

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

REGIONAL TRANSIT COMMITTEE MEETING

(Committee of the Whole)

Thursday, May 9, 2024

PRESENT:	Chair	Mark Parker
	Directors	Gladys Atrill Shane Brienen – via Zoom, arrived at 1:07 p.m. Martin Elphee Judy Greenaway Clint Lambert – via Zoom Linda McGuire Stoney Stoltenberg Henry Wiebe – via Zoom Sarrah Storey - via Zoom
	Directors Absent	Leroy Dekens, Village of Telkwa Shirley Moon, Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) Kevin Moutray, District of Vanderhoof Chris Newell, Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural) Michael Riis-Christianson, Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)
	Alternate Directors	Doug Bysouth, Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) Brian Frenkel, District of Vanderhoof Alex Kulchar, Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural) Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa – via Zoom Elijah Newell, Electoral Area G (Houston/Granisle Rural)
	Staff	Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services John Illes, Chief Financial Officer Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning Deneve Vanderwolf, Planning Technician/Regional Transit Coordinator Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services
	Others	Lara Beckett, Chair, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Dave Bradshaw, Manager Transportation and Technical Services, City of Prince George Michael Coulson, Transit Planner, City of Prince George– via Zoom – arrived at 1:01 p.m. Lindsay Taylor, Government Relations Manager, BC Transit – via Zoom
	Media	Jeremy Hull, LD News – via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RTC.2024-1-1

"That the Regional Transit Agenda of May 9, 2024 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Regional Transit Committee
Minutes – June 8, 2023

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Alternate Director Kulchar

RTC.2024-1-2

"That the Regional Transit Committee meeting minutes of June 8, 2023 be receive."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION

BC TRANSIT – Lindsay Taylor, Manager, Government Relations -Northern BC Re: NextRide and Customer Alert System

Chair Parker welcomed Lindsay Taylor, Manager, Government Relations-Northern BC, BC Transit.

Ms. Taylor provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

NextRide and Customer Alert System

- Introduction
- Annual Communication
- Bulkley Nechako Ridership Update
- Slight Re-Routing on 161
- NextRide Update.

Director Atrill noted that it is reassuring that NextRide and Customer Alert System is active and provides real-time locations of buses. Director Atrill had the opportunity to ride the bus and commented that the Board should take the opportunity to also ride the bus.

Chair Parker thanked Ms. Taylor for attending the meeting.

REPORT

Update on BC Transit Bus Service Funding and Bylaw

Moved by Director Elphee
Seconded by Director Atrill

RTC.2024-1-3

“That the Board ratify the April 15, 2024 Public Transportation in the RDBN Letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee discussed the following:

- Municipalities requesting the Board's consideration to have them removed from the service
 - Removal of bus stop if service is removed from a municipality
- Utilizing reserves to currently fund the service
- Northern Development Initiative Trust's (NDIT) Bus the North Campaign
- Committee of the Whole meeting/discussion with NDIT and BC Transit to review future considerations
 - Community and Inter-Community benefits
 - Communication and consultation with all bus systems and networks
- Rural Directors contributing grant in aid in the past
- Fee structure review and possible increase
 - Fair evasion
 - Minimizing driver and customer conflict
 - Community liaison in some communities
 - Potential for a sliding scale fair structure
- Need for a long-term funding commitment from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to move forward
- Requesting the Province work with all partners to determine a solution for the future
- Providing transportation support to everyone in the region
- Value of bus stop in Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Electoral Area C (Chilako River-Nechako)
 - Provided support through grant in aid in the past
 - Would support a grant in aid request
- Use of grant in aid
- Government funding of transit throughout the Province - not user pay system
- Providing safe transportation throughout the region.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Stoltenberg
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RTC.2024-1-4

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:38 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
Corporate Services