



Stakeholder Update
January 2010

2010 Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee Welcomes New Members

On January 7th, the Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee held its first meeting of 2010. Topics of the meeting included a report on Olympic Transportation and the UBC rapid transit line study.

UAC Committee Members unanimously re-elected **Rob Sleath** as Committee Chair and **Heather McCain** as Committee Vice Chair.

Three other UAC members were re-elected onto the 2010 Committee: **Heather McCain**, **Spencer Dixon** and **Merle Smith**.

The Committee welcomed three new members: **Richard Faucher**, **Heather Kischner** and **Sandy Yee**. The new members will each serve three year terms.

The Committee and TransLink would like to welcome the new members and greatly thank departing members: **Al Cleaver**, **Linda McGowan**, **Laurie Hill**, **Henry Stuve** and **Adrienne Boothroyd** for their valuable contributions to enhancing the accessibility of the public transportation system.

Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee meeting information and eligibility criteria is posted on the TransLink website:

HandyDART Update

The strike between MVT Canadian Bus Inc. (MVT) and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) has ended and full HandyDART service was back as of January 11. The Access Transit Office is fully staffed and receiving on-going registrations for HandyDART service. Olympic visitors are able to register for HandyDART and once registered can book for events.

New Hybrid Buses on the Street

TransLink has recently received 123 Nova hybrid buses. 100 of these buses are already on the streets carrying passengers in the Burnaby and Vancouver area. The hybrids are the first of a total of 141 buses TransLink is expecting to have in place within the next three months.

Hybrid technology uses a smaller diesel engine in addition to an electric motor powered by a battery pack. The buses are anticipated to have 20% better fuel economy and 20% lower green house gas emissions.

In appearance they are quite similar to the diesel buses but can be differentiated by the grey box on top of the back section which holds the engine. The interior layout is the same as most buses except now it has two rows of rear-facing seats in the back. The seats also have new upholstery, and the yellow stanchions have a new arched design.

For more information on the new hybrids please visit the Buzzer Blog: <http://buzzer.translink.ca/>

Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Access Transit Users' Advisory Committee will be held on April 15th, 2010.

Please forward these updates on to others within your organizations or to other individuals who may find them of interest.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the status of the Access Transit project, please contact:
accesstransit@translink.bc.ca