



Date/Time:
April 12, 2023 / 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Chairs: Jim Brown, Tonia LaRiviere

In Attendance:

Adam Kinney (Dedicated Accessible Transit Service (DATS))
Allyson Szafranski (City of Edmonton Transportation)
Chris Ryan (Community Advocate)
Curtis Maile (City of Grande Prairie Transit)
Colleen McGann (Community Advocate)
Dan Pederson (Fair Calgary Community Voices)
Douglas Barns (Calgary Transit Access)
Jim Brown (Community Advocate)

Kayla Eichelt (Winder Inclusive Community Services)
Margot Brunner (Voice of Albertans with Disabilities)
Meri Topchieva (Alberta Ability Network)
Mezaun Lakha-Evin (Alberta Ability Network)
Paul Schmold (City of Edmonton)
Sam Mason (Voices of Albertans with Disabilities)
Shannon Mills (Developmental Disabilities Resource Centre)
Taylor Bauer (Canadian National Institute for the Blind)
Toni Freimark (City of Medicine Hat)

Meeting Minutes

Welcome
Land Acknowledgement
Breakout Rooms
Meeting Considerations
Review of meeting minutes

Spotlight Presentation:

CTA Eligibility Criteria

- Doug met with the representative from the eligibility department and no changes have been made.
- If there was an eligibility change in CTA, the community would be notified.
- The representative is doing an investigation to see if there's an increase in denial rates.
- Doug has received the contact information for the person who inquired about eligibility changes.

CTA Report: February

- 100, 139 trips requested.
- 13,885 unaccommodated.85,724 trips provided.
- All trips plus ACE - 86,589.
- On-time performance - 90.52%.

- No change in onboard times but requested trips have gone back up to almost pre-pandemic levels.
- Beginning April 15, 2023, the weekend group day pass will be available every weekend on My Fare, Transit, our trip planning app, or from ticket vending machines at train stations.
- The price of the weekend group day pass is \$15 and it's valid for unlimited travel on a weekend day for groups of up to five people including up to two adults.
- A personal caretaker is allowed on CTA and does not pay.

DATS report: March

- Trips completed – 67,711.
- Overall time performance - 92.29%.
- Call wait time - 3.58%.
- Steady but slow growth in ridership, March has been the highest volume as of yet.

DATS Strike Update

- A strike vote does not mean that a strike will happen, but that it may. This is a natural occurrence during the collective bargaining process.
- There has not been a strike vote called yet, currently under active negotiations.
- This table will not be writing a letter to Edmonton City Councilors asking for this situation to be dealt with quickly as we want all participants of the table to participate.
- Other individual organizations, such as VAD, have already put out a statement in support of DATS workers separate from this table.

Barrier Free Alberta presentation

- BFA is targeting all candidates running for the Provincial election parties, and recommending they put accessibility legislation on their platforms.
- We have sent emails to all Chambers of Commerce throughout Alberta and Community Associations in Calgary to spread the word amongst all communities and book meetings with BFA for further clarification.
- We have 2 different types of posters, one for candidates and one for the public. Information is different as the 2 different demographics are focused on different topics.
- We are currently booking meetings with the Chambers of Commerce throughout Alberta, MLAs and candidates. More updates will be provided once we meet with them.
- BFA has created a monthly newsletter that will be sent to all supporters that register above.
- A social media blitz is being developed.
- We need to share this information outside the disability sector.
- Accessibility legislation largely helps people with disabilities, but it helps everyone in general. For example, plain language helps people with intellectual disabilities, but it will also help a person whose first language isn't English.

- If you haven't already, please sign up as a supporter at the following link
<https://www.barrierfreeab.ca/support>

National AccessAbility Week planning

- National AccessAbility Week is an opportunity to celebrate the valuable contributions and leadership of Canadians with disabilities, highlight the work of people, organizations and communities that are removing barriers and reflect on ongoing efforts to become a better, more accessible, more inclusive Canada.
- This year, National AccessAbility Week will take place from May 28 to June 3, 2023.
- The Barrier-Free Alberta campaign will be used as the National AccessAbility Week campaign as it highlights the removal of barriers and encourages a more accessible and inclusive Canada.

Calgary Fair Community Voices Update

- Monitoring the issues surrounding the provincial low-income pass.

Action items:

- If you haven't already, please sign up as a supporter at the following link
<https://www.barrierfreeab.ca/support>
- Once we start our meetings again in September, we will revisit our ask for the snow-clearing campaign.

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

Next meeting:

Date: May 10, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: Zoom