

Public Engagement Report Highway 16 Inter-Community Transit Service

October 2016 – FINAL



BC Transit would like to thank the many individuals, First Nations, local governments, businesses and community events organizers who assisted in making this consultation process a reality. Your support leading up to and throughout this public engagement series made it possible.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	3
Introduction	4
Purpose	4
Method	4
Highway 16 Inter-Community Transit Service Website	5
In-Person Public Engagement Events	5
Surveys – Online and Paper	8
Advertising & Media	8
By-Request Meetings	8
Results	9
Response Rate	9
Results Structure	11
General Comments and Overall Results Overview	12
Segment 1: Burns Lake to Prince George: Response to Proposed Routing	14
Segment 1: Burns Lake to Prince George: Response to Proposed Schedule	15
Segment 2: Burns Lake to Smithers: Response to Proposed Routing	16
Segment 2: Burns Lake to Smithers: Response to Proposed Schedule	17
Segment 3: Hazeltons Area to Terrace: Response to Proposed Routing	
Segment 3: Hazeltons Area to Terrace: Response to Proposed Schedule	19
Segment 4: Prince Rupert to Terrace: Response to Proposed Routing	20
Segment 4: Prince Rupert to Terrace: Response to Proposed Scheduling	21
Preferred Service Days	22
Response to Proposed Fare	24
Response to Proposed Stop and Shelter Locations	26
Regional Travel Patterns	27
Summary & Next steps	31

INTRODUCTION

As part of a comprehensive \$5 million Highway 16 Five Point Action Plan, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) has committed \$2.4 million in funding over a three year period to provide inter-city transit services along the 750 kilometre Highway 16 corridor between Prince Rupert and Prince George.

In collaboration with community leaders, BC Transit undertook a detailed analysis to confirm the feasibility, scope and costs of creating and/or enhancing inter-community public transit service along the Highway 16 corridor. With the support and collaboration of community leaders, these options for service, fares and infrastructure were then presented to the public for feedback through various means from August 17 to September 16, 2016.

This community engagement was conducted to help shape the Highway 16 Action Plan Inter-Community Transit Service delivery to ensure that the service reflects the needs and priorities of the region and communities while meeting the approved service objectives. The process was led by BC Transit with strong support from area First Nations, local governments and Ministry of Transportation staff. This report provides a summary of the community engagement process and results.

This document summarizes how the engagement was conducted and key themes heard. The information received will be used to recommend revisions to service schedule, routing, fare and infrastructure options to community leaders for their consideration and approval as the new services move forward to implementation.

PURPOSE

The engagement strategy was designed to achieve the following goals:

- Identify and solicit targeted feedback from members of the public representing communities on and nearby the Highway 16 corridor.
- Employ a variety of methods to ensure a wide range of citizens can participate in the engagement.
- Ensure the final results reflect the public's needs and desires by incorporating schedule, service day, routing, fares, infrastructure and policy feedback into the proposed service plan.

METHOD

Public engagement for the proposed Highway 16 Inter-Community Transit Service was anchored by a series of 20 public engagement events which included interactive information boards, print survey and opportunities for one-on-one conversations with project staff. The series was supported and supplemented by a project website and online survey, as well as by-request meetings for other groups along the corridor. Engagement was critical in providing transit staff with insights into community travel patterns and routing as well as schedule opportunities and needs to enable the further shaping of service.

The following describes each of the elements of the engagement strategy.

Highway 16 Inter-Community Transit Service Website

In anticipation of future inter-city transit system development along the corridor, the project established a new permanent web section for Highway 16 on the BC Transit website. Until services are implemented, the website is designed to serve as an information portal to keep the public, community leaders and stakeholders updated on the anticipated transit service's progress and milestones.

During the consultation period, the web site was used to support public engagement by sharing the scheduled locations and times for events, posting the information boards used for the engagement series and, providing links to the online survey and the Ministry of Transportation's broader Highway 16 Action Plan Information pages.

The website can be found here: https://bctransit.com/highway16/home



Figure 1: BC Transit Highway 16 website

In-Person Public Engagement Events

20 public engagement sessions and events were held from Prince Rupert to Prince George in order to share draft transit concepts with community members and specific information regarding local considerations for the introduction of transit service to the broader region. The engagement sessions were conducted over three phases, with two engagement teams often working simultaneously to hold concurrent events in different communities.

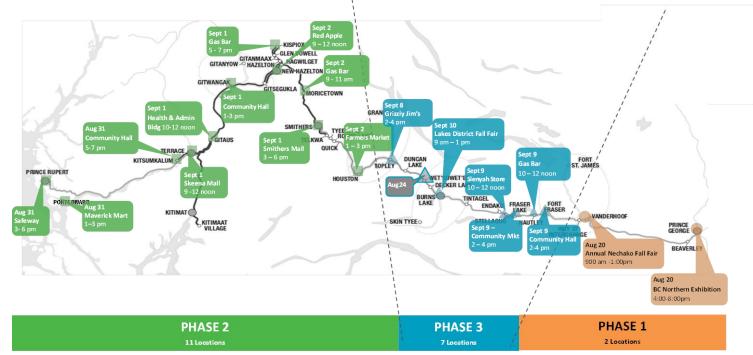


Figure 2: Consultation Phases

Public engagement events were held between August 20th and September 10^{th,} 2016 at a variety of locations along the corridor, as outlined in Table 1 on the following page.

Interactive information boards used at the events served to collect feedback from participants shared through conversations, as well as the use of post it notes and sticky dots for voting. Transit service concepts presented at each event focused on the corresponding service segment(s) for that community. Dot votes were used at the information events to (1) gauge response to schedule concepts for the applicable service segment (2) collect suggestions for which two or three days of the week the service would be most useful, and (3) gauge response to the proposed fare concept.

Location	Date	Time	Participants*
Vanderhoof: Nechako Fall Fair	Sat 20 Aug	9:00am – 1:00pm	91
Prince George: BC Northern Exhibition	Sat 20 Aug	4:00pm – 8:00pm	78
Wet'suwet'en First Nation: Community Meeting	Wed 24 Aug	2:00pm – 4:00pm	25
Port Edward: Maverick Foods	Wed 31 Aug	1:00pm – 3:00pm	20
Prince Rupert: Safeway	Wed 31 Aug	3:00pm – 6:00pm	102
Kitsumkalum: Community Hall	Wed 31 Aug	5:00pm – 7:00pm	10
Terrace: Skeena Mall	Thurs 1 Sep	9:00am – 12:00pm	51
Gitaus: Health and Administration Building	Thurs 1 Sep	10:00am – 1:00pm	15
Gitwangak: Community Hall	Thurs 1 Sep	2:30pm – 4:30pm	25
Smithers: Smithers Mall	Thurs 1 Sep	5:30pm – 7:30pm	34
Kispiox: Gas Bar	Thurs 1 Sep	9:30am - 12:30pm	38
New Hazelton: Red Apple	Fri 2 Sep	9:00am – 12:00pm	15
Moricetown: Gas Bar	Fri 2 Sep	10:00am – 12:00pm	23
Houston: Community Market	Fri 2 Sep	2:00pm – 4:00pm	19
Topley: Grizzly Jim's General Store	Thu 8 Sep	2:00pm – 4:00pm	22
Stellaquo: Slenyah Store	Fri 9 Sep	10:00am – 12:00pm	23
Nautley: Community Hall / Store	Fri 9 Sep	10:00am – 12:00pm	14
Fraser Lake: Community Market	Fri 9 Sep	2:00pm – 4:00pm	26
Fort Fraser: Community Hall	Fri 9 Sep	2:00pm – 4:00pm	19
Burns Lake: Lakes District Fall Fair	Sat 10 Sep	9:00am – 1:00pm	70
		Total	720

Table 1: Highway 16 Inter-Community Transit Public Engagement Dates and Locations

* Note "Participants" refers to the individuals that stopped to have a conversation with the engagement team and provide input. Approximately two to three times the total number of individuals were approached by the project staff to let them know of the initiative, with many of those approached saying that they had already heard of the project and supported it.

October 2016

Highway 16 Inter-Community Transit Public Engagement Summary | Page 7



Figure 3: A selection of images from public engagement events

Surveys – Online and Paper

Participants were also encouraged to complete a survey, available online from August 20th to September 16th, or fill out a paper survey during the open house engagement events.

Online The online version of the survey included a comprehensive explanation of transit proposals, and enabled respondents to provide feedback on the service proposals based on the four proposed transit service segments along the corridor. Respondents were able to choose individual or multiple segments. In addition, comments on the entirety of the corridor—including existing services--were welcomed.

- 1. Burns Lake to Prince George
- 2. Burns Lake to Smithers
- 3. Hazeltons Area to Terrace
- 4. Prince Rupert to Terrace

The online survey sought feedback on the (1) routing and stops for the respective segment(s), (2) schedule concept for the respective segment(s), (3) suggestions for which two or three days of the week the service would be most useful, (4) response to proposed fares, and (5) regional travel patterns by asking respondents to identify their home community and outline regional daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly travel patterns.

Paper Survey The paper survey, used during public engagement events, was more abbreviated since respondents had the transit proposal information boards and transit staff available through which to provide feedback.

Both online and paper surveys asked respondents to identify their home community and outline regional daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly travel patterns. This information provides a robust understanding of travel demand across communities along the Highway 16 corridor.

Advertising & Media

A variety of methods were used to advertise the opportunities to provide input. Print media included a media release, advertisements in local papers and radio, and event posters provided to event hosts. In addition, there were website updates and notices (BC Transit) and social media outreach (Facebook and Twitter) through BC Transit, First Nations, local municipalities, and entities hosting public engagement events.

By-Request Meetings

Several other meetings were arranged when requested by communities and groups in order to discuss the transit proposals in



Figure 4: BC Transit staff being interviewed in Terrace

more detail and for stakeholders to provide more detailed information regarding their transit requirements. Meetings were held on August 16th in Burns Lake, August 23rd in the Hazeltons and Wet'suwet'en First Nation, September 1st in Gitwangak and September 9th in Fraser Lake as well as by phone and email with a number of other local government, First Nation and community group staff, decision makers and members.

Table 2: Engagement Response Summary

Engagement Quick Facts

Paper Survey Respondents

Online Survey Respondents

By-Request Meetings

75+

Number of Engagement events.

Public Engagement Event Participants

RESULTS

Response Rate

Table 2 provides a summary of the response rates to the various engagement events.

In-Person Public Engagement

Over 700 people were engaged at the 20 information events, providing feedback on the proposals or taking information away to complete the online survey later. Many attendees were eager to have their say in providing feedback on the proposed days of service and schedules.

Surveys – Online and Paper

Online Surveys A total of 783 people participated in the online survey, with 488 participants completing the survey and 288 participants partially completing the survey. Survey accesses coincided largely with news coverage, in-person engagement phases, and the last day of online surveying.

Paper Surveys A total of 250 people participated in the paper survey. Most surveys were received during the public engagement events, however a small number were submitted following the Phase 2 and Phase 3 engagement events.

Larger communities produced a higher response of online surveys, while in very small communities the

Figure 6: Geographic distribution of survey

proportions were more balanced, with those communities which hosted in-person events boasting higher proportions of paper surveys than online surveys.

> A proportion of both paper and online surveys were received from a number of other communities located off of the corridor and outside of transit service. Among these were Fort St. James (12), Gitanyow (8), Kitwanga (7), Gransisle (6) and Francois Lake (3).

Figure 5: Age demographics of survey participants

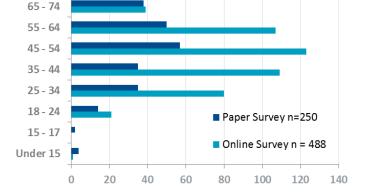
720

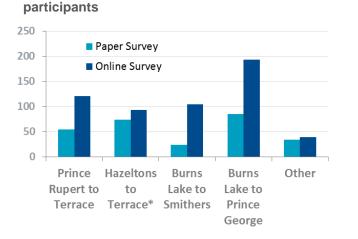
250

783

20

5





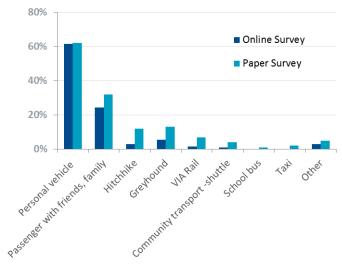
Participants completing both surveys were heavily dominated by those whose primary mode of transportation is as drivers of personal vehicles. People completing the paper survey at the inperson engagement events had higher proportions of alternative travel modes such as being a vehicle passenger, hitchhiking or using Greyhound than those who completed the online survey.

Purposes for inter-community travel also varied slightly between online and paper survey participants. While shopping/errands dominated both groups, those who completed the online survey were more likely to travel longer distances for work or social/recreational purposes, while those who completed the paper survey reported inter-community travel dominated by shopping/errands and medical/dental purposes.

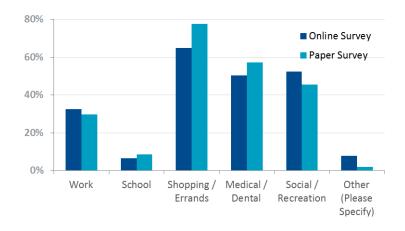
Travel for school was the lowest purpose for regional-scale travel, however the relatively low proportion of participants in younger age groups may account for this.

Varying levels of access to the internet and online data services may have in part contributed to the variation in responses between the online participants and engagement event paper survey participants.









Results Structure

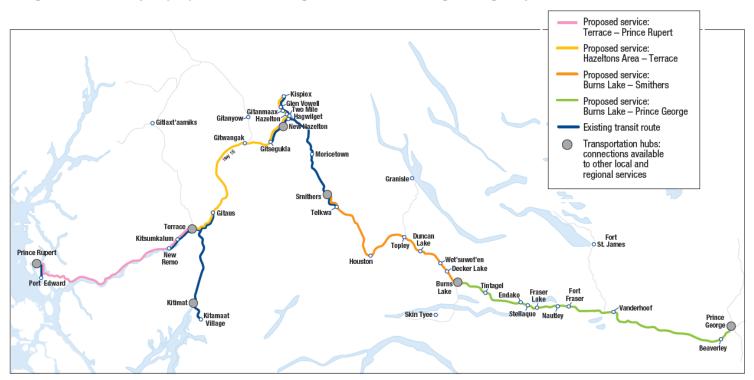
The following pages summarize results by service area segment, topic area and community. Source for each topic area is noted in Table 3 located to the right.

