

7 May 2018



Busy Spring for Infrastructure Canada

The Government of Canada recently announced new public transit investments in Ontario and Alberta as part of the bilateral agreements for the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund.

The [Toronto Transit Commission](#) (TTC) is receiving more than \$442 million to acquire 1,043 new buses and revitalize 695 current buses. The federal government is also providing [MetroLinx](#) with more than \$93 million to accelerate the purchase of 53 bi-level coaches that will enhance the GO Transit service. Outside the GTA, [Sault Ste. Marie](#) was granted \$2.9 million to buy two new, and eight refurbished 40-foot buses, and upgrade the local transit garage. In Alberta, [Edmonton](#) Transit Service obtained over \$21.5M to purchase up to 40 new electric buses.

Now that the federal government is moving towards the next stage of its infrastructure plan, Minister Sohi held a technical briefing on April 19 to provide an [update](#) on the overall progress of the Investing in Canada plan.

Additionally, the federal government [reached a settlement agreement](#) with Signature on the St. Lawrence (SSL) that ends the lawsuit filed by SSL in Superior Court. The agreement also formalizes the delivery date of the new Champlain Bridge as December 21, 2018. The new Champlain Bridge is particularly important for the construction of the Caisse de dépôt's Réseau express métropolitain (REM).

For more information please contact [Jeff Mackey](#) at 613-782-2454.

CUTA appeared before House Transport Committee

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities is currently undertaking [a study on infrastructure projects](#) and the Investing in Canada Plan.

The study was triggered after the Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) released a [report](#) on the first phase of the government's Investing in Canada Plan. The PBO report raised concerns regarding spending delays and funds leaving federal coffers at a pace slower than expected.

CUTA's Acting President and CEO, Wendy Reuter, appeared before the Committee on April 18 where she delivered an opening statement and answered questions from Members of Parliament. CUTA member TransLink attended the following meeting on April 23rd.

CUTA will continue to monitor this important file and will keep its members updated.

For more information please contact [Jeff Mackey](#) at 613-782-2454.

Top 5 reasons! Why should you attend the New Mobility Symposium 2018?

The [New Mobility Symposium](#) in Vancouver is an exciting opportunity for transit leaders across Canada to come together and learn a uniquely Canadian perspective on how Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) and New Mobility actors can complement and work with their systems.

[Here are the 5 top reasons to attend:](#)

- 1) Experience evidence-based and thoughtful discussions about TNCs and the evolution of urban mobility at this unique and educational event.
- 2) Network, debate and learn! See the [incredible line-up of international speakers](#) from Canada, the U.S. and Europe!
- 3) Attend every presentation offered in [the program](#) as there are no concurrent sessions
- 4) Hear a uniquely Canadian perspective on this issue
- 5) Affordable rate! Attend this event at the [low price point of \\$325](#) for members

Join us in Vancouver, the New Mobility Symposium is a must-attend event! [Register here](#).

For more information, please contact us at conferences@cutaactu.ca.

Destination Vancouver Symposium - Discount Air Fare

Have you booked your Accommodations and Flights for our upcoming [New Mobility Symposium](#)? CUTA has exclusive agreements to make booking your trip a snap! Take advantage of the great discounts to get you to Vancouver! **Valid for travel between June 3 – 21, 2018 to Vancouver.**

For your convenience we have arranged for 2 airline discount codes:

Air Canada: Please visit [Air Canada](#) or call 1-888-247-2262 to take advantage of a 10% discount applied to the fare at the time of purchase.

Promo Code: YH2JDV71

Westjet: We are offering 10% off *Plus base* fares for travel. To take advantage of this offer, you will need the discount code listed below. If you have questions about how to complete a booking online with your discount codes, please check out our [frequently asked questions](#).

Coupon code: X27CS4D

Promo code: *for call in reference only - WEE46

Westjet Changes/cancellations

You can change or cancel reservations within 24 hours of booking at no charge. Further changes or cancellations can be made up to 2 hours prior to the flight; please note additional fees or charges may apply for each person depending on fare class booked and differences in fare. Check out Westjet's [service fees](#) page for more information.

