

MEDIA RELEASE
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ONLINE TRANSIT TRIP PLANNER LAUNCHED IN ABBOTSFORD AND MISSION

CENTRAL FRASER VALLEY – Taking the bus in the City of Abbotsford and in the District of Mission just got easier for anyone with access to a computer, tablet or smartphone thanks to the expansion of an online transit trip-planning tool.

The Transit Trip Planner is a public transportation planning tool that combines the latest BC Transit schedule and route information with the power of Google Transit and maps. It is a free service that makes trip planning quick and easy for everyone.

The timing of the trip planner comes as the new **Route #66 Fraser Valley Express (FVX)** has recently begun its inter-regional service, linking Chilliwack and Abbotsford to Langley.

In the Central Fraser Valley, BC Transit provided nearly 2.4 million passenger trips in 2013/14. The introduction of both the FVX and the Transit Trip Planner will encourage ridership growth, by demonstrating that public transportation is a convenient and reliable alternative to single occupancy vehicles.

“This is a free service that makes trip planning quick and easy, combining the latest BC Transit schedule and route information with Google, and I encourage everyone to check out how simple it is to use,” said Abbotsford-Mission MLA Simon Gibson.

“We all have our familiar transit routes, but using the trip-planning tool on Google can easily take us to new and different places in our communities,” said Chilliwack-Hope MLA Laurie Throness.

“Trip planners like this one are in use in cities around the world, so it’s wonderful for the people of Abbotsford to have access to this tool,” said Abbotsford Mayor, Henry Braun. “The Transit Trip Planner is an added benefit alongside our recently expanded FVX service, making travel even more expedient and convenient for members of our community.”

“This is a really good thing. It’s great for all our local and regional citizens to have access to this trip planner right at their fingertips, said Mission Councillor Pam Alexis. “Transit is key to the future of transportation across our community and the region, and we’re really happy to see this service launched.”

“Transit customers are demanding user-friendly route information,” said BC Transit President and CEO Manuel Achadinha. “This technology gives existing and new customers a convenient and simple to use tool to plan their transit trips.”

For more information on transit in the Central Fraser Valley, please consult our website <http://bctransit.com/central-fraser-valley/home> and click on the Trip Planner link.

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