Note that the service area segments reflect areas of new service. Comments related to areas covered by existing transit systems are reflected in the segment area that corresponds to that system.

Table 3: Results structure

Section	Source
Routing and Stops	Public Engagement Comments + Online Survey
Days of Service	Public Engagement Dote Votes + Online Survey
Schedule Concept	Public Engagement Dot Votes + Online Survey
Proposed Fares	Public Engagement Dot Votes + Online Survey
Travel Patterns	Public Engagement Paper Survey + Online Survey
General Comments	Public Engagement Post-it Comments + Public Engagement Paper Survey + Online Survey

Figure 9: Summary of proposed and existing transit services along the Highway 16 corridor.



General Comments and Overall Results Overview

While the following sections provide detailed information by service segment, community and topic, it is also useful to note the overall themes which emerged.

- Engagement event and online participants were generally supportive of the initiative, its routes and its schedules.
 - In particular, most engagement event participants responded positively upon learning about the proposed service, especially in communities where no transit currently exists. A very common comment/question heard was: "This is great. When will it start?"
 - A small number of respondents in the online survey were not generally supportive of the initiative. This number was proportionally higher than comments heard at the open houses but still relatively small. These comments mainly related to whether the respondent perceived the initiative would stop hitchhiking rather than whether or not it was of value to communities.
 - While open house participants had the opportunity to learn more from the project staff about how the proposed transit service complements—not duplicates—long haul providers and is intended to be supported by the new Community Transportation Grant program for offcorridor communities, this was less possible for the online survey respondents. A number of respondents were concerned about the lack of transit to Fort St. James and Granisle area communities or how the project relates to existing long haul providers like Greyhound. Continuing to make this distinction clear in future communications will be helpful.
 - Similarly, some engagement event participants initially believed the proposed transit service is only for First Nations residents. Again, more communication around this will be helpful.

• A number of key community points of feedback on routes and schedules are emerging which will be used to shape final proposals:

- Prince Rupert to Terrace: Direction of travel and desire for more time in Terrace; desire for at least three days of service; opportunity to integrate with other existing transportation providers in the corridor.
- Hazeltons Area to Terrace: Opportunity to have more than one trip per day or otherwise change the amount of time spent in Terrace; desire for at least three days of service; connection between Gitwangak/Gitanyow/Gitsegukla and other Hazeltons, as well as improved connection/capacity between Moricetown and Smithers destinations.
- Burns Lake to Smithers: Feedback on a number of different passenger flows, including travel from Houston and Topley to Burns Lake and considerations about service to the Francois Lake Ferry; desire for more dwell time in both Smithers and Burns Lake and many different perspectives on ideal trip times; desire for at least three days of service for midday users; requests for daily service at commuter times; adjusted local routing in Houston to serve Senior's Centre and Arena.
- Burns Lake to Prince George: More time is generally desired in Prince George; desire for three day per week service; feedback on further routing to be considered within Prince George; feedback for consideration on stops along the way, as well as the potential inclusion of Wet'suwet'en First Nation in this service.
- There was emphatic support for the proposed fares. Some participants wondered whether further subsidized fares should be considered for those with less means; less expensive local fares for shorter trips were requested in a number of communities, particularly in cases where the regional service will overlap with existing transit (i.e. Telkwa to Smithers, Gitaus to Terrace, etc.); alignment

with existing Skeena Regional and Hazeltons Regional fares (which are currently \$4 not \$5) was also noted.

- **Proposed stop and shelter locations have generally been supported.** Detailed feedback is in the process of being discussed and refined with BC Transit, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and respective local governments, First Nations and property owners.
- A number of comments related to policies and amenities on board transit vehicles:
 - The request for space on transit vehicles for luggage/parcels.
 - o Clarification around policies regarding youth travel.
 - Clarification around policies relating to transit vehicles picking up hitchhikers as well as ensuring onboard safety for passengers.



Figure 10: Public engagement event in Burns Lake

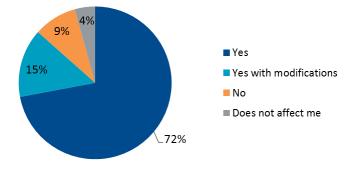
Segment 1: Burns Lake to Prince George: Response to Proposed Routing

BURNS LAKE TO PRINCE GEORGE					
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed routing and stop locations for the Burns Lake - Prince George service?				
Community	Yes	Yes, with modifications	No	Does not affect me	
Burns Lake <i>n = 30</i>	21	3	6	-	
Endako <i>n = 3</i>	2	0	1	0	
Stellaquo n = 1	1	0	0	0	
Fraser Lake <i>n = 14</i>	13	1	0	0	
Nautley <i>n</i> = 1	1	0	0	0	
Fort Fraser <i>n=</i> 8	6	2	0	0	
Vanderhoof <i>n= 53</i>	39	9	2	3	
Beaverly <i>n= 11</i>	6	2	2	0	
Prince George <i>n= 66</i>	45	10	6	5	
TOTAL	134	27	17	8	

Segment Summary

The response to the routing was overall highly positive – 87 per cent of people responding to the online surveys either supported the routing or supported the routing with modifications. Support from those at in-person events were aligned well with that received online.

The most frequently expressed routing concern was that the routing does not directly serve outlying areas, such as Fort St. James, Nak'azdli to the north, and Saik'uz Do you support the proposed Routing and stop Locations for the Burns Lake - Prince George service?



located south of Vanderhoof. At events, staff were able to explain how the service is designed to work with the new Community Transportation Grant program for communities off the corridor.

BURNS LAKE TO PRINCE GEORGE MOST FREQUENT ROUTING COMMENTS					
Shared Comment Themes Comments by Community					
	Burns Lake	Request for more days of service			
Positive feedback to service.	Endako	• Questions around relation to existing transportation providers.			
Request to include Fort St.	Stellaquo	• Questions around relation to existing transportation providers.			
James, Nak'azdli and outlying	Fraser Lake	Request for more days of services			
communities	Nautley	Request for service deeper into the community			
Requests to include Saik'uz	Fort Fraser	Request to include service to Fort. St. James			
 First Nation Questions or concerns on how the transit service differs 	Vanderhoof	 Request for more days of service. Request to include service to Saik'uz First Nation Request for stops at Clucluz Lake 			
from existing transportation	Beaverly	Comments both for and against including a stop at Beaverly.			
services.	Prince George	Stops suggested for Bednesti and Clucluz LakeRequest to include service to Fort. St. James			

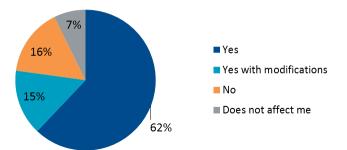
Segment 1: Burns Lake to Prince George: Response to Proposed Schedule

BURNS LAKE TO PRINCE GEORGE							
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed schedule for the Burns Lake - Prince Geo service?						
Community	Yes	Yes Yes with No Does not aff					
Burns Lake <i>n = 30</i>	14	6	11	0			
Endako <i>n = 3</i>	2	0	1	0			
Stellaquo <i>n</i> = 1	1	0	0	0			
Fraser Lake <i>n = 14</i>	8	2	3	1			
Nautley n = 1	1	0	0	0			
Fort Fraser <i>n= 8</i>	6	2	0	0			
Vanderhoof <i>n= 52</i>	32	9	4	7			
Beaverly <i>n= 11</i>	5	1	4	1			
Prince George <i>n= 65</i>	34	13	11	7			
TOTAL	103	33	34	16			

Comments

Overall the response to the schedule was generally positive – 77 per cent of respondents either supported the schedule or supported the schedule with modifications. As with the routing, comments made by participants at engagement sessions aligned well with the online response. The global response for this segment also included 33 dot-votes in support of the schedule.

