



# BC Transit Update Central Cariboo Joint Committee

Feb 26, 2025



# Land Acknowledgment

*We acknowledge with respect that BC Transit delivers our mission on the ancestral territories of Indigenous Peoples across British Columbia, and their historical relationships with the land continue to this day.*

# Introduction

**Elise Wren**

**Manager, Government Relations**

- Responsible for the North region
- Main point of contact for local government
- Supported by a team of subject matter experts
- Monitor and communicate transit system performance
- Monitor and identify program and reputational risks to BC Transit, its leadership, and our local government partners

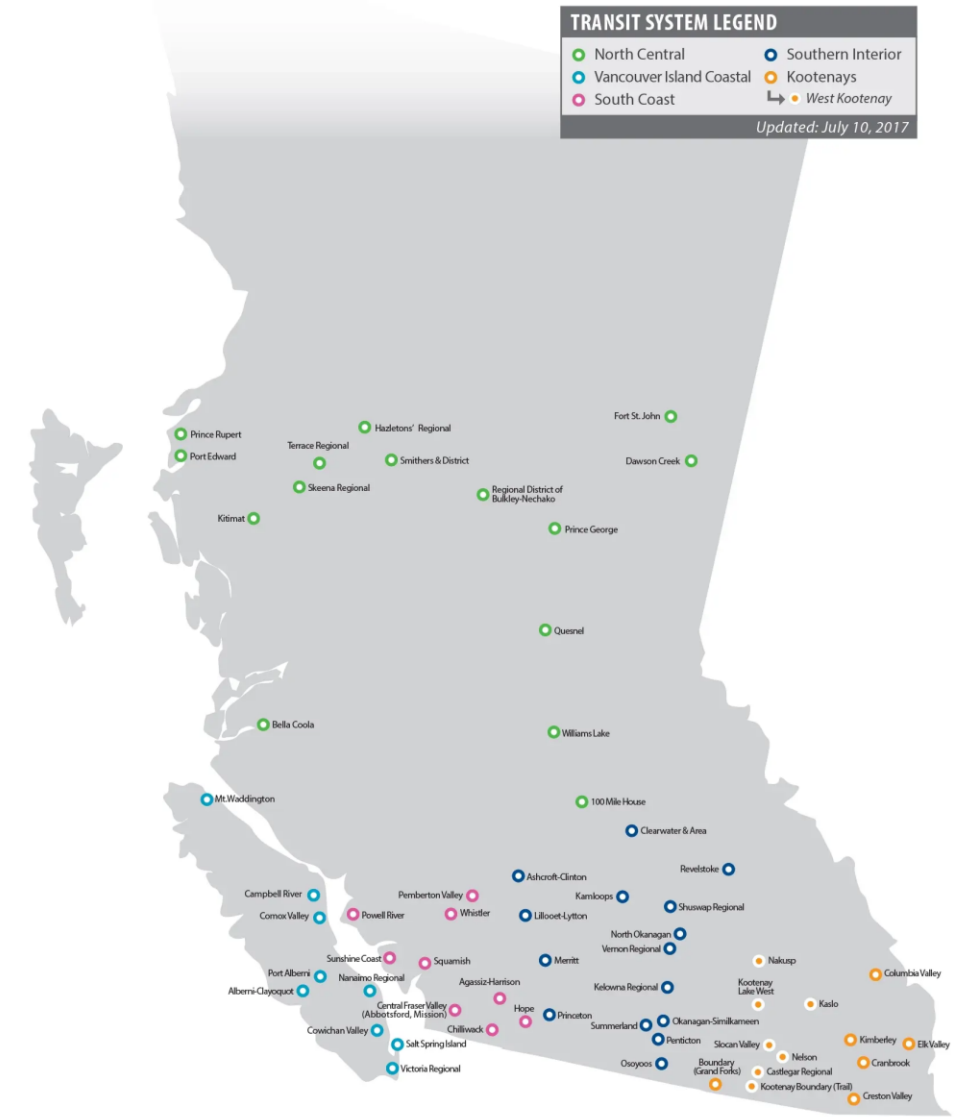


# BC Transit Overview

- Provincial authority responsible for the planning, funding and operation of all transit throughout the Province outside of Metro Vancouver
- 51+ million passenger trips
- 1,013 buses in a range of sizes
- \$321 million operating & capital budget
- 1.5 million British Columbians served
- 130 Communities, 81 transit systems

