

**Request for Letter of Support:  
Development of Integrated Booking Software for Passenger Travel in Northern B.C.**

Northern Development is looking for written support from local governments, First Nations and transportation operators in Northern B.C. to develop an integrated booking platform for passenger transportation in the region, a first of its kind technology in Canada that would allow passengers to find information and book their transportation needs with ease and reliability.

Northern B.C. does not have an integrated booking system for passenger travel, which means that residents need to act as their own travel agents when they want to travel between multiple communities using bus services, resulting in confusion, frustration and decreased use of the existing services.

The Trust's mandate is to grow the economy in Northern B.C. and make it an attractive place to live and work. Northern Development sees this lack of technology as a key economic barrier for people movement in the region, making it more difficult for residents to locate to or continue to live in small, isolated communities.

The Trust is looking to joint fund an application for 'The Connected Network' which uses an existing European technology software to integrate all inter-city passenger transportation services throughout the region. It consists of an app that can be downloaded and used on any smartphone as well as a website, call centre support and public information campaign. The service would be financially sustainable once up and running but needs funding for startup implementation.

Northern Development is advocating that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure commit to co-funding this innovative project with the Trust – and we're asking you to write a letter of support to us for this initiative that we can include alongside our proposal to the Ministry.

Attached we have provided a letter template that you can customize with your own letterhead and signatures if you're supportive of our request. We ask that you send the letter back by September 15th to include alongside our proposal.

Northern Development Initiative Trust  
August 12, 2022

YOUR LETTERHEAD HERE

Hon. Rob Fleming  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Room 124 Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

DATE, 2022

**Attn: Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure,**

Please accept our letter of support for Northern Development Initiative Trust's (NDIT) request to have the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) co-fund an integrated booking platform for passenger transportation in Northern B.C.

Currently, Northern B.C. does not have a comprehensive booking system which means residents must act as their own travel agents in order to journey between multiple communities using bus services, resulting in confusion, frustration and decreased use of transportation services that are available.

The implementation of a top-rated system, "The Connected Network" will allow passengers to find information and book their transportation needs with ease and reliability online. The system will grant users the opportunity to travel comfortably and without worry.

We support NDIT and this innovative project. Efficient and reliable transportation service is vital to economic growth in Northern B.C. and the Connected Network is the key to providing that service.

Should you require further clarification from us please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name

Position

Organization

Address

Phone number

Email address