

# **STAFF REPORT**

TO:	Transit Select Committee	MEETING:	September 19, 2019
FROM:	Darren Marshall Manager, Transit Operations	FILE:	8500 03 CTE

SUBJECT: Christmas Day Sunday Level Service Conventional Transit 2019

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Conventional Transit on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019, be provided at Sunday level of service.

#### SUMMARY

At the June 25, 2019, Regular Board meeting, the Board supported a Transit Holiday Schedule allowing riders to access transit on a Sunday level service for New Year's Day, Good Friday and Christmas Day starting in January 1, 2020. However, this may present confusion with riders as there is no service offered for Christmas in 2019 and there may be a level of expectation that service will be provided. The extra day of service for 2019, will support customers who rely on transit to visit family or work.

The Transit Service has enough annual transit hours in the current 2018/2019 Annual Operating Agreement with BC Transit to provide transit service on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019.

## BACKGROUND

At the June 25, 2019, Regular Board meeting, the following motion was approved:

It was moved and seconded that New Year's Day, Good Friday and Christmas Day be included in the Transit Holiday Schedule at a Sunday level service effective in the 2020 transit expansion plan and that the budget be increased by \$47,979.

On most statutory holidays,<sup>1</sup> the RDN Transit Service operates at a Sunday level of service, which equates to 170 hours per Sunday level of service. There is no additional cost to this request. The 170 hours required for Sunday level service on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019, will come from reserve hours. The reserve hours are accumulated hours found through efficiencies from moving the downtown Nanaimo transit exchange from Prideaux Street to the temporary location at 1 Port Drive. At the end of 2019 there will be approximately 1,800 hours

<sup>1</sup> 

Other Sunday level service on statutory holidays provided 2019: Family Day, Victoria Day, Canada Day, B.C. Day, Labour Day, Thanksgiving Day and Remembrance Day.

held in reserves by BC Transit. These hours will be reallocated into the transit service once a permanent location for the downtown exchange is decided.

# ALTERNATIVES

- 1. That Conventional Transit on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019, be provided at Sunday level of service.
- 2. That alternative direction be provided.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no additional cost to this request. The 170 hours needed for Sunday level service on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019, will come from reserve hours. The reserve hours are accumulated hours found through efficiencies from moving the downtown Nanaimo transit exchange from Prideaux Street to the temporary location at 1 Port Drive, Nanaimo. At the end of 2019 there will be approximately 1,800 annual hours held in reserves by BC Transit. These hours will be reallocated into the transit service once a permanent location for the downtown exchange is decided.

## STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Transportation and Transit - Provide opportunities for residents to move effectively through and around the Region.

anhall

Darren Marshall dmarshall@rdn.bc.ca August 14, 2019

Reviewed by:

- D. Pearce, Director Transportation and Emergency Services
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer