

November 7, 2023

PREPARED FOR: Victoria Regional Transit Commission Committee

PURPOSE:

To provide the Commission with a summary report of the recent business conducted by Accessible Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC). This report is presented to the Commission for **INFORMATION**.

BACKGROUND:

The last ATAC meeting was held on September 25, 2023, led by D. Monsour, ATAC Chair. The Chair of the Victoria Regional Transit Commission, Commissioner Windsor, was in attendance, along with Commissioner Little.

Minutes of the meeting are attached for the Commission's reference and convenience.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee received the following updates from BC Transit staff:

- Staff are still attempting to meet with Yellow Cab in an effort re-establish the company's participation in the Taxi Saver Program
- A review of the BC Transit website will be conducted and will include improving the navigation to handyDART and accessible services information
 - an opportunity for Committee Members to provide feedback will be provided
- Approval has been granted for the replacement of the Victoria handyDART dispatch system that is scheduled for completion in 2024

Other topics of discussion included:

- On board signage about accessible seating and other accessible services and information
 - The Committee was encouraged to ride the system and come prepared at the next meeting to forward suggestions to the VRTC for their consideration
- The expectations of Transit Operators when addressing inappropriate behaviour on the bus
 - Staff advised that the safety of Transit Operators is paramount in these types of situations, and their primary role is to safely drive the bus, but additional information on this topic will be provided to the Committee at the next meeting

- Consideration of changing the meeting time of the ATAC meetings to start at 5:00pm, so that potential members who are still working, could become involved with the Committee
 - Staff will determine if the BC Transit Boardroom is available after 5:00pm and the Committee will review time and day of meetings at the first meeting in 2024

The next ATAC meeting has been scheduled for December 4, 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Victoria Regional Transit Commission RECEIVE the ATAC Update for **INFORMATION**.

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Date prepared: October 25, 2023

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