



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, 495 Hot Springs Road
 Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia

1. CALL TO ORDER		
Meeting called to order by Mayor Facio.		
2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS		
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA		
4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES		
(a) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 3, 2017 be adopted		Item 4(a) Page 1
5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES		
6. CONSENT AGENDA		
i. Bylaws		
ii. Agreements		
iii. Committee/ Commission Minutes	(a) Age-friendly Committee Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2017	Item 6.iii.(a) Page 5
iv. Correspondence	(a) Letter dated March 21, 2017 from Canadian Heritage Re: Canada Day Celebration Funding	Item 6.iv.(a) Page 9
	(b) Letter dated March 30, 2017 from Minister Peter Fassbender Re: Infrastructure Planning Grant	Item 6.iv.(b) Page 11
	(c) Agassiz-Harrison Community Services News – April 2017	Item 6.iv.(c) Page 13
7. DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS		
(a) Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service: BC Transit Fare Structure Review – Barclay Pitkethly, & Adam Lougheed, Fraser Valley Regional District		Item 7(a) Page 15

8. CORRESPONDENCE

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

10. REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS, COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND COMMISSIONS

11. REPORTS FROM MAYOR

12. REPORTS FROM STAFF

- (a) Report of Community Services Manager – April 13, 2017
Re: Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service – BC Transit Fare Structure

Item 12(a)
Page 17

Recommendation:

THAT Council support fare structure Option #3 for the Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service with a cash fare base of \$2.50.

13. BYLAWS

- (a) Report of Financial Officer – April 12, 2017
Re: Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1105, 2017

Item 13(a)
Page 29

Recommendation:

THAT Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1105, 2017 be given first, second and third reading.

14. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (pertaining to agenda items only)

15. ADJOURNMENT

VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

DATE: April 3, 2017
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers
495 Hot Springs Road
Harrison Hot Springs, BC

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Leo Facio
Councillor John Buckley
Councillor Sonja Reyerse
Councillor John Hansen
Councillor Samantha Piper

Chief Administrative Officer, Madeline McDonald
Financial Officer, Tracey Jones
Planning Consultant, Ken Cossey

ABSENT:

Recording Secretary: Jaclyn Bhatti

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Facio called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Piper
Seconded by Councillor Buckley

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Piper
Seconded by Councillor Hansen

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on March 20, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
April 3, 2017

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

i. Bylaws (a) Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1104, 2017

ii. Agreements

iii. Committee/
Commission
Minutes (a) Age-friendly Committee Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2017

iv.
Correspondence

Moved by Councillor Piper
Seconded by Councillor Reyerse

THAT Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1104, 2017 be adopted, and the Age-friendly Committee Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2017 be received.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

7. **DELEGATIONS**

None

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

9. **BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CORRESPONDENCE**

None

10. **REPORTS OF COUNCILLORS, COMMITTEES, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
AND COMMISSIONS**

Councillor Piper

- Attended the Organics Open House on March 23, 2017 and thanked residents and staff for attending.
- Attended the Aging, Design, and the City lecture at Simon Fraser University.
- Represented Harrison Hot Springs at the Annual Chilliwack Plowing Match on April 2, 2017 and came in 3rd in the Mayors category.

Councillor Reyerse

- Attended the Fraser Valley Library Board meeting where the 2016 Financial Statements were approved and the board passed a motion to create policy addressing financial responsibility for member libraries.
- Attended the Organics Open House and thanked staff for putting on an excellent information event.

Councillor Buckley

- Attended the Organics Open House and is excited for the new program.

11.

REPORTS FROM MAYOR LEO FACIO

- Reported that Kent Harrison Emergency Social Services is looking for volunteers.
- Reported on the Office of the Seniors Advocate March newsletter. The Provincial Government announced an investment of \$500 million over the next 4 years to improve care for seniors.
- Reported that there will be a Women's Health and Wellness Fair on April 21, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Community Recreation and Cultural Centre in Agassiz.
- Reported on the FVRD Media Release regarding the 2017 Homeless Count which showed an increase in the Fraser Valley.
- Reminded everyone that on Sunday, April 9, 2017 there will be a commemoration ceremony for the 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge and thanked Community Services Manager, Alanna Carmichael and the Royal Canadian Legion in Agassiz for organizing the event.
- Reported that Prospera Credit Union will be holding their Annual General Meeting on April 20, 2017 at the Matsqui Centennial Auditorium.
- Commented about a new social media site in Harrison Hot Springs.

12.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

- (a) Report of Planning Consultant – April 3, 2017
Re: Issuance of a Development Permit – 480 Hot Springs Road

Moved by Councillor Buckley
Seconded by Councillor Piper

THAT Development Permit DP 04/16 be issued to Andrew and Stephanie Baziuk for the property located at 480 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs for land legally described as Block 1 except: Parcel "A" (reference plan 22152) Section 13 Township 4 Range 29 West of the Sixth Meridian New Westminster District Plan 9786

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
April 3, 2017

13.

