

November 13, 2009

RELEASE: VICTORIA FARE ADJUSTMENTS PROPOSED FOR APRIL 1, 2010

VICTORIA, B.C. – As requested by the Victoria Regional Transit Commission, BC Transit has submitted a proposal outlining adjustments to the current fare system and is now seeking public comment on the suggested changes.

The fare proposal includes a 25-cent increase, a single rate for all cash fares, the introduction of a deeply-discounted monthly pass valid outside of peak hours, and the elimination of the underutilized day pass fare product. If approved, the adjustments would start April 1, 2010.

“The proposed changes will allow us to achieve financially sustainable growth,” said Mayor Christopher Causton, Chair of the Victoria Regional Transit Commission. Since fares were last increased in April 2007, ridership has increased along with fuel and labour costs. BC Transit also expanded service by 13 per cent in order to keep up with customer demand.

The transit system is funded by provincial contributions, property taxes, fuel tax funding, fare revenue, and advertising sales. Fares recover only 38 per cent of the cost to run Victoria’s transit system. Leading transit organizations target a 50 per cent recovery ratio. This fiscal year, fare revenue is projected to be over \$34 million.

The Victoria Regional Transit Commission will meet in January 2010 to decide on the fare adjustments.

Feedback on the proposed adjustments is encouraged. Interested parties may call, email, write or fill out a survey online in the Victoria section of www.bctransit.com. Comments must be submitted to BC Transit by December 14, 2009.

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For More Information:

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BACKGROUND: FARE ADJUSTMENTS

Proposed Fare Structure, Effective April 1, 2010

	Current	Proposed
Cash	\$2.25	\$2.50
Adult		
Tickets (10)	\$20.25	\$22.50
DayPASS	\$7.00	Eliminated
Monthly Pass	\$73.25	\$90.00
Off-Peak Monthly Pass	-	\$75.00
Senior		
Cash	\$1.40	\$2.50
DayPASS	\$5.00	Eliminated
Tickets (10)	\$12.60	\$15.00
Monthly Pass	\$42.00	\$52.00
Youth		
Cash	\$1.40	\$2.50
DayPASS	\$5.00	Eliminated
Tickets (10)	\$12.60	\$15.00
Monthly Pass	\$42.00	\$52.00
Pass (min. 6-month purchase)	\$28.00	\$35.00
handyDART		
handyDART Cash	\$2.25	\$2.50
handyDART Tickets (10)	\$20.25	\$22.50
handyDART Monthly Pass	\$73.25	\$90.00
Other		
College DayPASS	\$7.00	Eliminated
PRO PASS (Biweekly Payment)	\$29.02	\$35.65
UPASS (per term, 4 months)	\$73.25	\$90.00
College Monthly Pass	\$63.25	\$82.00

- Fares were last increased April 1, 2007
- Customers and the general public may provide feedback on the proposed changes by phone, mail, email or fill out a survey at www.bctransit.com.

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