogether](http://www.bcferriesprojects.ca/aheadtogether). We heard from nearly 1,500 people on the challenges they felt were most pressing and on the near-term improvements to service they would like us to consider.

The community indicated six priority areas to improve service in the near-term:

1. Travel certainty for residents
2. Capacity/frequency of service
3. Travel certainty through reservations
4. Terminal infrastructure and operational improvements
5. Travel certainty for connecting travelers (e.g. those travelling through Earls Cove, Gambier-Keats etc.)
6. Travel certainty for medical travelers

### **Project Working Group Assembled and Getting to Work**

The Project Working Group has been assembled and has started to review community feedback. In collaboration with Ferry Advisory Committee Chairs from the Upper and Lower Sunshine Coast and Gambier-Keats, we selected 19 members that represent a cross-section of the community, ferry users and BC Ferries employees.

Due to the limited number of spaces available on the Project Working Group, we will engage with elected officials separately through correspondence like this, through individual meetings at key milestones, and as requested. First Nations have also been invited to participate in the engagement process.

In selecting the Project Working Group we took care to choose a representative group of community members with a wide-range of perspectives and experience, including:

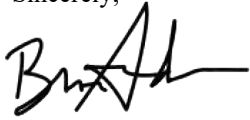
- Residents (full and part-time)
- Medical travelers
- Commercial trucking and hauling
- Tourism
- Local businesses and service providers
- Local economic development
- Schools and sports teams
- Parents

- Transit users
- Connecting travelers
- Upper and Lower Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committees
- Gambier-Keats Ferry Advisory Committee
- Terminal operations at Langdale and Horseshoe Bay
- Deck operations on the *Queen of Surrey*
- Catering operations on the *Queen of Surrey*

The Group completed their first two workshops on September 30 and October 1. Members reviewed community feedback received through online engagement, and began the process of brainstorming potential solutions to improve ferry service to the Sunshine Coast in the near-term. The Group will meet again through October to arrive at a short-list of solutions that they will seek community feedback on in early November.

We look forward to involving you in the next phase of broad community engagement in November. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or to schedule a time to discuss the project with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Anderson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Anderson  
Vice President, Strategy & Community Engagement