BYLAWS

(a) Report of Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Corporate Officer – March 28, 2017

Re: Highway and Traffic Bylaw No. 974

Moved by Councillor Reyerse
Seconded by Councillor Buckley

THAT the report be referred back to staff for further information and that the overnight parking provision options be referred to the Chamber of Commerce.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

14.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (pertaining to agenda items only)

Questions from the public were entertained.

15.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Buckley
Seconded by Councillor Hansen

THAT the meeting be closed to the public at 7:32 p.m., except for Council and senior staff, for the purpose of receiving and adopting Closed Meeting Minutes convened in accordance to Section 90(1) of the *Community Charter* and to consider matters pursuant to:

90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

Leo Facio
Mayor

Debra Key
Corporate Officer

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
AGE-FRIENDLY COMMITTEE MEETING**

DATE: Thursday, March 16, 2017
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers
 495 Hot Springs Road
 Harrison Hot Springs, BC

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor John Hansen, Chair
 Marg Doman
 Raymond Hooper
 Allan Jackson
 Elisabeth Scotson

Alanna Carmichael, Community Services Manager

ABSENT:

Recording Secretary: Jaclyn Bhatti

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

- Computer Training for Seniors

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Allan Jackson
Seconded by Marg Doman

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Allan Jackson
Seconded by Raymond Hooper

THAT the minutes of the Age-friendly Committee Meeting held on February 23, 2017 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- (a) Guest Speaker – Bobbi Jacob, Executive Director, Agassiz Harrison Community Services

Ms. Jacob provided the Committee with an overview of the services that Community Services offers and discussed working together on a speaker series.

Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Minutes of the Age-friendly Committee Meeting
March 16, 2017

(b) Speaker Series

There was consensus from the Committee to work with Agassiz Harrison Community Services on the speaker series.

Discussion ensued on:

- Having Ms. Jacob from Community Services as the first speaker
- Having Jackie Neville from the Social Club as a speaker
- Beginning with an open house where Community Services can discuss the services they provide and the Committee can promote future speakers
- Using hotel meeting rooms as the venue

(c) Proposed Amendments to the Terms of Reference

Moved by Allan Jackson

Seconded by Raymond Hooper

THAT the Terms of Reference be amended to include a Mission Statement that reads "The Age-friendly Committee aims to promote opportunities, information, services and events that may benefit, enhance or augment the lives of residents of Harrison Hot Springs."

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**

(d) Proposed Schedule for Age-friendly Committee 2017 Meetings

The next meeting will be held on April 5, 2017, where a schedule for the rest of the year will be brought forward.

(e) Computer Training for Seniors

The Chair reported that the Legion is providing computer training for seniors in Agassiz. The program involves younger people helping seniors with computers and has been very successful so far. The Chair thought the Committee could consider one for Harrison Hot Springs.

(f) Time Capsule

The Community Services Manager updated the Committee on the Canada Day time capsule. The Canada Day Planning group is very interested in the idea and would like to go forward with it.

Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Minutes of the Age-friendly Committee Meeting
March 16, 2017

6.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Allan Jackson
Seconded by Raymond Hooper

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**



John Hansen
Chair



Debra Key
Corporate Officer



MAR 21 2017

Ms. Debra L. Key
Deputy C.A.O./Corporate Officer
VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
Post Office Box 160
Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia
V0M 1K0

Title of Project: Canada Day Celebration

Dear Ms. Key:

On behalf of the Minister of Canadian Heritage, it is my pleasure to inform you that your application for funding has been approved.

A grant in the amount of \$4,000 will be awarded to help your organization carry out its activities, under the Celebration and Commemoration Program, Celebrate Canada Component. This funding will be allocated over one government fiscal year 2017-2018 and will be subject to certain terms and conditions, the appropriation of funds by Parliament, and the budget levels of the Program.

One of our program representatives will be in contact with you in the near future to review the terms and conditions related to this funding.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and the members of your organization the greatest success in your endeavours.

