

The transit authority initiated a cost-sharing program in 13 of the smaller BC communities in April 1979. Of the total \$7.3 million operating cost of these transit systems, the authority's contribution to the deficit was expected to be \$3.9 million. Full implementation of the program was expected in April 1980 when transit systems in the metropolitan regions of Vancouver and Victoria would become part of the authority's responsibility.

Expected total operating cost for 1980-81 was projected at \$139 million, with the authority's contribution being about \$68 million of the expected deficit.

The provincial government established the Metro Transit Operating Co., another Crown corporation, in 1979 to be responsible for operating transit services in the metropolitan regions of Vancouver and Victoria under contract to the regional districts and the authority. The new company would assume these responsibilities from the transit division of BC Hydro. The transfer of assets and management of transit operations was planned to take place in April 1980 along with the introduction of local cost-sharing and operating benefits.

The Urban Transit Authority is also responsible for transit research and demonstration projects and for development of a custom transit service program for the handicapped. Cost-sharing agreements were approved in 1979-80 for research studies dealing with rapid transit, para-transit including small buses and shared taxis, and conventional bus systems feasibility in smaller communities. Policy issues on rapid transit, transit for the handicapped and vehicle replacement programs are being addressed by the board of directors.

Sources

- 15.1.1 Public Affairs, Transport Canada; Canadian Transport Commission.
- 15.2 Transportation and Communications Division, Economic Statistics Field, Statistics Canada; Public Relations, VIA Rail Canada Inc.
- 15.2.1 Canadian Transport Commission.
- 15.2.2 Transportation and Communications Division, Economic Statistics Field, Statistics Canada.
- 15.3.1 Public Affairs, Transport Canada.
- 15.3.2 Supplied by respective provincial and territorial governments.
- 15.3.3 Transportation and Communications Division, Economic Statistics Field, Statistics Canada.
- 15.4 - 15.4.1 Transportation and Communications Division, Economic Statistics Field, Statistics Canada; Public Affairs, Transport Canada.
- 15.4.2 Public Affairs, Transport Canada; National Harbours Board.
- 15.4.3 Public Affairs, Transport Canada.
- 15.4.4 The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority.
- 15.4.5 - 15.5.1 Public Affairs, Transport Canada.
- 15.5.2 Canadian Transport Commission and the respective airlines.
- 15.5.3 Transportation and Communications Division, Economic Statistics Field, Statistics Canada.
- 15.6 Public Affairs, Transport Canada and the respective provincial governments.