

April 14, 2020

Hello,

I'm Terri Sleeva. I am with a local Regina group, the Regina Citizen's Public Transit Coalition (RCPTC). We used to get together once a month to discuss the our transit issues. We have enjoyed working with city officials to come to positive solutions for a better city of Regina.

Currently, our lives have become much more complicated but we are looking forward to a new normal which will focus on the environment and using public transit in a better way.

Thank you for providing essential transit services while waiving the fees due to the COVID-19 crisis. It is our intention to continue our efforts to request that the city provide free transit but in incremental steps which have been outlined in the "2020 Transit Challenge" that was sent to you earlier. The crisis we are in has shown us this is possible.

Premier Scott Moe announced today that he is considering relaxing the restrictions next week with the COVID-19 pandemic.¹ It has become a concern that employees such as cashiers at grocery stores who are essential, are going to be transported in close quarters with other passengers on buses. This does not bode well for social distancing. We need more buses with fewer passengers on each in the foreseeable future.

I realize that the city is envisioning savings with these system cuts but the lives of people using public transit are being impacted negatively. Greater savings could be achieved through not subsidizing private vehicles. Regina citizens and especially those who have a lower income deserve a quality service, not piecemeal offerings. Please take this into consideration in your decision-making.

In hoping that we have a positive resolution,

Terri Sleeva

¹ <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-saskatchewans-plan-to-reopen-the-economy-could-come-next-week/>