Sincerely,

Erica Tao
Regional Director General
Western Region

FILE #	DATE
1855-02-01	Apr. 5/17
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> CO
<input type="checkbox"/> DCAO	<input type="checkbox"/> ADMIN/ FINANCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DIRF	<input type="checkbox"/> B/L ENF
<input type="checkbox"/> MGR REV SVCS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAYOR
<input type="checkbox"/> CEDO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COUNCIL
<input type="checkbox"/> OP. MGR	
ITEM	A B C
COUNCIL AGENDA	
DATE	Apr 18/17
	INITIAL <i>ET</i>
(ITEMS: A-REQ, ACTION: B - INFO - WRESP; C - INFO ONLY)	



RECEIVED

APR 03 2017

VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS



G-iv(b)

FILE #	DATE
1855-03-12	Apr. 3/17
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input type="checkbox"/> CO
<input type="checkbox"/> DCAO	<input type="checkbox"/> ADMIN/ FINANCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DIRF	<input type="checkbox"/> B/L ENF
<input type="checkbox"/> MGR REV SVCS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAYOR
<input type="checkbox"/> CEDO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COUNCIL
<input type="checkbox"/> OP. MGR	
ITEM A B C	
COUNCIL AGENDA	
DATE April 18/17	
INITIAL	
(ITEMS: A-REQ, ACTION:	
B - INFO - WRESP;	
C - INFO ONLY)	

Ref: 205147

March 30, 2017

His Worship Mayor Leo Facio
and Members of Council
Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Box 160
Harrison Hot Springs, BC V0M 1K0

Dear Mayor Facio and Courtillors:

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to advise you that your application under the *Local Government Grants Act* for an infrastructure planning grant has been approved for the following project:

Grant Description	Amount
HHS WWTP Sustainable Operation Review	\$10,000

Details of the terms and conditions attached to this grant will be dealt with in an agreement that will be forwarded to you by Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development staff as soon as possible. This agreement must be signed and returned to the Ministry, indicating your acceptance of the terms and conditions.

The Province welcomes the opportunity to support planning in the Village of Harrison Hot Springs. We believe that early and ongoing planning is the best way to ensure that the environmental, social, and economic needs of your community will continue to be met in the years ahead.

Through your planning efforts, the Province encourages you to find ways to use new technology to promote environmental excellence and sustainable economic development.

Congratulations on your successful application and my best wishes with your infrastructure study.

Sincerely,

Peter Fassbender
Minister

Agassiz-Harrison Community News



Community Service
"Since 1976!"

Agassiz-Harrison Community Services

Seniors' Services

April 2017

Better at Home

A program designed to help seniors remain independent at home. We offer a range of non-medical home support services.

- Light Housekeeping
- Transportation
- Friendly visitors
- Friendly phone

Fees for services are determined on a sliding scale based on an ability to pay. Some services may be offered for free.

All seniors living in a Better at Home community can apply for services. Simple contact Agassiz-Harrison Community Services for more information or email betterathome@agassizcs.ca

Speakers' Series

Join us at the Agassiz Legion Hall at 1846 #9 Hwy. from 10am - 11:15am for this free series. Light refreshments available

April 27th

Life Planning as we age

May 11th

It's Not Right, recognizing & responding to elder abuse

May 25th

Green Thumb

June 8th

Genealogy

June 22nd

Backyard Birding

Income Tax Assistance Program

The Income Tax Assistance Program helps low income earners with assistance to prepare their income tax and benefit returns.

This program is a free service provided by volunteers. Donations welcome.

Seniors' Resource Centre

Located at Cheam Village
1525 MacKay Cr. Agassiz
604-796-3886

Volunteers Needed

Ask us about our volunteer opportunities and share your skills and knowledge.

Head Office

7086 Cheam Ave - PO Box 564
Agassiz, BC V0M 1A0
604-796-2585

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday - 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Food Bank Opening Hours:

Thursday - 10:00 am to 12:00 and
from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Family Parenting Place

7272 Morrow Road,
Agassiz BC V0M 1A0
604-796-0313

Opening Hours:

Drop-in Programs:

Monday, Wednesday and
Thursday 8:45 am to 12:15 pm

Youth Centre

7086 Cheam Avenue,
Agassiz, BC V0M 1A0

Thrift Store

6919 Cheam Avenue,
Agassiz, BC V0M 1A0
604-796-9932

Opening Hours:

Monday to Saturday - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Donations at the back door - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

Request to Appear as a Delegation

In order to make a presentation to Council at a Council Meeting, you are required to submit a written request to the Corporate Administration Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Wednesday before the regular meeting. The request can either be a copy of this completed form or a separate letter that you have written which contains the information requested on this form. All requests must be accompanied with background information which will be included in the agenda package. You can submit your request in person, by mail at PO Box 160 Harrison Hot Springs, BC V0M 1K0, fax at 604-796-2192 or e-mail at jbhatti@harrisonhotsprings.ca.

The Corporate Administration Department will advise you when you are scheduled to appear before Council. Council meetings commence at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Council Chambers at 495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC.

You are limited to a maximum of 10 minutes to present your material, regardless of the number of presenters in your delegation.