## Partnerships:

- 59 local government partners
- 18 private management companies, 5 public organizations, 14 non-profits





# Partnership Model



# BC Transit Funding and Governance

## BC Transit

- **Allocates provincial funding**
- **Plans transit systems to achieve local and provincial objectives**
- **Arranges for the operation of transit systems by contract or partnership**
- **Procures & owns fleet -**  
Determines the fleet & facilities requirements
- **Marketing** (Rider's Guides) / website branding, media & public relations
- Provides contract management and overall operator/operations oversight
- Develops and manages capital budget and asset acquisition
- Provides financial & accounting
- Other professional services required to plan, finance and implement transit systems

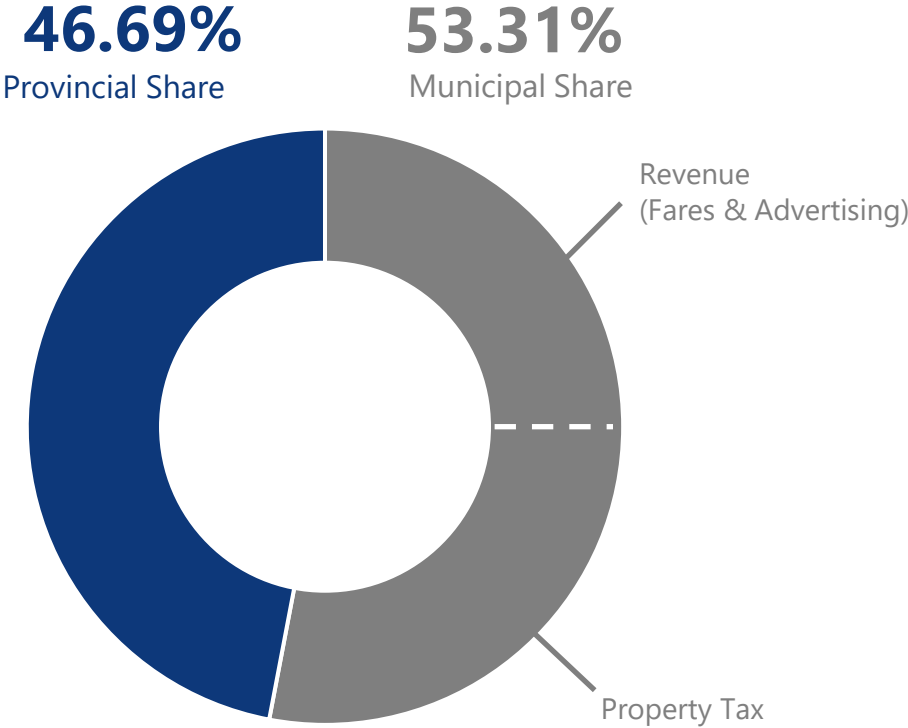
## Local Government

- **Sets local funding**
- **Sets routes and service levels** with BC Transit, ongoing review
- **Sets fares and manages the sale of fare products**
- **Establishes and maintains bus stops, shelters and amenities**
- Approves Official Community Plan, Transit vision and expectations, and transit supportive policies
- Determines service priorities with BC Transit
- Approves transit related agreements and budgets
- Promotes ridership with BC Transit marketing/branding
- Transit service education and consultation