Do you support the proposed schedule for the Burns Lake Area - Prince George service?



BURNS LAKE TO PRINCE GEORGE MOST FREQUENT SCHEDULE COMMENTS				
Shared Comment Themes Comments by Community				
	Burns Lake	 More intervening time in Prince George, closer to 5 hours Questions around relation to existing transportation providers 		
More intervening time in	Endako	Questions around relation to existing transportation providers		
Prince George - respondents suggested a	Stellaquo	More intervening time in Prince George, closer to 5 hours		
departure ranging from 3	Fraser Lake	More intervening time in Prince George, closer to 5 hours		
pm to 5pm that would enable 4.5-5 hours in Prince	Nautley	No Comments		
George	Fort Fraser	More intervening time in Prince George, closer to 5 hours		
 Adjustments to the travel 	Vanderhoof	More intervening time in Prince George, closer to 5 hours		
time between Vanderhoof and Prince George	Beaverly	Schedule does not work for kids attending high school in Prince George		
	Prince George	 More intervening time in Prince George, closer to 5 hours Departure from Burns Lake is too early for most. Request to coordinate schedules for those travelling from Saik'uz 		

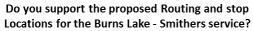
Segment 2: Burns Lake to Smithers: Response to Proposed Routing

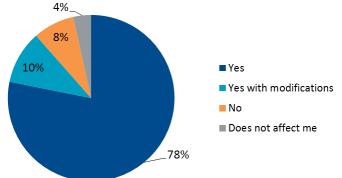
BURNS LAKE TO SMITHERS							
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed routing and stop locations for the Burns Lake – Smithers service?						
Community	Yes	Yes Yes with No Does not affect					
Smithers $n = 28$	22	4	0	2			
Telkwa <i>n = 4</i>	4	0	0	0			
Houston <i>n</i> = 23	17	3	3	0			
Topley <i>n</i> = 4	2	1	0	1			
Duncan Lake <i>n = 1</i>	1	0	0	0			
Wet'suwet'en <i>n= 2</i>	2	0	0	0			
Decker Lake <i>n= 4</i>	3	1	0	0			
Burns Lake <i>n= 21</i>	17	0	4	0			
TOTAL	68	9	7	3			

Segment Summary

The response to the routing was overall highly positive – 88 per cent of people responding to the online surveys either supported the routing or supported the routing with modifications. Response from those at in-person events was also very positive.

The most frequently expressed concern is that the routing does not offer connections for people in the area of Granisle. At events, staff were able to explain how the service is designed to work with the new Community





Transportation Grant program for communities off the corridor, with service designed to accommodate transfers at Topley from community vehicles that may travel to connect with it from the Granisle area.

BURNS LAKE TO SMITHERS MOST FREQUENT ROUTING COMMENTS					
Shared Comment Themes	Comments by Community				
Request for service	Smithers	•	Request for bus to also serve Moricetown and comments on how frequently Moricetown residents access Smithers services		
request for service to GranisleRouting must	Houston	• •	Request for service to Granisle Consideration for those who do not have local transportation to get to the bus. Questions around relation to existing transportation providers		
consider those who do not have local	Topley	•	Please ensure stops for small towns on the way		
transportation to get	Decker Lake	•	Request for service to Granisle		
to the bus.	Wet'suwet'en	•	Request to potentially link to Burns Lake – Prince George service.		
	Burns Lake	•	Questions around direction of travel and whether new transit will impact Burns Lake's local services.		

Segment 2: Burns Lake to Smithers: Response to Proposed Schedule

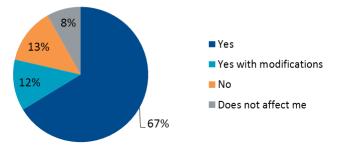
BURNS LAKE TO SMITHERS							
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed schedule for the Burns Lake - Smithers service?						
Community	Yes	Yes Yes with No Does not affect r					
Smithers $n = 28$	16	6	1	5			
Telkwa $n = 4$	2	1	1	0			
Houston <i>n</i> = 24	18	2	4	0			
Topley <i>n = 4</i>	1	1	1	1			
Duncan Lake <i>n = 1</i>	0	0	0	1			
Wet'suwet'en <i>n= 2</i>	2	0	0	0			
Decker Lake <i>n= 4</i>	2	2	0	0			
Burns Lake <i>n= 21</i>	14	0	6	1			
TOTAL	55	12	13	8			

Comments

The response to the schedule was generally positive – 79 per cent of respondents either supported the schedule or supported the schedule with modifications. The global response for this segment also includes 10 dot-votes in support of the schedule.

Different trip times were suggested from several communities. There was strong concern in Smithers for Moricetown residents needing better access to Smithers. Residents of southside Francois Lake communities also requested access.

Do you support the proposed schedule for the Burns Lake Area - Smithers service?



BURNS LAKE TO SMITHERS MOST FREQUENT SCHEDULE COMMENTS					
Shared Comment Themes	t Themes Comments by Community				
Schedule connections to Moricetown	Smithers	 Schedule should accommodate extension to Moricetown Service should operate later More frequency for service for those accessing services or in unsafe situations 			
 More trips/frequency suggested by some. 	Houston	 More frequency for commuters who work in Houston Questions around relation to existing transportation providers 			
A number of different schedule suggestions, including more	Topley	 Would prefer more time in Burns Lake, and at a better time for appointments, errands. 			
intervening time in Burns Lake or	Decker Lake	Allow time for Granisle connection.			
Smithers or having only one round trip.	Wet'suwet'en	 Request to potentially link to Burns Lake – Prince George service. 			
	Burns Lake	 Many different perspectives in terms of connection from surrounding areas in to Burns Lake as well as whether better to have one round trip rather than two. 			

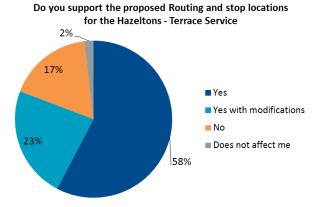
Segment 3: Hazeltons Area to Terrace: Response to Proposed Routing

HAZELTONS AREA TO TERRACE (INCLUDING MORICETOWN RESPONSES)					
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed routing and stop locations for the Hazelt Area - Terrace service?				
Community	Yes Yes with No Does not at modifications				
Gitaus <i>n</i> = 0	-	-	-	-	
Gitwangak <i>n =10</i>	6	2	2	0	
Gitsegukla n = 5	2	1	3	0	
New Hazelton <i>n</i> = 1	1	0	0	0	
Hagwilget <i>n = 6</i>	4	1	1	0	
Two Mile <i>n = 2</i>	1	0	0	1	
Gitanmaax <i>n=3</i>	2	0	0	0	
Hazelton <i>n=10</i>	4	4	2	0	
Glen Vowell $n = 2$	0	1	1	0	
Kispiox <i>n=11</i>	9	2	0	0	
Moricetown n = 2	1	1	0	0	
TOTAL	29	11	9	1	

Comments

The response to the routing was overall positive -81 per cent of people responding to the online surveys either supported the routing or supported the routing with modifications. Note that the above table shows survey responses; the number of in person interactions at a number of events was higher.

