

## **TRANSIT TRAINING FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND SENIOR LEADERSHIP**

### **February 24th 9:00 am-11:00 am**

### **Virtual**

**Click here to sign up:** <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/transit-training-for-elected-officials-and-senior-leadership-tickets-503404425187>

Are you an elected official or senior staff that has a community transit system or is considering community transit? Are you in support of transit, opposed to transit, or on the fence? Then this workshop is for you! This workshop is designed to give you the tools to understand and evaluate transit for your community.

Southwest Community Transit (SCT) and Dillon Consulting are hosting a workshop for elected officials and senior staff to understand the impacts transit systems in their community. All communities are not created equal and needs vary from community to community. This session will focus on understanding and evaluating the need for transit in your municipality. The session will be offered virtually for 2 hours. It will be an interactive session with time built in for conversation, discussion and questions.

### **Learning outcomes**

- How to determine the value of transit systems in your community
- How to evaluate the need (or not) for transit
- Understanding costs vs. benefits of community transit
- Understanding cost and benefits of inter-community transit

The workshop will be led by Dennis Kar from Dillon Consulting. Dennis has over 18 years of experience in multi-disciplinary transportation projects and leads Dillon's Integrated Mobility Service Line. His expertise is in transit planning, multi-modal transportation planning and mobility management, having successfully directed and participated in numerous studies across the country. He brings an integrated approach to his work, developing dynamic solutions that address mobility needs for various population groups, grounded through a comprehensive and interactive community engagement process.



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### Goal of the Working Session

The goal is to provide training and information to Councillors, senior staff and/or other community leaders in rural municipalities about the role of transit, what to expect, why it is of value and expected benefits to the community.

### Expected Outcome:

Providing Councillors and community leaders a better appreciation of rural transit, presented by an independent third-party professional, will result in leaders that are better informed about transit, including their decision to introduce, enhance or maintain support for public transit in rural municipalities.

### Format

Virtual one and a half to two hour working session that is not open to the public in order to give Councillors and/or senior staff the opportunity to freely interact and ask questions

### Proposed Agenda

**1. What is Transit and Why is it Important in Rural Communities?** Identify different ways in which transit can be provided, the importance of transit, and describe the tangible and intangible benefits:

- equity;
- aging in place;
- supporting youth;
- addressing unemployment and stimulating economic development; and
- encouraging population stability and limiting out-migration.

### 2. Passenger Behaviour

Discuss the role of transit in rural communities (e.g. equity versus mode share) and the minimum service attributes that are required to attract riders and meet its intended purpose.

- service hours to match opportunities to travel;
- reliability;
- frequency;
- accessibility of vehicle and stop;
- maximum walking distance to/from a stop;
- trip booking;
- fares; and
- information and marketing

**3. Typical Costs** What to expect from a cost perspective based on a peer review of other rural systems. Identify typical components that make up operations including costs for the driver, fuel, vehicle, administration, etc. Identify the cost of doing nothing or not having transit.



4. **Service and Operating Models** Review service and operating models to explore and how municipalities can achieve different objectives:

- Fixed-route connecting urban areas;
- On demand;
- Servicing persons with disabilities;
- Integration with community care; and
- Carpooling, ride matching, etc.