

Victoria Regional Transit Commission

BC Transit 520 Gorge Road East
Minutes of the Meeting held May 12, 2026

DRAFT MINUTES

The Victoria Regional Transit Commission conducts its business on the homelands of the Songhees and Xweseqsum First Nations.

Present:

Commissioner Marianne Alto (Vice Chair); Commissioner Marie-Terese Little; Commissioner Dean Murdock; Commissioner Colin Plant; Commissioner Barbara Desjardins; Commissioner Jeremy Caradonna

Regrets: Commissioner Ryan Windsor (Chair); Commissioner Maja Tait

Staff:

Elise Wren, Government Relations Manager; Christy Harrold, Vice-President, Strategy, Planning, and Public Affairs; Chris Fudge, Director, Government Relations; Ryan Campbell, Manager, Financial Planning and Analysis; Levi Megenbir, Manager, Service Planning; Jacob Burnley, Transit Planner; Stephen Anderson, General Manager, Victoria Regional Transit System; Christine Lewis, Executive Assistant and Divisional Coordinator (Recorder)

Quorum was established.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice Chair Alto called the meeting to order at 9:00am and acknowledged the territories of the Songhees and Xweseqsum First Nations.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Two items of late correspondence were added (Town of Sidney; Better Transit YYJ).

Moved by Commissioner Desjardins, seconded by Commissioner Little:

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. CLOSED AGENDA SESSION

Moved by Commissioner Caradonna, seconded by Commissioner Desjardins:

THAT the Commission close the meeting to the public in accordance with Section 11 of the VRTC Charter:

Section 11 - In-Camera – Items pertaining to confidential commercial information, or funding agreements with upper levels of government, will be conducted in-camera until such time as approvals have been achieved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Victoria Regional Transit Commission recessed to closed session at 9:03 a.m.

4. ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION AND RECONVENING IN OPEN MEETING

The Victoria Regional Transit Commission reconvened in open meeting at 9:37 a.m.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 10, 2026

Moved by Commissioner Plant, seconded by Commissioner Desjardins:

THAT the minutes of the March 10, 2026, meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

6. CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Vice Chair highlighted:

- Continued focus on reliability and long-term transit system planning;
- Consideration of improved service to Victoria International Airport (YYJ);
- Strong system performance within a constrained funding environment; and
- Progress on fleet electrification and preparation for increased regional demand, including the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

7. STAFF REMARKS

Staff provided updates on strategic and operational priorities:

- New BC Transit website launched March 2026
- Victoria Regional Transit Plan (VRTP) engagement with elected officials – schedule of Council delegations

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence

The Commission received:

- 8.11 - A letter from the Town of Sidney expressing concerns regarding potential impacts of Option 2 for YYJ service
- 8.12 – A letter from Better Transit YYJ supporting improved airport service and Option 3

8.2 Delegations

- None

9. MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

- None

10. RISE AND REPORT

The Commission reported publicly on correspondence from the VRTC sent April 20, 2026 to the Reconciliation Corridor Initiative Steering Committee requesting a formal non-voting role for BC Transit and the Commission to support regional transit planning alignment.

Moved by Commissioner Caradonna, seconded by Commissioner Plant:

THAT the Rise and Report item be received for information.

CARRIED

11. REPORTS FOR APPROVAL

11.1 Victoria International Airport (YYJ) Service Options

Staff presented three short-term, cost-neutral options to improve transit access to YYJ, outlining trade-offs in travel time, service impacts, and customer convenience.

Moved by Commissioner Caradonna, seconded by Commissioner Plant:

THAT Option 3 (Route 72 Hybrid – Select AM/PM trips to YYJ) be approved; and that staff continue to analyze service data, including the impact of these changes and opportunities to expand Sunday evening service.

CARRIED

12. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 2025/26 Financial Report

Moved by Commissioner Little, seconded by Commissioner Desjardins:

THAT the 2025/26 Financial & Performance Report be received for information.

CARRIED

The Commission received an update noting:

- Higher-than-budget passenger and advertising revenue
- Lower operating, fuel and capital costs
- A stronger-than-expected transit fund balance

12.2 Operations Update

Moved by Commissioner Plant, seconded by Commissioner Murdock:

THAT the Operations Update be received for information.

CARRIED

The Commission heard that:

- Scheduled service delivery (99.6%) and on-time performance (75.4%) exceeded targets
- Pass-ups were reduced significantly
- Customer complaints declined year-over-year
- Seasonal service changes and special event planning are underway for the summer months

12.3 ATAC Update

Moved by Commissioner Desjardins, seconded by Commissioner Little:

THAT the ATAC Update be received for information.

CARRIED

The Commission received:

- ATAC meeting minutes and updates on accessibility initiatives
- Progress on website accessibility improvements and custom transit modernization
- Continued strong performance in both conventional and handyDART services

13. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Commissioner Plant, seconded by Commissioner Little:

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

CARRIED

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

July 28, 2026