Date: April 12, 2017 Requested Meeting Date: April 18, 2017

Organization Name (if applicable): Fraser Valley Regional District

Name of Presenter: Barclay Pitkethly, Adam Lougheed

Name of Applicant if Other than Above: _____

Contact Phone Number & E-Mail: (604) 702-5042 / alougheed@fvrd.ca

Mailing Address with Postal Code: 1-45950 Cheam Ave, Chilliwack, V2P 1N6

Audio/Visual requirements: Projector (PowerPoint Presentation)

Topic: Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service: BC Transit Fare Structure Review

Action you wish Council to take: Please refer to Alanna Carmichael, Community Services Manager



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

REPORT TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor and Council **DATE:** April 13, 2017
FROM: Community Services Manager **FILE:** 8500-01
SUBJECT: Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service – BC Transit Fare Structure

ISSUE:

BC Transit recently completed a Fare Structure Review which examined the performance of the Agassiz Harrison (AG-H) Transit System. The findings of this review suggest the current system is complex and creates barriers to potential passengers which discourages new ridership and negatively impacts mobility within the region. Therefore, BC Transit has recommended changes to the AG-H Transit Service Fare Structure and has provided three options to consider.

Furthermore, Fraser Valley Regional District staff presented the attached report to the Regional and Corporate Services Committee on April 11, 2017. This Committee approved a recommendation to support fare structure Option #3 for the AG-H Transit Service with a cash fare base of \$2.50; and that the recommendation be forwarded to the local government partners for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

Barclay Pitkethly (Director of Regional Programs) and Adam Lougheed (Planner I), with the Fraser Valley Regional District, will present the findings from the BC Transit Fare Structure Review of the AG-H Transit System as a delegation to Council during the April 18, 2017 Council meeting.

Mr. Lougheed's report to the Regional and Corporate Services Committee provides a comprehensive breakdown of the AG-H fare structure which is attached for background information.

Included below are two tables. The first table indicates the BC Transit proposed fare structure options. The second table outlines the projected impact on ridership and revenue by community.

Table 1: BC Transit Proposed Fare Structure Options:

Fare Product	Audience	Current Structure (1 Zone/2 Zone)	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Cash	Adult	\$2.50/\$3.00	\$2.00	\$2.25	\$2.50
	Discount	\$1.50/2.00	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Day Pass	All	Not Available	\$4.00	\$4.50	\$5.00
Tickets (10)	All	\$22.50/\$27.00	\$18.00	\$20.25	\$22.50
	Discount	\$13.50/\$18.00	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Monthly Pass	Adult	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
	Discount	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00

Table 2: Projected Impact on Ridership and Revenue by Community:

Local Partner	Share of Total Cost	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
		-\$7,443 (-10%)	-\$2,995 (-4%)	+\$962 (+1%)
Village of Harrison Hot Springs	32%	-\$2,382	-\$958	+\$308
District of Kent	36%	-\$2,679	-\$1078	+\$346
City of Chilliwack	25%	-\$1,861	-\$749	+\$241
Electoral Area "D"	7%	-\$521	-\$210	+\$67

The information below shows a comparative of the current fare structure versus the proposed Option #3 fare structure.

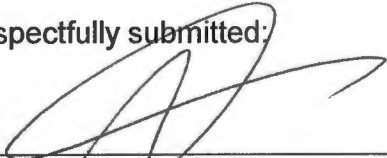
Current Fare Structure	Option #3 Fare Structure																																																															
<p>Agassiz-Harrison Fares subject to change</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cash</th> <th>Zone 1</th> <th>Zone 2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Adult/College**</td> <td>\$ 2.50</td> <td>\$ 3.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student/Senior*</td> <td>1.50</td> <td>2.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Child, 4 or under</td> <td>Free</td> <td>Free</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Tickets (10)</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Adult/College**</td> <td>22.50</td> <td>27.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student/Senior*</td> <td>13.50</td> <td>18.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Monthly Pass</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Adult/College**</td> <td>55.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student/Senior*</td> <td>35.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Fare Agassiz-Harrison to Chilliwack</p> <p>Passengers can transfer onto the Chilliwack Transit System at the downtown Exchange. Pay the fare on the Agassiz-Harrison bus and ask for a transfer. Show your transfer or UFV U-PASS when you board any Chilliwack bus.</p> <p>Fare Chilliwack to Agassiz-Harrison</p> <p>When transferring onto the Agassiz-Harrison bus, please show the Chilliwack transfer or your UFV U-PASS and pay the difference in fares.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Top up to Agassiz-Harrison</th> <th>Zone 1</th> <th>Zone 2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Transfer +</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult/College**</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>1.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student/Senior*</td> <td>0.25</td> <td>0.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monthly Pass +</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult/College**</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>1.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student/Senior*</td> <td>0.50</td> <td>1.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* Reduced fare with valid I.D. for persons 65 and over, and students in full-time attendance to Grade 12. ** College includes UFV U-PASS students.</p>	Cash	Zone 1	Zone 2	Adult/College**	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.00	Student/Senior*	1.50	2.00	Child, 4 or under	Free	Free	Adult/College**	22.50	27.00	Student/Senior*	13.50	18.00	Adult/College**	55.00	Student/Senior*	35.00	Top up to Agassiz-Harrison	Zone 1	Zone 2	Transfer +			Adult/College**	1.00	1.50	Student/Senior*	0.25	0.75	Monthly Pass +			Adult/College**	1.00	1.50	Student/Senior*	0.50	1.00	<p>Fares subject to change</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cash</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>All fares</td> <td>2.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Child, 4 or under</td> <td>free</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tickets (10)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>All fares</td> <td>22.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DayPASS</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>All fares</td> <td>5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monthly Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult</td> <td>55.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student/Senior*</td> <td>35.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* Reduced fare with valid I.D. for persons 65 and over, and students in full-time attendance to Grade 12.</p>	Cash		All fares	2.50	Child, 4 or under	free	Tickets (10)		All fares	22.50	DayPASS		All fares	5.00	Monthly Pass		Adult	55.00	Student/Senior*	35.00
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BC Transit, Fraser Valley Regional District staff along with the Regional and Corporate Services Committee have all recommended the AG-H Transit System change its fare structure to Option #3.

