

SUBJECT: RUGBY CANADA REQUEST

Rugby Canada has asked the Commission to support their organization with on-going transit passes for their athletes. This report is presented to the Commission for **APPROVAL**.

BACKGROUND

Rugby Canada has relocated its high performance staff and its top athletes to the City of Langford this past year. Although the transition is paying real dividends both on and off the field in the growth of their players, it has come at a cost to the players in relocating their lives to the greater Victoria area. This year 60 athletes have relocated from across Canada to train full time. To facilitate the move and relocation, Rugby Canada is requesting that the Commission provide them with free or discounted transit passes for the relocated athletes over the January to July time period.

DISCUSSION

The Victoria Regional Transit Commission offers discounted transit passes to seniors, youth, college students and through the Social Planning Council's buy one – get one free Ticket Assistance Program. The Commission does not have a policy endorsing free or discounted tickets or passes to sports, recreation or other community groups in the region.

Transit fares are already deeply discounted, as passenger revenues account for less than 40% of total costs. If the Commission decided to endorse a policy or special offering of free or discounted tickets to groups, many other groups would then apply to receive this benefit. There is also the potential lost revenue to be considered in looking at this type of offering.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Commission not provide free or discounted transit passes to Rugby Canada for their relocated athletes.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission does not provide free or discounted tickets or passes to Rugby Canada for their relocated athletes.

Respectfully,



Manuel Achadinha
President and Chief Executive Officer

From the Desk of Todd Silverthorn
Manager, Community Programs
Rugby Canada



TO / À: Susan Brice
FROM / DE: Todd Silverthorn
CC / CC:
DATE: March 22, 2012
SUBJECT/OBJECT: Rugby Canada Bus Passes

Susan,

Good afternoon, as you know Rugby Canada has relocated its high performance staff and its top athletes to the City of Langford this past year. It has been a great transition and is paying real dividends both on and off the field with the growth of our players.

With this transition has come a lot of costs to the players in relocating their lives to the greater Victoria area. This year 60 athletes have uprooted themselves from across Canada to train full time.

One of the constant concerns I hear from them is the cost of transit daily as it adds up quickly. This year we have about two and a half months left of centralization (Mid June) and we would like to know if there is any process we can apply for to get these athletes some assistance.

Each year from January until July we will have those athletes who have not already made the full time move out here, centralized in the area. If you could assist in providing us with a transit pass for these athletes that would be a great help for all of them.

Sincerely,
RUGBY CANADA

Todd Silverthorn
Manager, Community Programs

RUGBY CANADA
Toronto Office / Bureau de Toronto
30 Rue East Beaver Creek Road, Suite 110
Richmond Hill, ON CANADA L4B 1J2
Tel / Tél : 905 707 8998
Fax / Téléc : 905 707 9707

Victoria Office / Bureau de Victoria
3024 Rue Glen Lake Road
Langford, BC CANADA V9B 4B4
Tel / Tél : 250 418 8998
Fax / Téléc : 250 386 3810

rugbycanada.ca
info@rugbycanada.ca

