



# Kings Transit



NS Planning Directors Conference  
Halifax NS, May 16, 2008



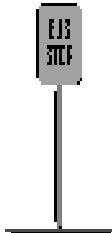
# Kings Transit

- Incorporated in 1981 with four municipal units coming together to offer Transit Services from Wolfville to Kentville.
- Town of Wolfville
- Town of Kentville
- Town of Berwick
- The Municipality of the County of Kings



# Kings Transit

- Kings Transit and NS Health Promotion and Protection are proud to partner, working together to improve the overall health of our communities and citizens. Using a form of active transportation (walking, biking, skateboarding, etc.) to get to and from the bus stop will increase your level of physical activity and result in individual health benefits. Choosing to ride the bus rather than drive a car will decrease some of the harmful environmental and noise pollutions, as well as traffic congestion. The smart choice is the easy choice. Make physical activity part of your daily routine.
- June is recreation month; ride your bike and ride the bus free during June





# Kings Transit

- We offer transit to Annapolis and Digby Counties (through service agreements).
- They recently purchased two new buses using the federal gas tax monies.
- They own the buses and we provide the service.
- These are low floor, wheel chair accessible buses offering transit to riders with disabilities that would otherwise not have an affordable means of transportation.



Recent  
purchase  
by Digby  
County,  
July 2007



# Kings Transit



- Role of Public Transit
- “Sustainable Development represents a balance between fulfillment of human needs and the protection of the natural environment, allowing these needs to be met indefinitely.”
- With Annapolis and Digby County’s purchase of these new low floor accessible buses, we can now offer riders freedom, independence and quality of life that everyone deserves.



# Kings Transit

- We recently expanded into Hants County with a trial service with the collaboration of:
  - Town of Windsor
  - Town of Hantsport
  - Municipality of the District of West Hants
  - And Kings County
- We now offer service from Weymouth to Brooklyn, NS, over 300 kms of routes.





# Feeder Buses

- First of two new feeder buses for the Hants County Service.
- In service December 8<sup>th</sup>.





# Kings Transit

- Very spacious in side, incredible leg room.
- Sits 24 passengers with 2 wheel chairs.
- Easier on fuel, easier to drive on smaller country roads.





# Feeder Buses



- Wheel Chair lift on rear side of the bus.
- We're able to fit two passengers with wheel chairs.



# Kings Transit

- Sustainable development in the context of transit recognizes the importance of :
- Protecting the Environment
- Protecting the Ecosystems
- Improving health and quality of life
- Strengthening the economy
- Ensuring responsible production & consumption.

# Transportation Management

## ■ ***DEMAND MANAGEMENT***

- ❖ Influence travel behaviour - encourage walking, cycling, car pooling
- ❖ Focus on efficient land-use planning

Credit: Regional Municipality of Halifax



- ❖ Sustainability addresses supply and demand
- ❖ Makes best use of all transportation modes



# Supply Management



Credit: Fiona Higgs

- ❖ Increase pedestrian circulation
- ❖ Encourage cycling
- ❖ Improve public transit



Photo credit: Town of Stony Plain, AB

# Energy Management

- ❖ Energy efficiency and conservation
- ❖ Energy conservation strategies
- ❖ Energy substitution



# Infrastructure Optimization

- ❖ Making the best use of existing physical infrastructure
- ❖ Reduces need for new infrastructure, which creates cost savings





## ***Sustainability Issues***

- Climate change
- Rising transportation fuel costs
- Increasing Costs of personal vehicle transportation
- Aging population, students, people with special needs, etc

## ***Design Solution***

### **Public transit service started in 1981: KINGS TRANSIT**

- Buses run daily between Weymouth and Hants County (360km)
- Grown to 1500 passengers per day = 360,000 per year. Ridership growing.
- Highly affordable (\$3 flat rate) and still offers 64% cost recovery for Towns.
- Wheelchair accessible buses and bike rack equipped

## ***Positive Outcomes***

- **Environmental:** lower GHG emissions
- **Economic:** improved access to local businesses & services
- **Social:** greater access to essential services (medical, employment, social,) for underprivileged people; higher quality of life & social inclusion for all users
- Doing Rural Transit study with Mt. Allison University to quantify benefits



# Kings Transit

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