



Gabriola Island Taxi Saver Contribution Agreement 2021 - 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That the Gabriola Island Taxi Saver Contribution Agreement with People for a Healthy Community be approved for a five-year term from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2025.

BACKGROUND

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) established Bylaw No. 1725, 'Gabriola Island Taxi Saver Contribution Service Establishment' for the purpose of providing a contribution toward the operation of a Taxi Saver Program on Gabriola Island, to provide transportation assistance to residents of Gabriola Island who are persons with disabilities or seniors with low incomes. Eligible residents purchase taxi saver tickets from the People for a Healthy Community ("the Society"), \$60 worth of tickets for \$30, a 50% discount. The taxi saver tickets are then used as currency for a taxi trip when the eligible rider needs transportation.

In 2016, the RDN and the Society entered into a funding agreement to provide financial contribution for Taxi Saver services to eligible residents of Gabriola Island. This established service is known as the Gabriola Taxi Saver program and the original agreement expired December 31, 2020. The People for a Healthy Community has requested for the RDN to provide a new agreement, for another five-year term commencing January 1, 2021, ending December 31, 2025 (Attachment 1).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Total budget for the Gabriola Taxi Saver program remains at \$8,000 annually for the five-year term. This includes administration costs of \$1,650 in addition to an annual cost of living allowance (COLA) of 2% beginning January 1, 2022, as well as up to \$6,000 annually in taxi cost reimbursements. These costs are included in the 2021 Financial Plan for Board approval.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

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

REVIEWED BY:

D. Marshall, Manager, Transit Operations

D. Pearce, General Manager, Transportation and Emergency Services

P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. People for a Healthy Community Agreement 2021 to 2025