



# BC Transit Update City of Prince George

May 2025



# Land Acknowledgment

*We acknowledge with respect that BC Transit delivers our mission on the ancestral territories of Indigenous Peoples across British Columbia, and their historical relationships with the land continue to this day.*

# Agenda

- BC Transit quick overview
- Ridership/Transit System Performance Update
- Fare products update
- Quarterly touchpoints – Where are we now?
- Transit expansion 2025/26
- Canada Public Transit Fund
- Looking ahead – Strategy for growth
- Looking ahead – Limitations for growth

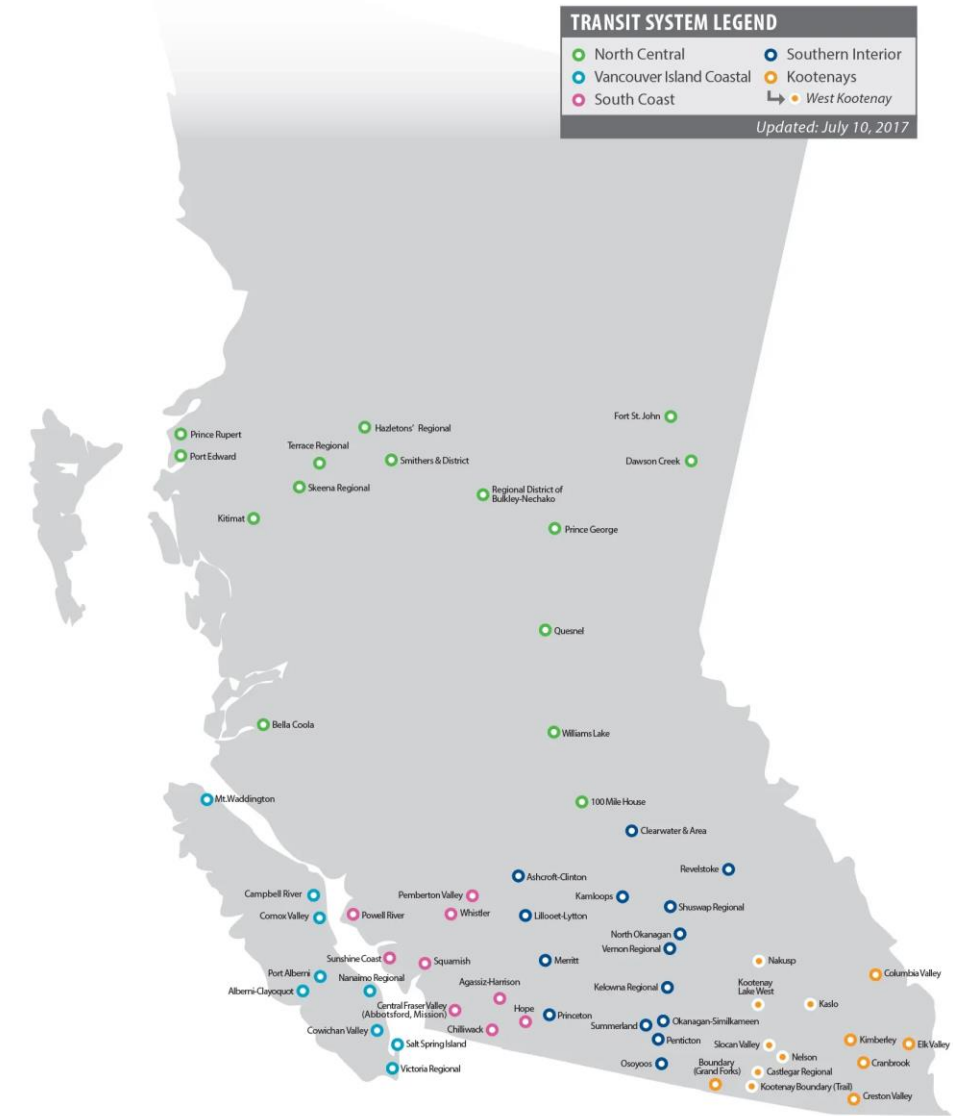


# BC Transit Overview

- Provincial authority responsible for the planning, funding and operation of all transit throughout the Province outside of Metro Vancouver
- 51+ million passenger trips
- 1,013 buses in a range of sizes
- \$321 million operating & capital budget
- 1.5 million British Columbians served
- 130 Communities, 81 transit systems

