



TRANSPORT ACTION
CANADA

Transport Action News - July 2022



A motorcoach service is the only mobility option in many parts of the country, and no longer an option in far too many communities following the closure of Greyhound Canada and other cuts

Announcing our Motorcoach Research Project

Hello ,

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we have recruited a researcher through the Canada Summer Jobs program to work on the subject of motorcoach services across Canada. This work will follow on from the "[Cross Canada Bus Coalition](#)" proposal brought forward by several motorcoach companies last year, while seeking to consult as many operators as possible, both public and private sector. The study will also explore challenges faced by passengers, and we'll be sending our members and supporters an invitation to participate in a future email.

CUPE recently produced a documentary on the impact of public service cuts in Saskatchewan. The video link below starts at the segment discussing the social and economic impacts of the elimination of STC bus services. Our research project will explore these issues:



Last week, Peter Miasek, president of Transport Action Ontario and myself met with Martin R. Landry, VIA Rail's new President and CEO, in Toronto, to discuss the challenges facing VIA Rail, including funding for needed repairs to station buildings, track access to increase service frequencies, long distance fleet replacement, and opportunities for multi-modal integration. We will continue to push for the restoration of trains 651/650 and 82/83 for day-trips into Toronto.

We are delighted that a tentative agreement has now been reached between Unifor and VIA Rail, averting a strike at the last moment; however, longer term concerns around job security for train crew, station staff, and maintenance teams remain. We will continue to urge the government to change course on the High Frequency Rail project, so that it will be operated in the public sector and in the best interests of the travelling public, and commit to the future of VIA Rail passenger services from coast to coast.

Sincerely,

Terry Johnson, President
Transport Action Canada

Watch Elizabeth May's Presentation

Transport Action Ontario's AGM guest speaker this spring was Elizabeth May MP, speaking about public transportation issues across the country. The video is now online for you to watch and share, together with an update on the previous year's advocacy work from TAO President Peter Miasek





Multi-Stakeholder Support for Cayuga Short Rail Line...

Short line railways, slated for abandonment as a cost-savings measure by Class I railways, represent business opportunities to municipalities. Although many of these lines face an uncertain future, some are being rescued and redeveloped as...

[Read more](#)

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VIA Rail "Fireside Chat" with London Mayor Ed Holder

On June 15, the Canadian Club of London hosted a one-hour virtual fireside chat

between VIA Rail's acting CEO Martin Landry, and London Mayor Ed Holder. Transport Action Ontario (TAO) listened in and also submitted questions to be answered later...

[Read more](#)

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Atlantic Transport News

Transit agencies struggle with record fuel prices; PEI \$2 Island transit expands; and VIA Rail resumes thrice-weekly "Ocean" service.

[Read more](#)

transportactionatlantic.ca

Running Extra: Modelling VIA Rail Canada

Tim Hayman, president of Transport Action Atlantic, is also a highly accomplished scale model builder. He recently gave a presentation on modelling VIA Rail equipment and operations to the NMRA Niagara Frontier Region's convention:



Transportation Newsround

Montreal's bike culture seen as model for rest of the country

<https://lethbridgenewsnow.com/2022/06/04/as-gas-prices-spike-montreals-bike-culture-seen-as-model-for-rest-of-the-country/>

Residents concerned Halifax Transit won't keep up with growth

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/halifax-transit-city-growth-1.6470647>

Peel Council Endorses Intent to Acquire Orangeville-Brampton Railway Corridor

<https://weeklyvoice.com/peel-council-endorses-intent-to-acquire-orangeville-brampton-railway-corridor/>

Backers of Banff passenger rail project say they need yes-or-no answer from province

<https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/backers-of-banff-passenger-rail-project-say-they-need-provincial-yes-or-no>

Halifax Transit to offer free bus, ferry services on certain summer days

<https://globalnews.ca/news/8902529/halifax-transit-free-bus-ferry-summer/>

Almost full service resumes on Quebec-Windsor corridor

<https://windsor.ctvnews.ca/via-rail-returns-to-full-service-for-windsor-toronto-corridor-1.5937964>

