

December 15, 2009

## **RELEASE: NEW ROUTES AND EXPANDED SERVICES FOR VICTORIA TRANSIT START DECEMBER 28**

**VICTORIA, BC** – The last week of December marks the start of expanded services for the Victoria Regional Transit System. A new route along Bay Street, an express route to UVic and a late night service trial run will start with the winter service schedule. In February, BC Transit will also add more trips to meet the extra trips on the Swartz Bay – Tsawwassen ferry schedule during the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, February 12 – 28, 2010.

“The services we’re introducing will help meet the demand for more transit in Victoria, identify the demand for late night service, and help people take part in the Olympics,” said Mayor Christopher Causton, Chair of the Victoria Regional Transit Commission.

The three-month late night service pilot will extend the service period on **#4 UVic/Downtown via Hillside**, **#6 Esquimalt/Royal Oak Exchange** and **#14 UVic via Richmond/Vic General** every Friday and Saturday night, with the last bus leaving downtown at about 1:30am. BC Transit is introducing the late-night extension on a trial basis to ensure that the service is sustainable and that demand warrants the need for such a service.

Bay Street will finally have its own route serving the Vic West community and employers like CFB Esquimalt and Royal Jubilee Hospital. The **#10 Royal Jubilee/Dockyard** will run seven days a week. Buses will run between 15 and 30 minutes weekdays, 30 minutes Saturdays, and 45 minutes Sundays.

Another new route, the **#15 UVic/Downtown Express**, is a limited stop express route, serving downtown, Royal Jubilee Hospital, Camosun College and UVic. The **#15 UVic/Downtown Express** will run every 10 minutes during peak travel hours (6:00am to 9:00am and 3:00pm to 6:00pm) Monday through Friday during the school year, departing from the UVic Student Union Building.

The expanded service represents about half of the 40,200 more hours of service added to the regional transit system. This five per cent service increase has been made possible through provincial and municipal funding announced earlier this year.

- 30 -

---

### **Media Inquiries:**

Contact: Joanna Morton, BC Transit  
Phone: 250-995-5720  
Email: [joanna\\_morton@bctransit.com](mailto:joanna_morton@bctransit.com)