RECOMMENDATION:


THAT Council support fare structure Option #3 for the Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service with a cash fare base of \$2.50.

Respectfully submitted:



Alanna Carmichael
Community Services Manager

REVIEWED BY:



Madeline McDonald
Chief Administrative Officer

To: Regional and Corporate Services Committee
From: Adam Lougheed, Planner I

Date: 2017-04-11
File No: 8500-30-Planning

Subject: Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service - BC Transit Fare Structure Review

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board support fare structure Option #3 for the Agassiz-Harrison Transit Service with a cash fare base of \$2.50; and that the recommendation be forwarded to the local government partners for consideration.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services
Support Healthy & Sustainable Community

BACKGROUND

The Agassiz-Harrison (AG-H) Transit System is characterized by a complex fare structure resulting in high rates of fare evasion and lost revenues. The complexity creates a barrier to potential passengers unfamiliar with the service or public transit in general, discouraging new ridership and negatively impacting mobility within the region.

With the introduction of a new sub-regional transit service between Hope and Agassiz, an opportunity exists to address the issue with the fares. BC Transit's Fare Structure Review examined the performance of the AG-H fare structure and identifies areas of opportunity. Considerations and options for integrating the new Hope transit service within a simplified and harmonized regional transit network are also examined.

DISCUSSION

While the AG-H operates relatively independently, it is part of the larger Chilliwack Transit System and benefits from the economies of scale the Chilliwack system provides; including storage of AG-H vehicles and availability of backup buses. However, the differences between the two system's existing fare structures, coupled with the overall complexity of the AG-H system, confusion amongst passengers is high.

The confusion and complexity contributes to significantly higher rates of fare evasion, lost revenue, and may be a barrier for people in the region from using transit, especially those unfamiliar with the system or public transit in general.

Agassiz-Harrison Fare Structure

In comparison with other similarly sized systems elsewhere in the province, the AG-H fare structure is unnecessarily complicated (there are two zones within the system, and as many as eight different top-ups ranging from \$0.25 to \$1.50). The application of top-ups, combined with different starting fares within the AG-H system, means cash fares vary depending on the direction of travel between Agassiz/Harrison Hot Springs and Chilliwack. The example below provides a sense of the complexity tied to travelling on the AG-H:

Catherine travels from her home in Agassiz and wants to go to Chilliwack Mall. She boards the Route #11 (AG-H) in Agassiz, pays a 2-Zone cash fare of \$3.00 and asks for a transfer. When she arrives in Downtown Chilliwack, she boards a Route #1 bus and shows her transfer before the bus travels towards the Chilliwack Mall. Her total fare for this trip is \$3.00.

For her return trip to Agassiz, Catherine boards a Route #1 bus, pays the Chilliwack system adult fare of \$2.00 and asks for a transfer. Upon arriving in Downtown Chilliwack, Catherine boards the Route #11, shows her transfer and pays an additional 2-Zone top-up of \$1.50. The total fare for her return trip is \$3.50, 50 cents more than her trip coming in.

The complexity of the fare structure, compounded by the number of potential top-ups, is increasing instances of fare evasion and negatively impacting revenue. As of August 2016, fare evasion on the AG-H was reported as high as 6% of all total rides, three times higher than the Chilliwack system (2%), and more than twice as high as the provincial average (2.5%). Anecdotal evidence suggests the majority of fare evasions are riders who simply do not understand the two zone system and unintentionally underpay. Operators, not knowing boarding passengers destination, are similarly unaware of any underpayment.