Deal to end Sea-to-Sky bus strike greeted with relief from union, company, community

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/sea-to-sky-strike-ends-1.6488509>

CDPQ-owned company acquires Pacific Western Transportation

<https://privatecapitaljournal.com/cdpqs-student-transportation-acquires-pacific-western-transportation/>

Canada Lifting Vaccine Mandate for Transport Workers, Travelers

<https://www.railwayage.com/regulatory/canada-lifting-vaccine-mandate-for-transport-workers-travelers/>

Train seen slamming into SUV in 'shocking' new GO Transit video

<https://www.cp24.com/news/train-seen-slamming-into-suv-in-shocking-new-go-transit-video-1.5954385>

Saint John becomes first city in north America to deploy Karsan's 20-foot electric bus

<https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/north-america-s-first-electric-bus-of-its-kind-key-to-saint-john-transit-s-major-overhaul-1.5955684>

Agawa Tour Train to run August 1 to October 10

<https://www.saultstar.com/news/shorter-season-agawa-canyon-tour-train-will-run-at-full-capacity>

Milton makes library cards into free summer transit passes for youth

<https://www.thestar.com/local-milton/news/2022/06/22/free-transit-for-milton-youth-aged-16-and-under-this-summer.html>

More delays in delivery of Montreal's REM light-rail transit system

<https://globalnews.ca/video/8935090/more-delays-in-delivery-of-montreals-rem-light-rail-transit-system>

BC Transit Sea-to-Sky services restart after strike

<https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/bc-transit-sea-to-sky-whistler-squamish-services-restart-june-2022>

Aldershot connection complete, allowing more GO services to Hamilton in future

<https://blog.metrolinx.com/2022/06/28/pocket-track-at-aldershot-station-holds-a-key-that-will-unlock-more-go-train-service-to-hamilton/>

Short line rail service returns to Thorold, Ontario multimodal hub

<https://www.mromagazine.com/2022/06/28/agreement-brings-rail-service-back-to-thorold-multimodal-hub/>

Highway 413 threatens habitat of 11 at-risk species

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2022/06/29/highway-413-route-threatens-11-at-risk-species-provincial-government-documents-reveal.html>

CN repairs in New Brunswick

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/cn-to-spend-40m-on-new-brunswick-line-replacing-just-2-miles-of-rail-1.6505395>

Flixbus adds London-Toronto route

<https://dailyhive.com/toronto/flixbus-toronto-london-bus-route>

USA: Final EIS for San Francisco to San Jose segment of California HSR issued

<https://www.railwayage.com/passenger/high-performance/chsra-issues-final-eir-eis-for-northern-california-project/>

USA: Washington Union Station redevelopment plan unveiled

<https://www.railwayage.com/passenger/intercity/washington-union-station-redevelopment-progressing/>

USA: Amtrak starts procurement for Baltimore tunnel project

<https://www.progressiverailroading.com/amtrak/news/Amtrak-kicks-off-procurement-phase-for-BP-Tunnel-program--66854>

USA: PennDOT and NS agree second Amtrak frequency to Pittsburgh

https://www.progressiverailroading.com/passenger_rail/news/PennDOT-Norfolk-Southern-agree-to-expand-passenger-rail-access--66902

Sweden unveils historic infrastructure investment (\$113bn)

<https://www.railwaypro.com/wp/sweden-unveils-historic-infrastructure-investment/>

Germany: Siemens lands first fleet deployment of hydrogen trains

<https://www.railtech.com/rolling-stock/2022/06/27/siemens-first-hydrogen-trains-ordered-for-berlin-brandenburg-region/>

Transport Action Canada is funded by grassroots members and donors like you. Your support enables us to continue our mission to ensure access to bus and rail services for to all Canadians.

Any amount -- \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200, even \$10 -- will be deeply appreciated, and makes a real impact in our ability to continue our work.

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Now

If you would prefer to join or make a donation by mail, please [download our printable membership form](#) and post it to us at the address below with a cheque.

Thank you again for your continued support!

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