A frequent comment was concern that Gitanyow and Kitwanga are not included in the routing. At events, staff were able to explain how the service is designed to work with the new Community Transportation Grant program for communities off the corridor. Requests to improve service between the Hazeltons and Smithers—and in particular from Moricetown and Smithers—were also frequently heard and captured here.



HAZELTONS AREA TO TERRACE MOST FREQUENT ROUTING COMMENTS					
Themes by Service Segment	Themes by Community	Themes by Community			
 Concern that routing does not go to Gitanyow. Questions around how service 	Gitaus	Positive comments on new connection to Hazeltons			
	Gitwangak	 More intervening time requested in Terrace or second trip; questions about opportunity for Gitwangak to act as a hub. 			
	Gitsegukla	Request for service to GitanyowQuestions about connection to Smithers			
relates to existing Hazeltons	New Hazelton	No comments			
Regional service.	Hagwilget	Service should operate daily			
Requests for more time in	Two Mile	No comments			
 Terrace or a second round trip. Comments in Moricetown that 	Gitanmaax	No comments			
Comments in Moricetown that Smithers is a much more	Hazelton	Request for service to Gitanyow			
frequent destination.	Glen Vowell/ Sik-E-dakh	Request for service to Gitanyow			
	Kispiox	Request for service to Gitanyow			
	Moricetown	 Requests for more service to Smithers, particularly for youth and adult commuters, as well as elders. 			

Segment 3: Hazeltons Area to Terrace: Response to Proposed Schedule

HAZELTONS AREA TO TERRACE (INCLUDING MORICETOWN RESPONSES)				
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed schedule for the Hazeltons Area - Terrace service?			
Community	Yes	Does not affect me		
Gitaus n = 0	-	-	-	-
Gitwangak n =10	4	4	2	0
Gitsegukla n = 5	3	1	1	0
New Hazelton <i>n</i> = 1	1	0	0	0
Hagwilget <i>n = 6</i>	5	0	1	0
Two Mile <i>n = 2</i>	2	0	0	0
Gitanmaax <i>n=</i> 3	2	0	1	0
Hazelton <i>n=10</i>	3	6	1	0
Glen Vowell <i>n</i> = 2	0	1	1	0
Kispiox <i>n=11</i>	8	2	1	0
Moricetown <i>n</i> =2	0	2	0	0
TOTAL	28	16	8	0

Comments

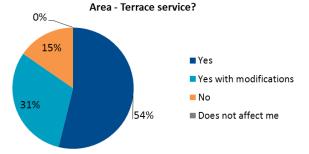
The response to the schedule was positive – 85 per cent of respondents either supported the schedule or supported it with changes. However, of these 31 percent requested modifications – the highest proportion of modifications among all segments. Note that the above table shows survey responses; the number of in person interactions at a number of events was higher.

In line with route-comments for this segment, the most common modification comment related to the inclusion of a route to serve Gitanyow and improved connection/schedule times for Moricetown.

A number of suggestions were also for slightly later trip times to return from Terrace.

HAZELTONS TO TERRACE MOST FREQUENT SCHEDULE COMMENTS				
Shared Comment Themes	Comments by Community			
	Gitaus	Positive comments on new connection to Hazeltons		
Request for service to	Gitwangak	 Request for service to Gitanyow Request for more intervening time in Terrace or two trips Local service to Gitwangak Bingo 		
Gitanyow/Questions about how	Gitsegukla	Request for service to Gitanyow		
that community will be served.	New Hazelton	No comments		
Suggestion for shifting to slightly	Hagwilget	Service should operate daily		
later schedule and longer times	Two Mile	No comments		
within Terrace, or opportunity for	Gitanmaax	Need to run service later into the evening		
two trips.	Hazelton	Request for service to GitanyowLater departures suggested		
Requests for increased service from Moricetown to Smithers.	Glen Vowell/ Sik-E-dakh	Request for service to Gitanyow		
	Kispiox	Concern that service departs Kispiox too early		
	Moricetown	Questions about how Moricetown would access service and whether Moricetown service could also be increased		

Do you support the proposed schedule for the Hazeltons



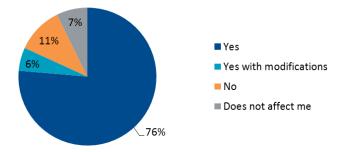
Segment 4: Prince Rupert to Terrace: Response to Proposed Routing

PRINCE RUPERT TO TERRACE				
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed routing and stop locations for the Terrace - Princ Rupert service?			
Community	Yes	Yes with modifications	No	Does not affect me
Prince Rupert $n = 76$	61	0	8	7
Port Edward $n = 3$	2	1	0	0
New Remo <i>n = 0</i>	-	-	-	-
Kitsumkalum <i>n=</i> 2	2	0	0	0
Terrace <i>n = 29</i>	19	5	4	1
TOTAL	84	6	12	8

Comments

The response to the routing was overall positive – 82 percent of people responding to online surveys either supported the routing or supported the routing with modifications. Response from those at in-person events was similar.

A number of ancillary comments related to how the service would work with and avoid duplicating Greyhound and VIA Rail services were made, particularly through the online survey. Do you support the proposed routing and stop locations for the Terrace - Prince Rupert service?



PRINCE RUPERT TO TERRACE MOST FREQUENT ROUTING COMMENTS				
Themes by Service Segment	Themes by Community			
	Prince Rupert	 Satisfaction with routing Questions around relation to existing transportation providers 		
 Satisfaction with the routing. Questions around relation to existing transportation providers 	Port Edward	 Request for timing to connect with the existing transit operating between Port Edward and Prince Rupert 		
	Kitsumkalum	Requests for timing connections with existing transit services from Terrace to Kitimat		
	Terrace	 Satisfaction with routing Questions around relation to existing transportation providers 		

Segment 4: Prince Rupert to Terrace: Response to Proposed Scheduling

PRINCE RUPERT TO TERRACE					
Respondent's Home	Do you support the proposed schedule for the Terrace - Prince Ru service?				
Community	Yes	Yes with modifications	No	Does not affect me	
Prince Rupert $n = 76$	61	0	8	7	
Port Edward $n = 3$	2	1	0	0	
New Remo <i>n = 0</i>					
Kitsumkalum <i>n=</i> 2	2	0	0	0	
Terrace <i>n</i> = 29	19	5	4	1	
TOTAL	84	6	12	8	

Comments

The response to the schedule was overall positive – 82 percent of people responding to online surveys either supported the schedule or supported it with modifications. Response from those at in-person events was similar.

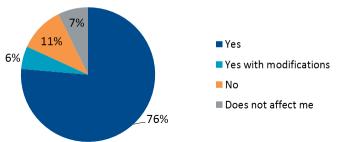
Many respondents observed that there would be desire for longer times in Terrace. Suggestions to accommodate this ranged from later return trips from

Terrace, to basing the service in Prince Rupert, rather than Terrace. Ancillary comments related to opportunities to work with and not duplicate existing transportation providers such as Greyhound and VIA Rail services.

