

RURAL / URBAN TRANSPORTATION ISSUES
Meeting Minutes
2003 December 04
Calgary Transit Spring Gardens

Paul Siller	Rocky View Regional Handibus
Geoff Elliott	Springbank
Randy Ell	MD of Rocky View FCSS
Monica Whitridge	Calgary Health Region
Jo Tenant	Town of Crossfield
Stephen Hansen	Calgary Transit

1. Minutes

P. Siller did not have an opportunity to prepare a letter requesting rural municipalities commitment to this initiative.

2. Review

P. Siller received a letter from the Headwaters Health Authority supporting the Rural/Urban Transportation Issues Committee initiative.

Committee members suggested a number of other organizations that could be approached to obtain their support. For example: Canadian Paraplegic Association, Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian Kidney Foundation, Arthritis Society, and Southern Alberta Renal Centre.

P. Siller spoke to Rick Butler, the new executive director for the Calgary Regional Partnership. The Partnership has approved \$30,000 toward a transportation study subject to ratification by member municipalities. P. Siller will be meeting with Rick Butler to discuss the project. Material will be circulated to committee members.

P. Siller mentioned that there might be a chance to receive a matching \$30,000 grant from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

3. Alberta Specialized Transportation Survey

P. Siller has undertaken the survey on behalf of Rocky View Regional Handi-Bus Society. Responses have been received from 35 organizations. The results confirm that there are other organizations experiencing the same problems. A couple of interesting points: few respondents felt the province was supportive of accessible/specialized transportation services, on the other hand, most respondents felt their municipalities were supportive.

P. Siller sent a letter to 10 provincial government ministers along with a copy of the survey results. In addition, emails were sent to most MLA offices with a link to the survey results.

G. Elliott suggested separating the results for the rural areas surrounding Calgary.

4. Next Steps

Contact service providers from the region, including the Health Region to apprise of results.

Develop terms of reference for transportation study. The study will need to be solution focused that addresses the needs of multiple municipalities/stakeholders. Set-up a meeting with Calgary Regional Partnership to discuss strategy for moving forward.

Website for transportation study is
<http://www.rockyviewbus.ca/docs/2003abspectransurvey.pdf>

5. Other Business

Research other successful initiatives within the province that we may pattern our approach on. R. Ell noted the example of the Family and Community Support Service Association lobbying against making FCSS funding unconditional.

G. Elliott, on behalf of the Committee, thanked P. Siller for all his work as Chairman of the group and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on 2003 February 05 at Calgary Transit Spring Gardens Administration Building (928 32 AV NE), Boardroom 104.

Prepared by
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Calgary Transit
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