

# Accessible Transportation Advisory Committee

BC Transit 520 Gorge Road East – VTC Boardroom

February 10, 2025 | 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

## DRAFT MINUTES

OPEN SESSION AND FIRST NATIONS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT		SPEAKER
1. <b>Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda</b> Mohan Kang moved, Kelsey seconded carried	APPROVAL	Chair
2. <b>Approval of Minutes from October 7, 2024 and January 6, 2025</b> Jennings moved, seconded by Kang - Carried	APPROVAL	Chair
3. Chair's Remarks New faces at the table today. There will be new members on the committee in the next month or so. There should be an orientation for the new members to explain what ATAC is all about, and review of the Charter.		Chair
CORRESPONDENCE		
4. None		
DELEGATIONS		
5. None		
ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING		
6. Update on Travel Training provider <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Travel training began in January through CBI Health and is in the rebuilding phase. The program is now fully staffed is doing 3-5 intakes per week working with BC Transit's safety and training team when a bus is required for 1:1 training support</li><li>Anyone can call BC Transit and request help with learning the Conventional transit system, or see if they qualify for the handyDART system (or both).</li><li>Intake, 1-3 sessions, then follow-up from the consultant to see how the rider is making out on their own using the system</li><li>Suzan Jennings has volunteered to try the new travel training system with CBI</li><li>Group training is also available which can be used at seniors facilities etc.</li><li>Travel training is not only for those that use a mobility aid</li></ul>	Adam Bishop	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Look at having an ATAC member on the BC Transit Accessibility Committee (internal)</li><li>• Suggested advertisements or announcements on the buses about the travel training to create awareness.</li><li>• Need to ensure there are enough therapists to handle the need</li></ul>		
<b>7. ATAC Charter update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review of member term amendment (deferring to another meeting)</li></ul>		
<b>PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS and DISCUSSIONS</b>		
<b>8. handyDART facility update</b> <p>Late March early April planned for tour and grand opening/open house. Will be Rick Hansen certified and will be Gold level. Also a fish enhancement program was put in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planned 7500 new hours and 10 buses, which is dependent on federal funding. There is a newsletter that gives updates on the facility. Chelsea Mossey will share a video the project team produced with the committee members.</li><li>• Front reception and training facility will be equipped with hearing loops as will the Provincial Distribution Centre.</li><li>• ATAC social event and tour – Chelsea will coordinate.</li><li>• Possible to use the meeting space at the new handyDART facility</li><li>• Signage will have braille for those with vision loss.</li></ul>	INFORMATION	Chelsea Mossey
<b>9. handyDART ATAC attendance update</b> <p>Bill Daveys is no longer with Victoria handyDART, Brianne Reda is currently acting</p>	INFORMATION	Adam Bishop

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in the role. Once they have a new person in the role there will be someone assigned to attend the ATAC meetings		
10. Overview of Accessible Transit Manager Role Adam is the conduit between ATAC and BC Transit for all things accessibility. Adam's contact information will be added to the minutes so members can reach out to him directly with any concerns or suggestions  Adam Bishop's contact information: <a href="mailto:ABishop@bctransit.com">ABishop@bctransit.com</a> 250-880-4125	INFORMATION	Adam Bishop
11. handyDART Payment Options  Mohan Kang has invited Heather Stewart, Executive Director, Passenger Transportation Board (PTB) to speak with the committee at a future meeting regarding taxi savers being open to all taxi companies. Yellow Cab pulled out of an agreement with BC Transit. There was a bill of rights outside of metro Vancouver stating that no one could be denied access to transportation due to a disability.  Mohan Kang requested that ATAC write to the Taxi Board and the Human Rights Tribunal about Yellow Cab withdrawing from the Taxi Savers agreement. – this was rejected by the Committee.  Billing times were the initial issue Yellow Cab. The payment times have been decreased to within one month; however, Yellow Cab has been unwilling to revisit the agreement.  BC Transit has committed to reviewing the Taxi Saver program.	DISCUSSION	Suzan Jennings
12. Taxi Savers	DISCUSSION	Suzan Jennings
13. Yellow Cab – prep for next meeting The committee needs to brainstorm ways to entice Yellow Cab to come back to the Taxi Saver programs	DISCUSSION	Suzan Jennings

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Partner with social programs to provide taxi savers to people who need to attend medical appointments etc.

Sub-committee to be formed to work with Adam Bishop.

BC Transit has been speaking with Yellow Cab, but they are a private business and have the right to say no. They are also hurting with lack of good reliable employees.

Look at sub-committee specifically for taxi savers

## NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

14. May 12, 2025

August 11, 2025

October 20, 2025

December 8, 2025