While a multi-zone system is designed to capture the maximum amount of revenue per passenger, the reality is the complex AG-H fare structure has the reverse, adverse effect. The problem is exacerbated by operators lacking a defined system for enforcing multi-zone fares and BC Transit operations policies aimed at minimizing conflict between operators and riders. In what is effectively an honour system, neither the rider nor the operator is aware of any fare evasion, which means the actual percentage of fare evasion is likely higher than the reported 6%.

BC Transit Fare Structure Review Options

The timing of BC Transit's review coincides with the introduction of a new sub-regional transit service between Hope and Agassiz in September, 2017 – and with it, the potential for another distinct fare structure within the regional transit network which could further exacerbate the already complex fare structure regime. This review proposes three different fare structures, each with the objective of

creating a more regional and user friendly experience for transit riders, while also maximizing revenue and ridership. In each of these options, zones have been removed, as well as streamlining the fare product offering.

In comparison with the existing structure, Option 1 would have the greatest impact on revenue. However, it would most closely align with the Chilliwack system and further simplify transfers by removing the requirement for top-ups when transferring from the Chilliwack system to the AG-H. BC Transit recommends that the FVRD consider removing this particular top-up, regardless of the fare option chosen. Option 2 would also decrease the base fare but have an impact revenue, although less so than Option 1. Option 3 is closest to the existing structure, and unlike the first two options would have a positive effect on revenue. All proposed structures would introduce a Day Pass, currently unavailable within the existing structure.

Table 1: BC Transit Proposed Fare Structure Options

Fare Product	Audience	Current Structure (1 Zone/2 Zone)	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Cash	Adult	\$2.50/\$3.00	\$2.00	\$2.25	\$2.50
	Discount	\$1.50/\$2.00	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Day Pass	All	Not Available	\$4.00	\$4.50	\$5.00
Tickets (10)	All	\$22.50/\$27.00	\$18.00	\$20.25	\$22.50
	Discount	\$13.50/\$18.00	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Monthly Pass	Adult	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
	Discount	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00

Discounted Fares

Currently, age-based discounts are available in all fare products categories (cash fare, ticket sheets, and monthly passes). The amount discounted from the base fare varies by fare product, ranging from 30% on cash fares to 36% on monthly passes. The age-based discounts available within the existing AG-H fare structure exceed the discounts offered on other similarly sized systems elsewhere within the province and are *more than double* those recommended by BC Transit Fare Guidelines.

With regards to BC Transit’s proposed fare structures, age-based discounts for cash fares and ticket sheets have been eliminated in all three options, while discounted monthly passes remain. The removal of discounted cash fares and ticket sheets is consistent with BC Transit’s Fare Strategy with fewer

products making it easier for customers to understand and use, and simpler for vendors to promote and sell.

While having fewer fare products supports a less confusing rider experience, it also means that students and seniors who currently pay a discounted cash fare would be required to pay the full base fare (on average, an additional \$1.00 per trip), or purchase a discounted monthly pass. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the majority of riders utilizing the age-based discount are students who use the service daily to travel into Chilliwack from Agassiz or Harrison. Given these students regular ridership, the removal of the discounted cash fare will provide an incentive for riders to switch to monthly passes. While a monthly pass has a higher upfront cost, it offers riders a larger discount than the existing discounted cash fare and would provide greater savings over a full month's use. For example, rider who currently pays the discounted 2-zone cash fare would save \$9.00 each month by switching to a monthly pass. From BC Transit's perspective, a higher proportion of monthly passes provides more consistent revenue and reduces fare collection costs.

Zones and Top Ups

As mentioned earlier, multiple zones attempt to capture the maximum amount of revenue per rider. However, the general confusion with AG-H zones likely has the opposite effect on revenue through unintentional but routine fare evasion. BC Transit's fare strategy moving forward recommends multiple fare zones within a transit system should be avoided.

All of the proposed fare structure options for the AG-H system are based on a one-zone system and the removal of top ups. It is BC Transit's position that a simplified fare structure will decrease the frequency of fare evasions and underpayments, with that *recaptured* revenue offsetting revenue lost through the elimination of top ups. BCT estimates that recaptured revenue could total approximately \$2,800 per year. Without complete confidence in the current fare evasion rate (6%), it is likely recaptured revenue could exceed BCT's conservative projection.

Fare structure reviews are occurring increasingly throughout the province, recent reviews include the Kelowna (and surrounding areas), the Sunshine Coast and the City of Kamloops. In each of these reviews, the simplification of fare structures (removal of zones and fewer fare products) have resulted in increased revenues and ridership. The table below details the Capital Regional District's nine-year transition towards a simplified fare structure.

