

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

December 2, 2011

Customer Information: 250.832.0191

Website: www.bctransit.com

BC TRANSIT CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN THE SHUSWAP REGION

SALMON ARM, B.C. – Today in Salmon Arm, BC Transit celebrated 20 years of service in the Shuswap Region. Since the inception of service to Salmon Arm in 1991, BC Transit has seen an incredible growth in ridership, and service has expanded several times to meet the rising demand for transit throughout the region.

“For 20 years, BC Transit has grown along with the Salmon Arm community providing convenient service that makes life easier for residents and helps protect the environment,” said Shuswap MLA George Abbott.

In attendance at the event were BC Transit Senior Regional Transit Manager Steve Harvard and City of Salmon Arm Councillor Chad Eliason. Also celebrating were representatives from the transit operating company, First Canada ULC.

“The Shuswap Transit service provides an important role in shaping the future of Salmon Arm as we address climate change and growth in the community. This service demonstrates how Salmon Arm effectively partners with the Columbia Shuswap Regional District and BC Transit to provide much needed transit service within the City and surrounding rural communities and First Nations,” said Councillor Eliason. “Together, we have made transit a service that benefits all, from youth to seniors, and that represents the heart of the Shuswap.”

In the first year of service in Salmon Arm, BC Transit carried 3,000 passengers. Today, more than 117,000 passengers a year in communities throughout the Shuswap Region make BC Transit their sustainable transportation choice.

“We are proud to be celebrating this 20-year milestone and the significant growth in service and ridership in the Shuswap Region with our local partners and the community,” said Manuel Achadinha, President and CEO of BC Transit. “We look forward to continuing to work together to offer the best value for our customers.”

In 20 years, the fleet has quadrupled from 2 vehicles to 8, and routes have expanded from 3 to 8. In this time adult fares have gone up a quarter, from \$1.25 to \$1.50, and adult handyDART fares from \$1.50 to \$1.75.

More information on the Shuswap Regional Transit System can be found at www.bctransit.com.

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