## Partnerships:

- 59 local government partners
- 18 private management companies, 5 public organizations, 14 non-profits





# BC Transit Funding and Governance

## BC Transit

- Allocates provincial funding
- Plans transit systems to achieve local and provincial objectives
- Arranges for the operation of transit systems by contract or partnership
- Procures & owns fleet - Determines the fleet & facilities requirements
- **Marketing** (Rider's Guides) / website branding, media & public relations
- Provides contract management and overall operator/operations oversight
- Develops and manages capital budget and asset acquisition

## Local Government

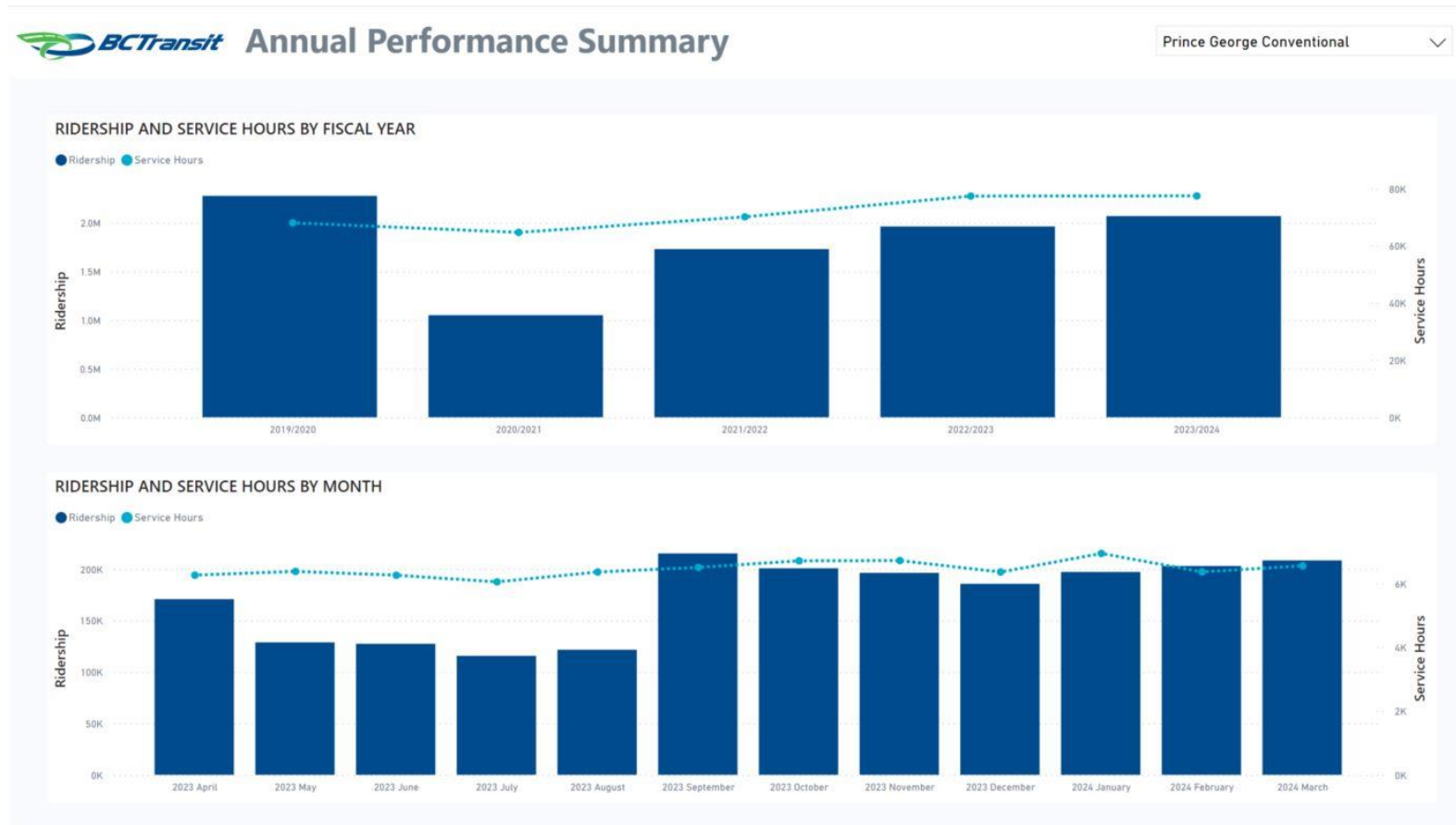
- **Sets local funding**
- **Sets routes and service levels** with BC Transit, ongoing review
- **Sets fares and manages the sale of fare products**
- **Establishes and maintains bus stops, shelters and amenities**
- Approves Official Community Plan, Transit vision and expectations, and transit supportive policies
- Determines service priorities with BC Transit
- Approves transit related agreements and budgets
- Promotes ridership with BC Transit marketing/branding
- Transit service education and consultation