Table 2: Simplified Fare Structure Transition – Victoria (2007-2016)

Performance Measure	2007	2010	2013	2016
Number of Fare Options	13	9	7	5
Fare Products Sold by Vendors	8	6	5	3
Number of Zones	2	1	1	1
Transfers	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ³
Fare Revenue ^{1,2}	\$26.9m	\$30.5m	\$32.1m	\$33.4m
Ridership ¹	22.4m	24.8m	25.0m	25.1m
Average Fare ¹	\$1.36	\$1.39	\$1.46	\$1.48
Pre-paid Fare Revenue	67%	69%	74%	77%

1. For the fiscal year following the fare change
2. Excludes BC Bus Pass and other miscellaneous fare revenue
3. Transfers only permitted with the use of a Day Pass.

Alignment with Local Services

A key item in the consideration of the different fare structure options for the AG-H is their alignment with other transit services in the region, including Chilliwack and the soon to be implemented Hope service. The current Adult cash fare in each of these local services has been outlined below.

Table 3: Comparison of All Local Adult Cash Fares

System	Adult Cash Fare
Agassiz-Harrison	\$2.50 (1 Zone) \$3.00 (2 Zone)
Central Fraser Valley	\$2.25
Chilliwack	\$2.00
Hope	TBD

As noted in the example above, the differences between the current AG-H and Chilliwack fare structures mean that a passenger can pay two different prices for the same trip, depending on the direction of travel. Without a consistent fare structure across the different local systems, riders will continue to experience a disconnected, confusing regional transit network. With the addition of Hope and the potential for yet another top up requirement, the current issues with unintentional underpayment and lost revenue is likely to become worse, especially as the overall regional network becomes larger and increasingly complex.

Revenue

Any change to or simplification of the existing fare structure will have an impact on revenue, and this impact varies according to the details of each option proposed by BC Transit. The tables below outline the projected qualitative impact for each option, including the specific impact on each of the Regional District's local partners.

Table 4: Projected Impact on Ridership and Revenue by Community

Local Partner	Share Of Total Cost	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
		-\$7,443 (-10%)	-\$2,995 (-4%)	+\$962 (+1%)
Village of Harrison Hot Springs	32%	-\$2,382	-\$958	+\$308
District of Kent	36%	-\$2,679	-\$1,078	+\$346
City of Chilliwack	25%	-\$1,861	-\$749	+\$241
Electoral Area "D"	7%	-\$521	-\$210	+\$67

COST

The financial impact of simplifying the fare structure will only be known once local partners agree which fare option to implement. The staff recommendation to implement Option #3 results in expected minimal net revenue impact.

CONCLUSION

As the Hope service progresses towards implementation, there is a window of opportunity to establish a simplified fare structure to support alignment with the AG-H in the short term, and at some future point alignment with the Chilliwack system. A simplified AG-H fare structure aligned to the structure in Hope would be consistent with BC Transit's Fare Strategy and would represent a significant step towards an improved rider experience.

Given the known fare structure issues on the AG-H and the timing of the Hope service implementation, BC Transit and staff recommend that the Board support the introduction of fare structure Option 3, which removes zones and the requirement for top ups (including transfers from the Chilliwack system). Option 3 would establish a base cash fare of \$2.50, with an age-based discount available through monthly passes, BC Transit's preferred revenue source.

Figure 1: Recommended Fare Structure - Option 3

Fares <small>subject to change</small>	
Cash	
All fares	2.50
Child, 4 or under	free
Tickets (10)	
All fares	22.50
DayPASS	
All fares	5.00
Monthly Pass	
Adult	55.00
Student/Senior*	35.00
<small>* Reduced fare with valid LD. for persons 65 and over, and students in full-time attendance to Grade 12.</small>	

COMMENT BY:

Alison Stewart, Manager of Strategic Planning

Reviewed and supported.

Barclay Pitkethly, Director of Regional Programs

Reviewed and supported.

Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

Reviewed and supported.

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed and supported

Appendix A: Current Chilliwack and AG-H Fare Structures (BC Transit Rider's Guide)

Chilliwack Fares		subject to change
Cash		
Adult		\$ 2.00
Student/Senior*		1.75
Child, 4 or under		free
Tickets (10)		
Adult		18.00
Student/Senior*		15.75
DayPASS		
Adult		5.00
Student/Senior*		4.00
Monthly Pass		
Adult		44.00
Student/Senior*		35.00
Semester Pass		
Student Semester Pass*		112.00
* Reduced fare with valid I.D. for persons 65 or over, and students in full-time attendance to Grade 12.		