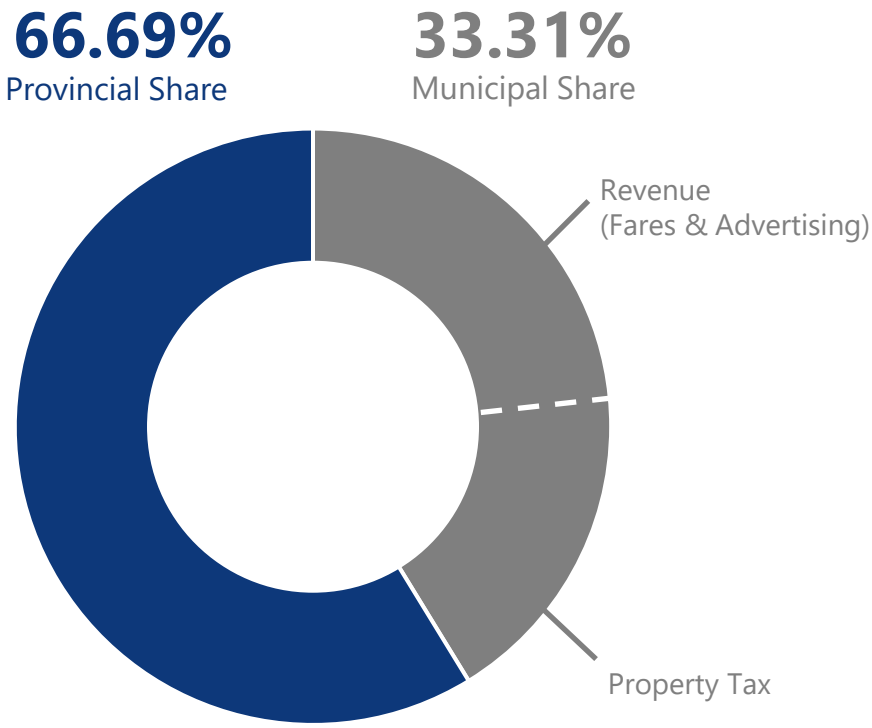
## Local Operating Company

- **Delivers specified transit services** as directed by BC Transit
- **Hires , trains and provides drivers**
- **Manages labour relations**
- **Collects fare revenue on behalf of the Local Government**
- **Provides day to day customer service** (info line, lost & found inquiries, etc.)
- Assists with data collection
- Helps promote the transit service

# BC Transit Local Government Cost Sharing Model



Conventional Transit



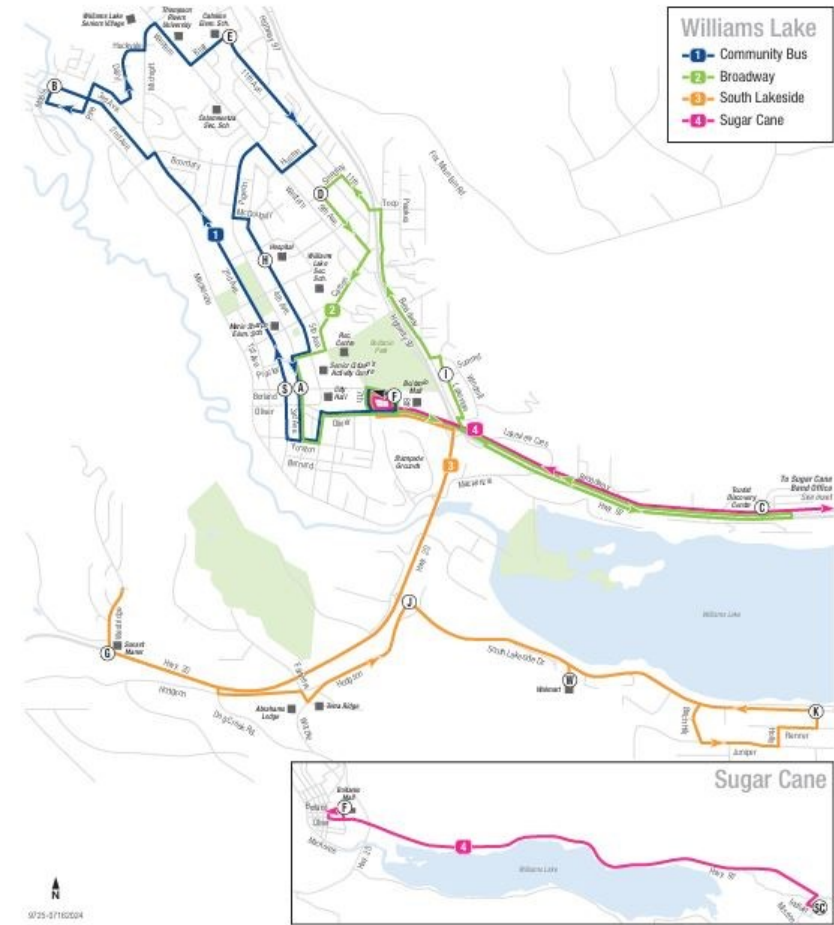
Custom Transit (handyDART)

