

September 23, 2015

To: Members,
Accessibility Advisory Committee

Re: Provincial Paratransit Service Provider's Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACC) determine which citizen members will attend the Provincial Paratransit Service Provider meeting and authorize payment of the travel fees for those members.

CONCLUSION

A travel allowance for citizen members in the amount of \$3,500 is available in 2015 and the Committee may authorize distribution of these funds to citizen members of the Committee for attending programs related to the Committee's mandate. Attending the Provincial Paratransit Service Provider meeting is a valuable opportunity for members to learn about provincial issues related to paratransit services.

BACKGROUND

The 2015 budget includes a travel allowance for citizen members of the ACC. The travel budget was established to allow citizen members of committees to attend conferences and workshops related to the business of the committee. Participation in these types of programs provides members with additional knowledge on the business of the committee as well as the kinds of related activities being undertaken in other cities.

In the past, the Accessibility Advisory Committee has sent attendees to the Provincial Paratransit Service Provider meeting.

DISCUSSION

The City of Saskatoon will be hosting a Provincial Paratransit Service Provider meeting on October 22, 2015 from 11:30 am – 4:00 pm. An invitation has been extended to the City of Regina to send delegates. Representatives from the City Administration will be attending the meeting and representatives from the ACC are also welcome. The purpose of this meeting is to share information about paratransit services across Saskatchewan and to discuss issues of mutual interest. Attendees are typically City representatives, Advisory Committee members and provincial government representatives.

AAC members would benefit from attending this meeting. The 2015 meeting will be discussing a safety topic related to heel stops, Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) research projects, the Provincial Disability Strategy, Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission initiatives, and a service provider roundtable (see Appendix A). This meeting is also an opportunity to access information and dialogue with service providers from across Saskatchewan regarding paratransit services.

The total cost for attending the meeting is approximately \$258.00. About \$230.00 would be required for mileage to and from Saskatoon, \$22.00 for supper expenses and \$6.00 for incidentals. If a member needs to travel with an attendant, these costs would also need to be taken into consideration. There is no registration fee for the meeting and lunch will be provided.

RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

The 2015 budget allocation for citizen members of the ACC is \$3,500. To date, none of these funds have been allocated.

Environmental Implications

None with respect to this report.

Policy and/or Strategic Implications

Participation in the Provincial Paratransit Service Provider meeting learning opportunity provides members with additional knowledge on related paratransit activities being undertaken in other cities. This will assist members to more effectively carry out their responsibilities in providing advice that will move Regina toward becoming a more inclusive city.

Other Implications

None with respect to this report.

Accessibility Implications

Attending the Provincial Paratransit Service Provider meeting will give ACC members the opportunity to learn about provincial paratransit initiatives and dialogue with accessible transit service providers. This will assist in broadening the ACC's knowledge related to accessible transit issues.

COMMUNICATIONS

A communication plan is not required. Typically, members who attend the meeting will share what they learned upon their return.

DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The disposition of this report is within the Committee's authority.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Lynette Griffin'.

Lynette Griffin, Manager
Transit Department

Report prepared by:
Lynette Griffin, Manager of Paratransit & Accessibility

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brad Bells'.

Brad Bells, Director
City Services

APPENDIX A

Provincial Paratransit Service Provider Meeting

When: Thursday October 22, 2015 from 11:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Where: Lakewood Civic Centre 1635 McKercher Drive; in the Auditorium (to the right of the Cliff Wright Library)

Tentative Agenda:

1. 11:30 am: Greeting/Welcome (Mayor, or designate)
2. 11:45 am: Introduction of participants
3. 12:00 pm to 12:45 pm: Lunch/(Show & Shine?) Sponsored by Crestline Coach
4. 12:45 pm to 1:00 pm: Safety Topic: Heel Stop Presentation: (John Stevenson)
5. 1:00 pm to 1:15 pm: CUTA Research Topics: (Lynette Griffin)
6. 1:15 pm to 1:45 pm: Provincial Disability Strategy: (Kathy Rintoul/Al Comstock)
7. 1:45 pm to 2:00 pm: Sask Human Rights (? Andy Livingston)
8. 2:00 pm to 2:15 pm: 15 minute break
9. 2:15 pm to 3:55 pm: Service Provider Roundtable: Good, Bad, Challenges, Future discussion topics?
10. 3:55 pm to 4:00 pm: Meeting Adjourned and Closing remarks: (Bob Howe)