



WEST KOOTENAY TRANSIT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 23, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
RDCK Boardroom, 843 Rossland Ave, Trail
Teams Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Rik Logtenberg
Walter Popoff
Diana Lockwood
Terry Martin
Maria McFaddin
Linda Worley
Steve Morissette

City of Nelson
RDCK – Area H – **In-person**
RDCK – Village of Salmo – **In-person**
RDCKB – City of Trail
RDCK - City of Castlegar
RDCKB – Area B
RDCKB – Village of Warfield

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF

Tom Dool
Carly Feeney
James Chandler
Donna Dean
Aimee Mooney

Research Analyst - RDCK
Meeting Coordinator – RDCK
CAO – RDCKB
Acting General Manager - RDCKB
Deputy CFO – City of Nelson

BC TRANSIT

Daynika White
Errol Nordstrom
Midhat Malik
Jen Getz

Manager, Government Relations
Manager, Facility Capital Projects
Business Development Advisor
Transit Planner

TRANSIT OPERATING COMPANIES

Baron Gould
Jesse Adams

Transit Supervisor – City of Nelson
Transit Lead Hand – City of Nelson

1) Call to Order

Chair Rik Logtenberg will call the meeting to order at 10:00am

2) Territorial Acknowledgement

We recognize and respect that we live and meet within the unceded territories of the Columbia Basin Indigenous Nations peoples.

3) Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Director Worley and seconded,
And resolved:

That the agenda for the June 23, 2026 meeting of the West Kootenay Transit Committee be approved as presented.

4) Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Director Popoff and seconded,
And resolved:

That the minutes of the West Kootenay Transit Committee October 2, 2025 meeting be approved as presented.

5) Reports

a) **BC Transit website**

Daynika White, Government Relations Manager, provided an update on the new BC Transit website. The redesigned site reflects feedback from transit riders on how they use the website and what information they need. The new design aims to improve the overall customer experience and enhance accessibility for users accessing the site on mobile devices.

b) **Open loop payment option**

Daynika provided an update on the new Open Loop payment option, which launched on May 19, 2026. The system allows riders to pay their fare using a contactless debit or credit card, or a mobile wallet. She shared usage statistics since the launch and noted that the initiative is intended to reduce cash transactions, making fare collection more efficient for the operating companies and local government staff.

Daynika answered the Committee's questions.

c) **Selkirk College UPASS**

Daynika provided an update on the Selkirk College U-PASS program. She advised

that the Student Union will not be proceeding with a referendum at this time. While the program is currently on hold, BC Transit will continue discussions with the Student Union in future years to determine whether interest in the program changes.

d) **June 29 Service Change**

Daynika provided an update on BC Transit's phased fleet electrification strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by transitioning to electric buses over time. She advised that two electric Nova buses will be introduced into the Nelson fleet later this year. In addition, 13 hybrid-electric buses are scheduled to replace existing buses in Trail and Castlegar during 2028/2029.

Daynika answered the Committee's questions.

e) **Transit and On-Street Infrastructure**

Daynika provided an update on the Trail transit exchange design. She advised that the design for the Trail Transit Exchange has been completed and that the Request for Proposals (RFP) has been posted on BC Bid. Construction is expected to take place over the summer, with the exchange anticipated to be operational by winter 2026/2027.

Daynika answered the Committee's questions.

f) **Genelle Operations and Maintenance facility**

Errol Nordstrom, Manager of Facility of Capital Projects, provided an update on the new Genelle Operations and Maintenance Facility. He advised that construction remains on schedule and that the majority of the move into the new facility will occur over the weekend of June 27–28, 2026. Plans have been put in place to minimize any disruption to transit services during the transition.

Errol answered the Committee's questions.

New Business

a) **West Kootenay Transit System Fare Review**

Midhat Malik, Business Development Advisor, provided an overview of the West Kootenay Transit System Fare Review. She explained that the objectives of the review are to optimize revenue, attract and retain ridership, and maintain affordable transit fares. She noted that BC Transit is seeking feedback from the Committee to help identify local priorities as the review progresses.

Midhat reviewed the current fare structure, including the various fare products and associated discounts. She also outlined a proposed transfer policy that would replace

traditional transfers with an automatic DayPASS, allowing riders who purchase the equivalent of two Single Ride fares to receive unlimited travel for the remainder of the day.

Midhat also discussed potential public engagement opportunities should the Committee wish to seek community input. She provided an overview of the proposed fare review timeline, which is expected to run from Summer 2026 through September 2027.

The Committee had a lengthy discussion regarding the fare review, proposed public engagement and the review timeline. Midhat and Daynika answered the Committee's questions.

Moved by Director Popoff and seconded,
And Resolved:

THAT the West Kootenay Transit Committee propose an increase in rate to \$3.00 with public engagement.

Defeated

Moved by Director Worley and seconded,
And resolved:

THAT the West Kootenay Transit Committee direct BC Transit to launch an online public engagement survey about a fare increase and report back to the Committee with recommendations for fare changes.

Defeated

Moved by Director Worley and seconded,
And resolved:

THAT the West Kootenay Transit Committee direct BC Transit to go do their fare review and come back with information for the Committee to make a decision.

Carried

b) West Kootenay Transit System Service Review

Jennifer Getz, Transit Planner, provided a brief overview of the purpose, scope and objectives of the Service Review. She advised that while public engagement is optional as part of the review process, BC Transit recommends conducting one round of public engagement. Jennifer also outlined the anticipated timeline, noting that the review is expected to take approximately one year to complete, and provided an overview of the key stages and activities throughout the process.

Jennifer & Daynika answered the Committee's questions.

Moved by Director McFaddin and seconded
and Resolved:

THAT the West Kootenay Transit Committee agree to the objectives, deliverables, and scope of work of this Transit Service Review.

Carried

8) Adjournment

Moved by Director Martin and seconded,
And resolved:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33pm.

Digitally Approved

Rik Logtenberg, Chair