



January 2015

Dear Mayors and Councils of Metro Victoria and members of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board:

First, let me congratulate you on your election in November 2014. As an elected local government representative of a community within the Victoria Region, I would like to provide you with information on the Victoria Regional Transit System and your transit operator, BC Transit.

BC Transit is a Crown corporation established by the provincial government to support local investment in transit services across the province (excluding the Metro Vancouver area served by TransLink). To do this, we work in partnership with local governments across British Columbia, providing over 130 communities with transit systems for their residents. In addition to the mobility benefits provided by public transit, this valuable service reduces environmental impacts and infrastructure costs for local communities.

In the Victoria Region, the Victoria Regional Transit Commission (Commission) is the local government representative for the Victoria Region and is legislatively responsible for approving transit routes and service levels. Under the existing legislation (*BC Transit Act*), the seven Commission members are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. They include the Mayors and one Councillor each from Victoria and Saanich, the Mayor of either Esquimalt or Oak Bay, and one Mayor each from the Western Shore Communities and the Peninsula. The Chair of the Commission is Susan Brice, Councillor for Saanich.

In addition to approving bus routes and service levels, the Commission is also responsible for setting fares and reviewing annual operating budgets and capital spending. You can learn more about the Commission and Transit Future plans for the Victoria Region on our website at www.bctransit.com.

If you would like to receive a presentation about public transit services in the Victoria Region, please contact me personally by phone, 250 995-5680, or email, manuel_achadinha@bctransit.com, and I will arrange for one of our team members to follow up with you.

For your information, I have also enclosed a copy of the *BC Transit Advantage* which summarizes the many benefits of public transit offered through BC Transit.

We look forward to continuing to work with our local partners to provide an efficient and effective public transit system that will connect the people and communities within the Victoria Region.

Sincerely,

Manuel Achadinha
President and Chief Executive Officer