DDINGE DUDEDT TO TEDDAGE MOOT EDEOUENT COLIEDUU INC COMMENTS

PRINCE RUPERT TO TERRACE MOST FREQUENT SCHEDULING COMMENTS				
Shared Comment Themes	Comments by Community			
 Desire for more time in Terrace, through a later return to Prince Rupert or having buses start/end 	Prince Rupert	 Desire for more time in Terrace, preferably through a a later return to Prince Rupert, or switch to basing service out of Prince Rupert. Requests for later evening service Questions around relation to existing transportation providers and opportunities to work with them. 		
in Prince Rupert.	Port Edward	Request for timing to connect with the existing transit operating between Port Edward and Prince Rupert		
Requests for timing connections with existing transit services	Kitsumkalum	Requests for timing connections with existing transit services from Terrace to Kitimat		
Questions around relation to existing transportation providers	Terrace	 Suggestion for service to begin in Prince Rupert since there is already an early morning service from Terrace to Prince Rupert. Questions around relation to existing transportation providers. 		

Do you support the proposed schedule for the Terrace -Prince Rupert service?



Preferred Service Days

Preferred service days were captured using dot-votes at each of the public information events, and also within the online survey. The combined responses are shown below.

Service day suggestions made by in-person contribution at public information events aligns well with the online responses gathered per transit service segment. Friday and Saturday are globally within the top three most popular days for each of the service segments, with Wednesdays and Mondays also proving popular.

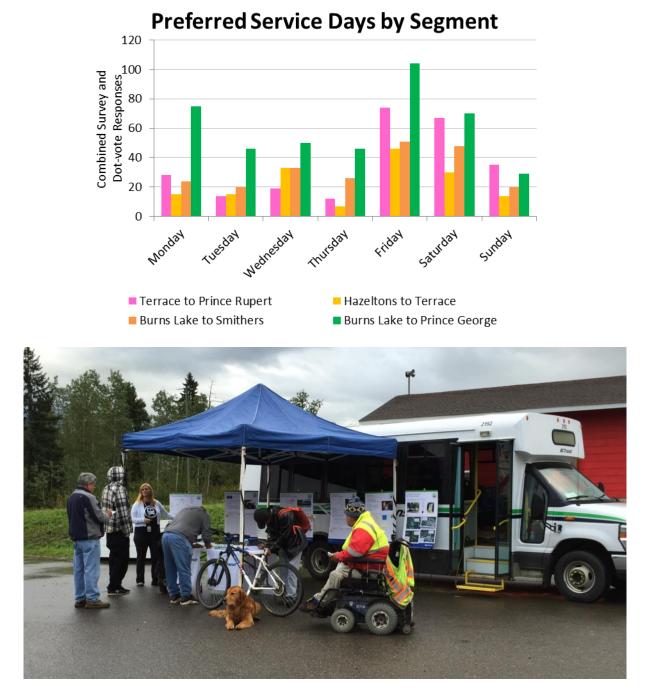


Figure 11: Public engagement event in Kispiox

Preferred Service Days			
Service Segment	Themes by Community		
BURNS LAKE TO PRINCE GEORGE	 Top days: Friday, Monday and Saturday Strong preference to weekends in addition to one or two weekdays. Perception that people often travel to Prince George around weekends for social and recreational purposes. 		
BURNS LAKE TO SMITHERS	 Top days: Friday, Saturday and Wednesday Request to not overlap with Northern Health Connections days 		
HAZELTONS AREA TO TERRACE	 Top days: Friday, Wednesday and Saturday Strong interest in transit service on days when families and seniors/elders may be receiving income assistance. Interest in Fridays and Saturdays Requests that transit days to Terrace not coincide with existing transit days to Smithers (Hazeltons Regional Transit System). 		
PRINCE RUPERT TO TERRACE	 Top days: Friday, Saturday and Sunday Strong desire to use transit on weekends for travel to Terrace, with demand for travel on Monday and Wednesday also noted. 		

Generally it is best practice in transit systems that operate three or fewer days per week to spread those days out across the week and also include a mix of day types (ie both weekday and weekend). This spacing and allocation ensures that the transit days selected can meet a range of trip needs that may only happen on certain days (medical, shopping, recreational, etc.).

Also, offsetting days of service from each other may enable more service to be offered from transit hubssuch as within the Hazeltons or in the proposed services originating in Burns Lake--since it is then possible to share vehicles and staff between the services.

The results show a common interest in Friday and Saturday service across all service segments. Although efforts will be made to ensure each segment receives one or two of their preferred days, practical considerations may mean that the final service plan for the areas allocates days differently than those shown here.



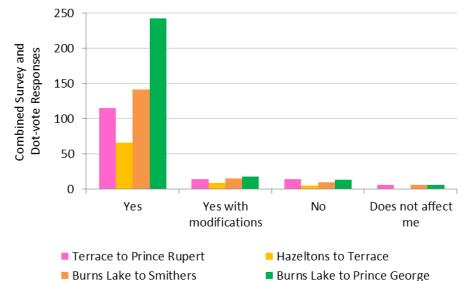
Figure 12: Participants at the Houston public engagement event check out the bus

Response to Proposed Fare

Responses to the proposed fare were captured using dot-votes at each of the public information events, and also within the online survey. The combined responses are shown below by service segment.

Support for the fares was strong across all segments of the Highway 16 corridor. In response to suggestions for modification a number of general themes emerged:

- Requests for further financial assistance/subsidy to those in need, with frequent mention of seniors/elders, students and people on social assistance.
- Suggestions that fares could be higher, as long as those with low income could access sheets or tickets at a discounted rate.
- Requests to make other existing transportation services cheaper.
- Commentary in some communities that the fare might enable youth to travel without guardian consent.
- Suggestion that lower fares should be considered in cases where the new Highway 16 services will
 overlap with shorter routes already in place, such as from Gitaus to Terrace or from Telkwa to
 Smithers.