Agassiz-Harrison Fares			subject to change
Cash			
	Zone 1	Zone 2	
Adult/College**	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.00	
Student/Senior*	1.50	2.00	
Child, 4 or under	Free	Free	
Tickets (10)			
Adult/College**	22.50	27.00	
Student/Senior*	13.50	18.00	
Monthly Pass			
Adult/College**		55.00	
Student/Senior*		35.00	
Fare Agassiz-Harrison to Chilliwack			
Passengers can transfer onto the Chilliwack Transit System at the downtown Exchange. Pay the fare on the Agassiz-Harrison bus and ask for a transfer. Show your transfer or UFV U-PASS when you board any Chilliwack bus.			
Fare Chilliwack to Agassiz-Harrison			
When transferring onto the Agassiz-Harrison bus, please show the Chilliwack transfer or your UFV U-PASS and pay the difference in fares.			
Top up to Agassiz-Harrison			
	Zone 1	Zone 2	
Transfer +			
Adult/College**	1.00	1.50	
Student/Senior*	0.25	0.75	
Monthly Pass +			
Adult/College**	1.00	1.50	
Student/Senior*	0.50	1.00	
* Reduced fare with valid I.D. for persons 65 or over, and students in full-time attendance to Grade 12.			
** College includes UFV U-PASS students.			

For municipal purposes the Village has 3 rate classes of property; the proposed allocation between these assessment classes for 2017 is as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Tax Revenue</u>	<u>%</u>
Residential (1)	\$1,219,829	62%
Business (6)	\$ 656,387	33%
Recreation/Non-profit (8)	\$ 101,444	5%
	<u>\$1,977,660</u>	<u>100%</u>

Schedule I of the attached bylaw outlines the tax rates for 2017 General Municipal Purposes.

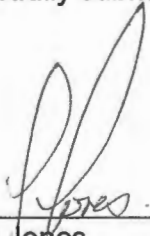
Regional District and Hospital District rates are determined by the Fraser Valley Regional District and the taxes are collected by the municipality on their behalf. Schedule II of the attached bylaw outlines the rates levied for Regional District and Regional Hospital District services per \$1,000 of assessed taxable property value.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1105, 2017 be given first, second and third reading.

Respectfully submitted;

REVIEWED BY:



Tracey Jones
Financial Officer



Madeline McDonald
Chief Administrative Officer



VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
BYLAW NO. 1105

A Bylaw to establish tax rates for 2017

The Council of the Village of Harrison Hot Springs, in open meeting, lawfully assembled, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The following rates are hereby imposed and levied for the year 2017.
 - (a) For all lawful general purposes of the municipality on the assessed value of land and improvements taxable for general municipal purposes, rates appearing in Schedule I attached hereto and forming a part of this bylaw.
 - (b) For Regional Hospital District purposes on the full assessed value of all land and assessed value of all improvements taxable for Regional Hospital District purposes, rates appearing in Column "A" of Schedule II attached hereto and forming a part of this bylaw.
 - (c) For Regional District purposes on the full assessed value of all land and assessed value of all improvements taxable for Regional Hospital District purposes, rates appearing in Column "B" of Schedule II attached hereto and forming a part of this bylaw.
2. The minimum amount of taxation upon a parcel of real property shall be one dollar (\$1.00).
3. This bylaw may be cited as "Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1105, 2017."
4. Tax Rate Bylaw No. 1085, 2016 is hereby repealed.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS DAY OF APRIL, 2017.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS DAY OF APRIL, 2017.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS DAY OF APRIL, 2017.

ADOPTED THIS DAY OF MAY, 2017.

Mayor

Corporate Officer

BYLAW NO. 1105, 2017

SCHEDULE I

GENERAL MUNICIPAL PURPOSES

PROPERTY CLASS	TAX RATES (DOLLARS OF TAX PER \$1,000 TAXABLE VALUE)
	GENERAL MUNICIPAL
1. Residential	3.07997
2. Utilities	10.77990
3. Supportive Housing	3.07997
4. Major Industry	10.47190
5. Light Industry	10.47190
6. Business/Other	9.79430
7. Managed Forest Land	9.23991
8. Recreation/Non Profit	12.84347
9. Farm	3.07997

BYLAW NO. 1105, 2017

SCHEDULE II

PROPERTY CLASS	TAX RATES (DOLLARS OF TAX PER \$1,000 TAXABLE VALUE)		
	A REGIONAL HOSPITAL	B REGIONAL DISTRICT	TOTAL
1. Residential	.16590	.25194	.41784
2. Utilities	.58065	.88179	1.46244
3. Supportive Housing	.16590	.25194	.41784
4. Major Industry	.56406	.85660	1.42066
5. Light Industry	.56406	.85660	1.42066
6. Business/Other	.40646	.61725	1.02371
7. Managed Forest Land	.49770	.75582	1.25352
8. Recreation/Non Profit	.16590	.25194	.41784
9. Farm	.16590	.25194	.41784