Local Government retains 100% of revenue to offset local costs



# Williams Lake Transit

- **Local Government Partner**
  - City of Williams Lake
- **Funding Partners**
  - Cariboo Regional District
  - Williams Lake First Nation
  - Interior Health
- **Operated by Lakers Go-Bus Society**

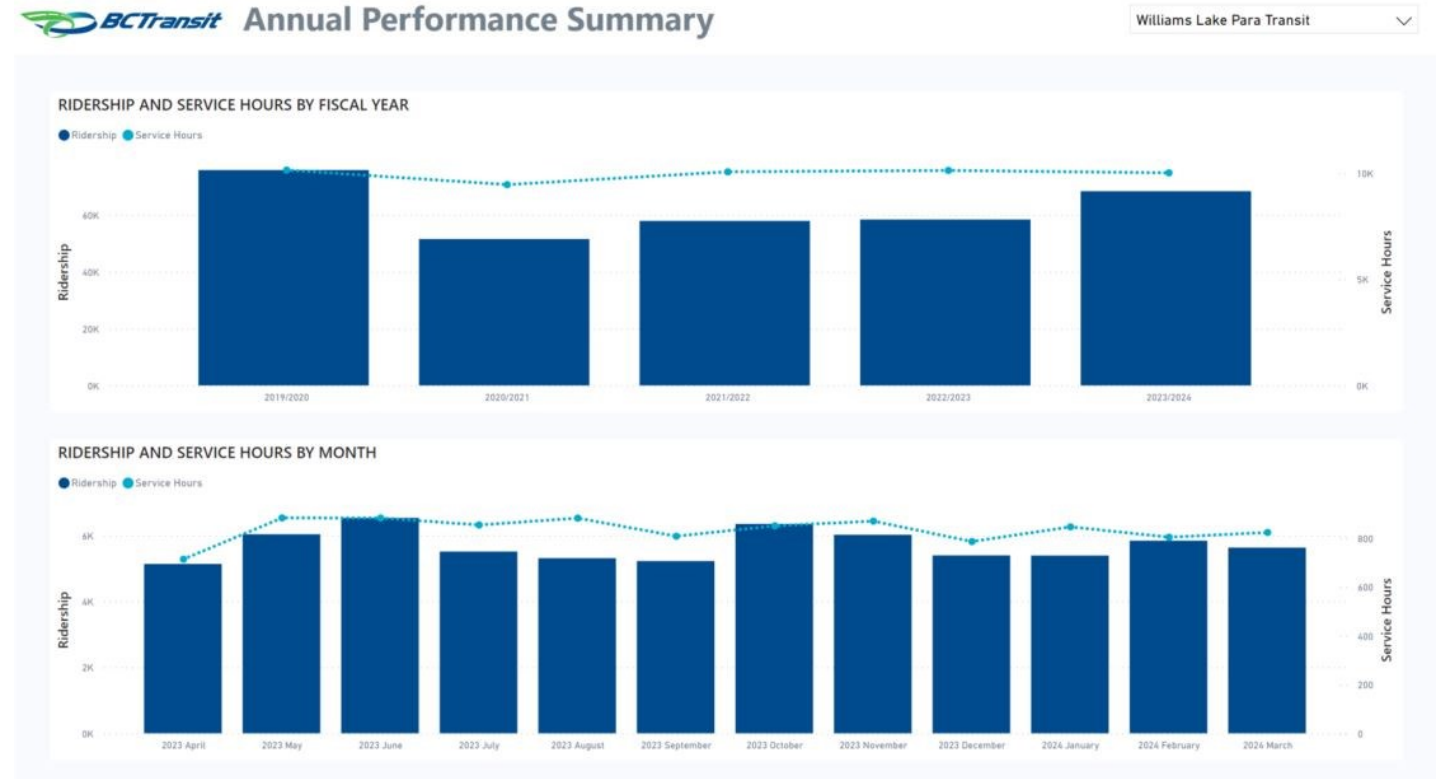




# System Performance

## In 2023/24

- Operating Cost Recovery increased
- Passenger trips/service hour increased
- Ridership increased
- Revenue increased



# GRM/LGP Touchpoints

## Annual Communication



### Annual Operating Agreement

- Defines the service to be delivered
- Outlines provincial and municipal funding contributions



### Annual Performance Summary

- Offers a high-level analysis of the system's performance, in comparison to prior 2 years
- Offers tier comparison against other systems



### Three-Year Budget

- Provides budget expectations for base service levels
- A separate expansion budget is also provided



### Transit Improvement Program

- Communicates expansion initiatives proposed for the next three years
- Seeks commitment from local government, allowing BC Transit to proceed with securing Provincial funding

# Approaching & Prioritizing Service Improvements

- 
- 3 Outstanding Transit Future Planning Priorities**  