Response to Proposed Fares by Segment



Figure 13: Public engagement event in Topley

Fare Responses by Community

	BURNS	LAKE TO PRINCE G	EORGE	
Do you support the proposed fare ?				
Respondent's Home Community	Yes	Yes with modifications	No	Does not affect me
Burns Lake <i>n= 51</i>	44	2	5	0
Endako <i>n = 3</i>	2	0	1	0
Stellaquo <i>n</i> = 12	12	0	0	0
Fraser Lake <i>n = 20</i>	20	0	0	0
Nautley n = 6	6	0	0	0
Fort Fraser <i>n= 20</i>	17	3	0	0
Vanderhoof <i>n= 81</i>	73	4	2	2
Beaverly <i>n= 11</i>	11	0	0	0
Prince George <i>n=</i> 75	57	9	5	4
TOTAL	242	18	13	6
-	BURI	NS LAKE TO SMITHE	RS	-
Respondent's Home Community	Yes	Yes with modifications	No	Does not affect me
Smithers <i>n = 39</i>	33	5	1	5
Telkwa <i>n = 4</i>	3	0	1	0
Houston <i>n</i> = 27	20	4	3	0
Topley <i>n = 13</i>	9	3	0	1
Duncan Lake <i>n = 1</i>	1	0	0	0
Wet'suwet'en <i>n= 5</i>	5	0	0	0
Decker Lake <i>n= 4</i>	3	1	0	0
Burns Lake <i>n= 51</i>	44	2	5	0
TOTAL	118	15	10	6
	HAZEL	TONS AREA TO TER	RACE	
Respondent's Home Community	Yes	Yes with modifications	No	Does not affect me
Gitaus <i>n</i> = 7	6	0	1	0
Gitwangak <i>n =10</i>	9	1	0	0
Gitsegukla n = 5	4	0	1	0
New Hazelton <i>n</i> = 7	7	0	0	0
Hagwilget <i>n = 6</i>	4	2	0	0
Two Mile <i>n = 3</i>	3	0	0	0
Gitanmaax <i>n=3</i>	2	0	1	0
Hazelton <i>n=10</i>	6	3	0	1
Glen Vowell <i>n</i> = 2	1	0	1	0
Kispiox <i>n=20</i>	17	3	1	0
Moricetown <i>n =11</i>	11	0	0	0
TOTAL	70	9	5	1

	TERRACE TO PRINCE RUPERT					
	Do y	ou support the propose	ed fare?			
Respondent's Home CommunityYesYes with modificationsNoDoes not affect me						
Prince Rupert <i>n</i> = 87	69	5	8	5		
Port Edward $n = 11$	10	1	0	0		
New Remo <i>n = 0</i>	0	0	0	0		
Kitsumkalum <i>n= 6</i>	6	0	0	0		
Terrace <i>n = 45</i>	30	8	6	1		
TOTAL	115	14	14	6		



Figure 14: Shelter example from Smithers, BC.

Response to Proposed Stop and Shelter Locations

Detailed feedback was received at each event in regards to proposed shelter and stop locations. This information has been provided to local Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure staff who are following up with the respective local governments, First Nations and property owners to confirm final locations.

In general, response was positive. Key comments heard that are being taken into consideration as part of the revised plan and ongoing outreach to finalize infrastructure plans includes:

- Request for the addition of a shelter in Kitsumkalum, Topley and Stellaquo.
- Request to adjust local routing and shelter placement in Houston.
- Request to adjust local routing in Nautley.

Regional Travel Patterns

Both online and paper surveys asked respondents to identify their home community and outline regional daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly travel patterns. This latter aspect provides a robust understanding of travel demand between communities along the Highway 16 corridor. In tandem with public feedback received, this information will be used to help guide development of revised service proposals.

BURNS LAKE TO PRINCE GEORGE					
	Top 3 Destinations based on Home Community				
Respondent's Home Community	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	
	Decker Lake (5%)	Decker Lake (19%)	Prince George (81%)	Prince Rupert (23%)	
Burns Lake <i>n = 48</i>	Tintagel (2%)	Fraser Lake (8%)	Smithers (56%)	Smithers (21%)	
	-	Endako (6%)	Vanderhoof (40%)	Hazelton (15%)	
	Fort Fraser (43%)	Vanderhoof (57%)	Prince George (57%)	Prince Rupert (57%)	
Endako <i>n</i> = 7	Fraser Lake (29%)	Fraser Lake (43%)	Smithers (29%)	Hazelton (29%)	
	Burns Lake (14%)	Prince George (43%)	Fort Fraser (14%)	Houston (29%)	
	Fraser Lake (55%)	Vanderhoof (55%)	Burns Lake (45%)	Hazelton (27%)	
Stellaquo <i>n = 11</i>	Nautley (18%)	Prince George (45%)	Endako (27%)	Moricetown (27%)	
	Fort Fraser (9%)	Fort Fraser (36%)	Nautley (18%)	Smithers (27%)	
	Stellaquo (23%)	Vanderhoof (52%)	Prince George (50%)	Smithers (36%)	
Fraser Lake <i>n= 44</i>	Fort Fraser (9%)	Prince George (32%)	Burns Lake (43%)	Prince Rupert (23%)	
	Vanderhoof (7%)	Fort Fraser (27%)	Vanderhoof (25%)	Terrace (23%)	
	Fort Fraser (75%)	Prince George (100%)	Stellaquo (75%)	Smithers (25%)	
Nautley <i>n =4</i>	Fraser Lake (25%)	Vanderhoof (100%)	Burns Lake (50%)	-	
	-	Fraser Lake (50%)	Endako (25%)	-	
	Fraser Lake (29%)	Vanderhoof (65%)	Prince George (59%)	Burns Lake (29%)	
Fort Fraser <i>n</i> = 17	Vanderhoof (18%)	Fraser Lake (35%)	Burns Lake (29%)	Endako (18%)	
	Nautley (12%)	Prince George (24%)	Endako (18%)	Smithers (18%)	
	Fort Fraser (3%)	Prince George (36%)	Prince George (51%)	Burns Lake (41%)	
Vanderhoof <i>n =61</i>	Fraser Lake (3%)	Fort Fraser (10%)	Fraser Lake (26%)	Smithers (36%)	
	Prince George (3%)	Fraser Lake (8%)	Fort Fraser (25%)	Houston (26%)	
	Prince George (64%)	Prince George (18%)	Vanderhoof (18%)	Fraser Lake (27%)	
Beaverley <i>n</i> =11	Round Lake (9%)	Vanderhoof (9%)	Burns Lake (9%)	Vanderhoof (27%)	
	Smithers (9%)	Terrace (9%)	Fraser Lake (9%)	Fort Fraser (18%)	
	Beaverley (8%)	Vanderhoof (14%)	Vanderhoof (26%)	Burns Lake (27%)	
Prince George <i>n = 73</i>	Vanderhoof (3%)	Beaverley (7%)	Burns Lake (19%)	Prince Rupert (22%)	
	-	Burns Lake (4%)	Fraser Lake (16%)	Fraser Lake (18%)	

BURNS LAKE TO SMITHERS				
Respondent's Home				
Community	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly
	Decker Lake (5%)	Decker Lake (19%)	Prince George (81%)	Prince Rupert (23%)
Burns Lake <i>n = 48</i>	Tintagel (2%)	Fraser Lake (8%)	Smithers (56%)	Smithers (21%)
		Endako (6%)	Vanderhoof (40%)	Hazelton (15%)
	Burns Lake (75%)		Prince George (75%)	Vanderhoof (50%)
Decker Lake $n = 4$	-		Smithers (75%)	-
	-		Houston (75%)	-
	Houston (33%)	Burns Lake (47%)	Prince George (47%)	Hazelton (27%)
Topley <i>n</i> = 15	Burns Lake (27%)	Houston (40%)	Smithers (20%)	New Hazelton (27%)
		Smithers (40%)	Burns Lake (13%)	Prince Rupert (20%)
	Smithers (9%)	Smithers (61%)	Prince George (36%)	Prince Rupert (27%)
Houston <i>n= 33</i>		Burns Lake (21%)	Burns Lake (27%)	Burns Lake (24%)
		Telkwa (9%)	Smithers (18%)	Terrace (24%)
	Smithers (67%)	Quick (50%)	Burns Lake (50%)	Burns Lake (17%)
Telkwa <i>n =5</i>		Round Lake (50%)	Houston (33%)	Vanderhoof (17%)
		Tyee Lake (33%)	Prince George (33%)	
	Telkwa (5%)	Telkwa (32%)	Houston (41%)	Burns Lake (35%)
Smithers <i>n = 37</i>	Burns Lake (3%)	Moricetown (14%)	Burns Lake (35%)	Prince George (32%)
	Kispiox (3%)	Tyee Lake (14%)	Prince George (32%)	Prince Rupert (27%)