Join us in Vancouver - the New Mobility Symposium is a must-attend event! [Register here](#).

For more information, please contact [Paulina Cadena](#).

Save the Date – Webinar to come!

Webinar 2: Transit experience – Alternative Fuels

After the success of our first webinar in 2018, CUTA's Maintenance and Vehicle Technology Sub-Committee is hosting a second webinar where four transit systems will be presenting on their own experiences with alternative fuels. Date to be confirmed. More information to come soon.

For further questions, please contact [Anita Bayoulou](#) at extension 103.

Accessible Transit Sub-Committee

CUTA's Accessible Transit Sub-Committee (ATC) promotes the effectiveness of public transit and encourages best practices in the industry by way of research and development and the exchange of information in the areas of specialized transit and other accessible transit options. The ATC is now

looking for ideas on its next potential research initiative or project and will be meeting on Wednesday, **May 23rd** to discuss potential topics. Participation is open to all CUTA members.

For more information or to join the committee, please contact [Calvin Chia](#) at extension 112.

CUTA Learning: Introduction to Asset Management for Transit

Are you in need of an Asset Management Plan? [Click here](#) to learn about our Introduction to *Asset Management for Transit* course, and how you can register for a very affordable session near you.

[Transit Planning \(Ottawa, ON\)](#): An in-depth course covering Development Requirements, Service Standards, Intelligent Transportation Systems, and Performance Monitoring. 5 Spots left!

STRADA Transit Operator Recruitment Tool

Are you in need of updating your hiring practices when it comes to bus operators and supervisors? [STRADA is a reliable, integrated hiring solution](#) designed to increase the probability of selecting the best candidates for the position of bus/transit operator, to reduce staff time in the recruitment process and to reduce costs associated with recruitment as well as budget lost through training unsuccessful candidates. At just \$20 per candidate report, we encourage you to take advantage of this tool. Find out how we can help improve your hiring process. Call us now.

For more information, call [Kevin Brown](#) at extension 121 or [Sarah Ingram](#) at extension 115.

CUTA'S CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AND THE FUTURE OF URBAN MOBILITY IN CANADA

A key pillar of CUTA's 2017-2019 Strategic Plan is to establish the organization as a Centre of Excellence (COE) on Transit and Integrated Urban Mobility (IUM), and to show thought-leadership in shaping and influencing the future of urban mobility in Canada.

While we work towards the launch of the COE in 2018, you can visit CUTA's website for updates on COE projects and resources, and read on below for some projects currently underway!

Center of Excellence Website

The COE website will sit within CUTA's existing website but will provide added value to membership in the form of data visualization, links to partner resources, and curated resources for trending industry topics.

Webinar: Carshare and Public Transit – A Match for the Ages

The Integrated Mobility Implementation Toolbox is a document which provides a variety of mobility solutions for systems and government who are looking to adopt integrated mobility practices through design for movement, transportation demand management (TDM) and mobility management.

To help you operationalize the Toolbox, CUTA will be hosting a webinar that will take place on Thursday, **May 17th, 2018 from 1-2pm** (EST). Please click [here](#) to register.

Ridership Trends Project – Second Deliverable Under Review

The Ridership Trends Project is an in-depth study on current and future conventional ridership trends through research and consultation with transit systems regarding ridership in Canada.

The second deliverable from the project has been delivered by the University of Toronto Transportation Research Institute and we are anticipating the **final deliverable by the end of May**. CUTA will be hosting a webinar once the final deliverable is complete to share the results with members and the public.

Ridership Methodology Project – Survey Being Prepared

The first step in this project was the development of a survey to be used to capture how ridership is being recorded across the country. This work been completed by the project Steering Committee and CUTA is in the process of creating an online version of the survey. This survey will be sent to all CUTA member transit systems later this month.

Please contact [Lauren Rudko](#) at extension 113 for more information regarding the COE.