## Local Operating Company

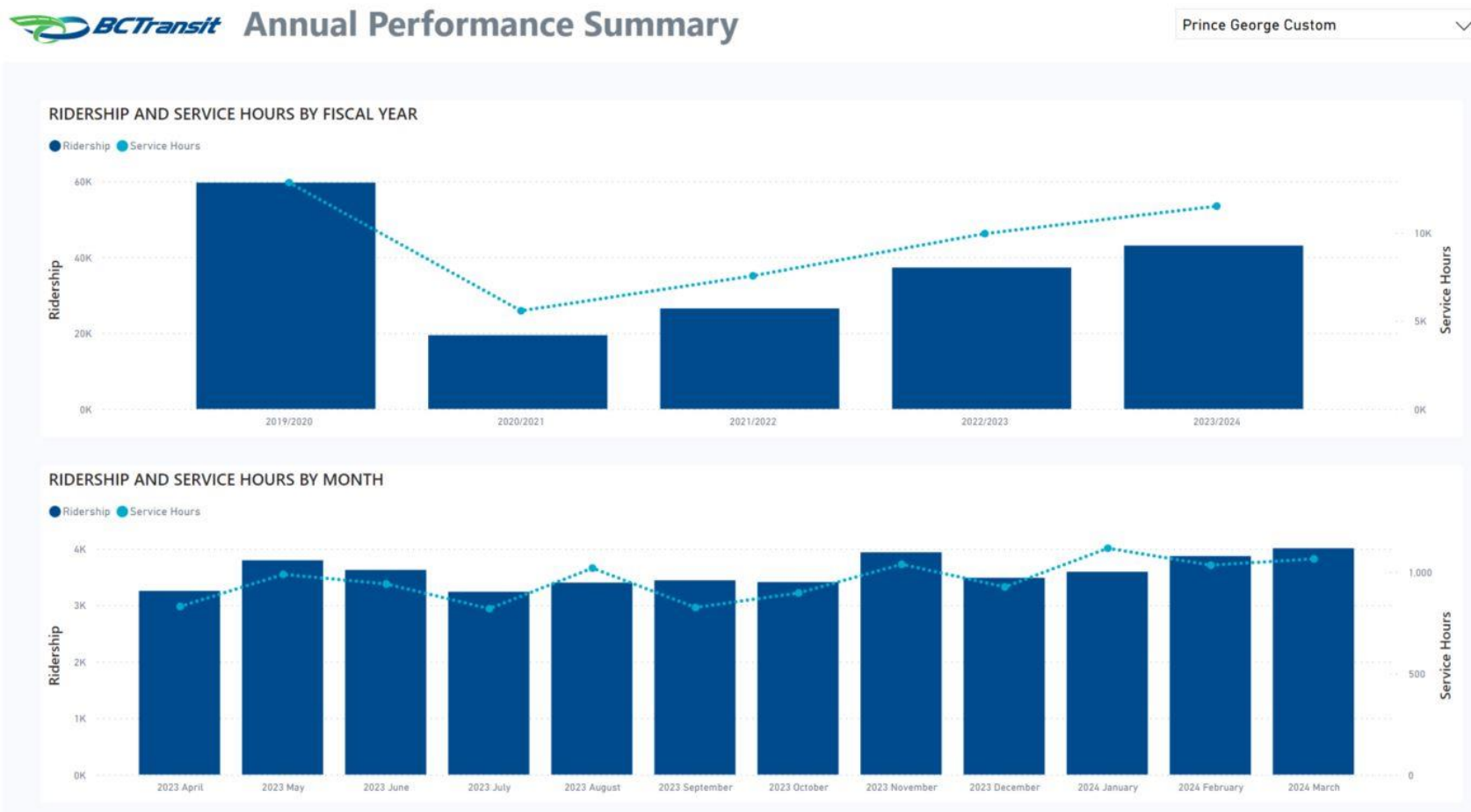
- **Delivers specified transit services** as directed by BC Transit
- **Hires , trains and provides drivers**
- **Manages labour relations**
- **Collects fare revenue on behalf of the Local Government**
- **Provides day to day customer service** (info line, lost & found inquiries, etc.)
- Assists with data collection
- Helps promote the transit service