Respondent's Home	Top 3 Destinations	op 3 Destinations based on Home Community				
Community	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly		
Moricetown <i>n = 17</i>	Smithers (59%)	Hazelton (18%)	Houston (29%)	Burns Lake (24%)		
	New Hazelton (12%)	Smithers (12%)	Prince George (29%)	Prince George (18%)		
	Hazelton (12%)	Burns Lake (6%)	Gitanmaax/Terrace (18%)	Prince Rupert (12%)		
Kispiox <i>n = 26</i>	Hazleton (46%)	New Hazelton (38%)	Terrace (54%)	Prince Rupert (35%)		
	Gitanmaax (38%)	Gitanxmaax (31%)	Prince George (35%)	Prince George (23%)		
	New Hazelton (23%)	Smithers (31%)	Smithers (31%)	Kitimat (19%)		
Glen Vowell <i>n = 3</i>	Hazelton (67%)	Gitanmaax (67%)	Terrace (67%)	Prince Rupert (67%)		
	Gitanmaax (33%)	Hagwilget (33%)	Prince George (67%)	Prince George (33%)		
	-	Kispiox (33%)	Smithers (33%)	-		
Hazelton <i>n = 13</i>	New Hazelton (77%)	Smithers (69%)	Terrace (54%)	Prince Rupert (31%)		
	Gitanmaax (62%)	Terrace (31%)	Prince George (38%)	Prince George (23%)		
	Two Mile (46%)	Kispiox (23%)	Gitsegukla (31%)	Burns Lake (15%)		
Gitanmaax <i>n= 3</i>	Hazelton (67%)	Terrace (67%)	Kispiox (67%)	Kitimat (67%)		
	New Hazelton (67%)	Smithers (33%)	Smithers (67%)	Burns Lake (33%)		
	Glen Vowell (33%)	Gitsegukla (33%)	Prince George (67%)	Prince George (33%)		
Two Mile <i>n =5</i>	Hazelton (40%)	Smithers (80%)	Terrace (60%)	Prince George (60%)		
	New Hazelton (40%)	Gitanmaax (40%)	Gitwangak (20%)	Prince Rupert (60%)		
	Hagwilget (40%)	Hazelton (40%)	Smithers (20%)	Burns Lake (40%)		
Hagwilget <i>n = 8</i>	Hazelton (63%)	Terrace (38%)	Smithers (25%)	Prince Rupert (28%)		
	Gitanmaax (50%)	Moricetown (13%)	Terrace (25%)	Prince George (25%)		
	New Hazelton (50%)	Smithers (13%)	Prince George (25%)	Burns Lake (13%)		
New Hazelton <i>n=</i> 4	Hazelton (25%)	Smithers (100%)	Terrace (25%)	Prince Rupert (25%)		
	Kispiox (25%)	Gitanmaax (25%)	Prince Rupert (25%)	Prince George (25%)		
	Two Mile (25%)	Hazelton (25%)	Prince George (25%)	-		
HAZELTONS FROM NEW	Hazelton (53%)	Smithers (45%)	Terrace (48%)	Prince Rupert (40%)		
HAZELTON NORTH TO	Gitanmaax (44%)	Terrace (26%)	Prince George (34%)	Prince George (27%)		
KISPIOX n = 62	New Hazelton (42%)	New Hazelton (24%)	Smithers (26%)	Kitimat (16%)		
Gitsegukla <i>n = 8</i>	Hazelton (25%)	Hazelton (63%)	Smithers (38%)	Prince Rupert (38%)		
	New Hazelton (25%)	Gitanmaax (50%)	Terrace (25%)	Port Edward (25%)		
	-	Gitwangak (25%)	Prince George (25%)	Prince George (13%)		
Gitwangak <i>n = 18</i>	Hazelton (17%)	Terrace (50%)	New Hazelton (33%)	Prince George (28%)		
	Terrace (17%)	New Hazelton (33%)	Terrace (33%)	Prince Rupert (28%)		
	Gitsegukla (11%)	Hazelton (22%)	Gitanmaax (28%)	Smithers (22%)		
Gitaus n =10	Terrace (70%)	-	Kitimat (40%)	Hazelton (30%)		
	-	-	Prince George (30%)	Prince George (20%)		
	-	-	Prince Rupert (30%)	-		

TERRACE TO PRINCE RUPERT						
Respondent's Home	Top 3 Destinations based on Home Community					
Community	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly		
Prince Rupert <i>n = 102</i>	Port Edward (5%)	Terrace (15%)	Terrace (59%)	Prince George (43%)		
	-	Port Edward (10%)	Prince George (13%)	Smithers (24%)		
	-	Kitimat (2%)	Port Edward (12%)	Burns Lake (11%)		
Port Edward <i>n</i> = 11	Prince Rupert (64%)	Terrace (27%)	Terrace (36%)	Prince George (18%)		
	-	-	Smithers (18%)	Vanderhoof (18%)		
	-	-	Prince George (18%)	Kitimat (9%)		
New Remo <i>n = 0</i>	-	-	-	-		
	-	-	-	-		
	-	-	-	-		
Kitsumkalum <i>n= 10</i>	Terrace (50%)	Kitimat (20%)	Prince Rupert (60%)	Prince George (90%)		
	-	Terrace (10%)	Gitaus (20%)	Prince Rupert (40%)		
	-		Hazelton (20%)	Burns Lake (20%)		
Terrace n = 53	Kitsumkalum (11%)	Prince Rupert (17%)	Prince Rupert (36%)	Prince George (38%)		
	-	Kitimat (15%)	Kitimat (28%)	Smithers (30%)		
	-	Kitsumkalum (9%)	Smithers (25%)	Burns Lake (21%)		

SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS

The engagement process for the Highway 16 Inter-Community Transit Service has been a collaborative process, drawing on expertise from a wide variety of professionals, decision-makers, and community members. Generally, responses about the proposed inter-community transit have been positive. The most common concerns raised relate to further refinement of schedules--predominantly to enable longer time in the destination communities—or the desire to have further days of service. Continued communication to ensure the proposed transit services align with and complement existing end-to-end transportation providers and connecting services via the new Community Transportation Grant program will also be key.

The responses from the engagement process have been tabulated and analyzed to support revisions to proposed service routing, schedules, fares, infrastructure and supporting policies. These resulting broad revisions will be presented to local decision makers for review and consideration when moving forward with implementation.

Pending local approval, an Implementation Agreement Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between BC Transit and the sponsoring local government for the services. Once signed, the detailed work to implement service would begin. This work includes detailed scheduling, operational planning, developing a marketing and communications plan, infrastructure implementation, transit operating company agreement negotiations/procurement, vehicle preparation and finalization of budgets.

The engagement results will help guide these detailed processes. In turn, information on implementation progress will be shared with local partners to enable additional opportunity for feedback to be brought forward as the project continues.