What changes identified in the most recent Transit Future Action Plan or past TIPS requests have not been addressed?
  - 2 Performance Data Response**  
Are any routes reaching capacity thresholds? Any additional critical fixes needed?
  - 1 Operational Needs and Critical Fixes**  
Are existing routes reliable and consistent? Outstanding on-time performance issues?  
*\*Note that the Province is prioritizing support in this area for expansion funding.*

# TIPs Planning Cycle



Determine transit expansion need



Service options presented and chosen by Local Government Partner



Costing estimates presented



BC Transit prepares MOU for Council approval to be included in TIPs 2026



Provincial budget released in February 2026



If funding successful, implementation process begins



Non-vehicle expansion – Sept 2026



Vehicle expansion – Jan 2027

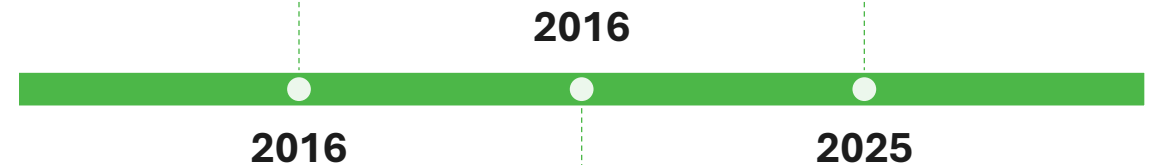


# Service Review Priorities for Williams Lake



Service Review: Williams-Lake-Final-report.pdf

TIPs 2025 Ask: Introduce Sunday Service, 1 vehicle, 375 annual hours



## Initiatives proposed in 2016:

- Toop-Carson reroute
- Route 3 and Route 2 changes
- Summer service to Scout Island
- Route 1 increase in frequency



# Questions?





*Thank You!*

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