

ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Video/Conference Call (**TEAMS**)

Minutes (UNAPPROVED)

For March 20, 2023 3:30-5pm

1	Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 3:35pm		Chair
2	Confirmation of Quorum Committee members present : K. Highsted, D. Monsour (Chair), S. Jennings (Vice-Chair) and I. Sommerville BC Transit Staff: K. Armstrong, S. Stevens handyDART Staff: B. Davies Guests: C. Brenan, T.Pokorny. J.Wang.	Confirmed	Chair
3	Approval of the Agenda Moved by I. Sommerville and Seconded by S. Jennings to approve agenda. Motion Carried.	Approved	Chair
4	Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2022 Moved by S. Jennings and Seconded by K. Highsted to approve minutes. Motion Carried.	Approved	Chair
5	Chair's Remarks - Welcome to Committee candidates and thank you for joining us today	For Info	Chair
6	Action Items from Previous Meeting - K. Armstrong to ask BCT Marketing if a promotional video for ATAC could be created and if so, then when. o Request for a promotional video will be submitted by K. Armstrong on behalf of ATAC in September 2023 - K. Armstrong to contact the Custom Transit Manager and get an update on the new Travel Training contract and whether a joint event would be supported o Update to be provided today's at meeting	For Info	Chair
7	Standing Item		
	handyDART Report - W. Davey thanked Committee members for their involvement in a committee that makes a difference to the community - The following was noted in the report:		W. Davey - handyDART

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unmet trip requests were higher in March, but lower than reported Fall 2022 ○ 18,000 trips were completed in February with a 77% recovery rate of pre-pandemic stats; Victoria has highest recovery rate in BC ○ Usage of website had decreased a little, but is still strong ○ Victoria handyDART now supporting Duncan and Cowichan Valley service ○ Progress on building of new handyDART depot in View Royal going well ○ First Transit has recently been purchased by a Canadian based company - Chair thanked W. Davey for report and asked if any Committee members had any questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S. Jennings asked if 14 day, trip booking window would be reduced in the near future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ W. Davey replied: Continuing to support the reduction of the booking window as it tends to provide clients within structured programs an advantage; ○ S. Jennings asked if handyDART ever uses clients with disabilities in their training program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ W. Davey replied: Implements a modified training program and will train new drivers on real trips with passengers with disabilities in addition to practicing with trainers - W. Davey and Committee Member K. Highsted exchanged contact info to follow up on a specific question from K. Highsted <p>Committee Member M. Kang joined the meeting at approximately 4pm.</p>		
8	New Business		
	<p>Taxi Saver Contract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S. Stevens (Regional Operations) provided an update on the Taxi Saver Contract for VRTS. Highlights of the report included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A new contract with taxi operational companies has been created to improve service and better communicate expectations from all parties ○ BCT is reaching out to Victoria taxi companies – including Yellow Cab - over the next few weeks to share contract and encourage them to continue providing the service ○ The Taxi Saver program is a vital component to the service of people with disabilities in the VRTS 	For Info	S. Stevens (BCT Staff)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S. Jennings reported that she had sent a letter on her personal behalf to the owner of yellow Cab requesting the company support the program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Without Yellow Cab’s participation, the number of accessible taxis available in the region is decreased significantly - M. Kang suggested ATAC write a letter to Yellow Cab asking them to return to program - S. Jennings suggested that D. Monsour and herself meet with S. Stevens to discuss other ways ATAC could support BCT with this issue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o S. Stevens and D. Monsour agreed (email contact info was shared after the meeting) <p>Travel Training Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S. Stevens provided an update on the Community Travel Training program. Highlights of the report included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o A new provider for the service has been contracted and the course curriculum, syllabus is being approved by BCT o A “train the trainer” format o Re-launch of program is aiming for mid-April - S. Jennings and K. Highsted advised that they would be pleased to assist with the training of the trainers of the new contractor <p>New Electronic Fare Collection System (EFCS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - K. Armstrong shared a power point presentation from the EFCS project team. Highlights from the presentation included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pilot project will commence in April o Only fares loaded on the UMO re-loadable card and mobile app will initially be used o UMO validators are being installed in buses o Comments from ATAC committee members Jennings and Somerville were taken into consideration <p>-</p>		
9	<p>Review of New Action Items from current meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - D. Monsour, S. Jennings and S. Stevens will meet before next meeting to discuss ways ATAC can support the Taxi Saver program 	For Info and Follow Up	
10	<p>Adjournment Moved by M. Kang and Seconded by S. Jennings to adjourn meeting. Motion Carried.</p> <p>Next Meeting: 2023 JUNE 26 (Hybrid – in person and TEAMS)</p>		