

# CONNECTING BC:

## A 10-year vision for public transit throughout BC



### Election Priorities

- Develop an inter-community express bus service to connect communities throughout BC
- Eliminate privatization for better wages/benefits for workers and better services for users
- Provide free Transit for Teens



### Expand free transit

Expand existing free transit programs to youth aged 13 to 18. Free transit programs should also expand to cover people on social assistance who are not already included in the BC Bus Pass program.



### Province-wide express bus

Connect BC communities everywhere through a new province-wide express bus service. A province-wide public transit network will improve mobility for people in small towns and rural areas – making it easier to get healthcare and other services, visit family or go on vacation. And stronger transit connections across BC would have a big impact on tourism.

### Expand HandyDART across BC

Expand HandyDART service province-wide with an upgraded electric fleet. Stop contracting with private companies for services and using taxis instead of buses. Expanding HandyDART – including in small towns, rural and Indigenous communities – will bring new minibuses, cars and vans, and new public facilities and maintenance centres to communities across BC.



### Integrate all these transit pieces

Integrate all these transit pieces into a seamless, coordinated and coherent transit experience – with one-ticket access and synchronized service and information infrastructure, so riders can make connections efficiently and reliably across systems and get the updates they need for their whole trip quickly and easily.



### Develop new regional rail corridors

Develop new regional rail connections across the South Coast and Vancouver Island along historic rail corridors, in partnership with First Nations communities along the rail lines.

- Restoring rail to Prince George via Squamish & Whistler
- Restoring the Vancouver Island Rail Corridor for both passenger and freight services.
- Repurposing the historic Interurban corridor from Langley to Chilliwack via Abbotsford.
- Expanding the West Coast Express to regular daily service, and extending the service area to Abbotsford.

### Passenger ferry options

Add new passenger ferry options between Vancouver, the Gulf Islands, Sunshine Coast and Vancouver Island. New passenger ferries will dramatically increase capacity for BC Ferries at much lower cost, while providing a superior passenger experience.



### Accelerate Translink's ten year plan

Accelerate TransLink's 10-year Access for Everyone plan for Metro Vancouver. Rolling out most investments in TransLink's plan over the next five years instead of 10 will help clear congestion and begin shifting housing and other development.

### Double, triple the local buses

Double the number of buses in BC Transit local services within five years and triple it within ten. With more regular, extensive services that people know they can rely on, ridership will grow over time as people shift their habits. Targeted, customized services including community shuttle services, on-demand rides, car sharing and bike sharing can supplement fixed routes for the “first/last mile” challenges.