- Provides financial & accounting
- Other professional services required to plan,

# Prince George Transit System – Fixed Route Ridership

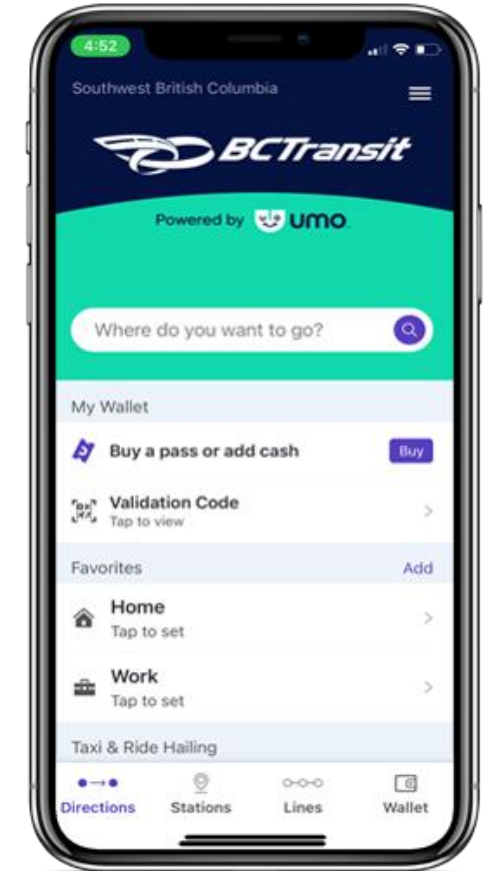


# Prince George Transit System – Custom Ridership



# Umo is On Board

- Umo contactless payment system now installed in 30 transit systems and on 5 interregional routes
- Riders have ability to pay with the Umo Mobility App or reloadable smart card
- Cash will always remain payment option
- New source of data on fare usage and transit ridership
- BC Transit is now directly supporting vendor sales
- Next: Integrating the BC Bus Pass and the use of "Open Loop" credit/debit cards later in 2025





# Annual Touchpoints



## Annual Operating Agreement

- Defines the service to be delivered
- Outlines provincial and municipal funding contributions



## Annual Performance Summary

- Offers a high-level analysis of the system's performance, in comparison to prior 2 years
- Offers tier comparison against other systems



## Three-Year Budget

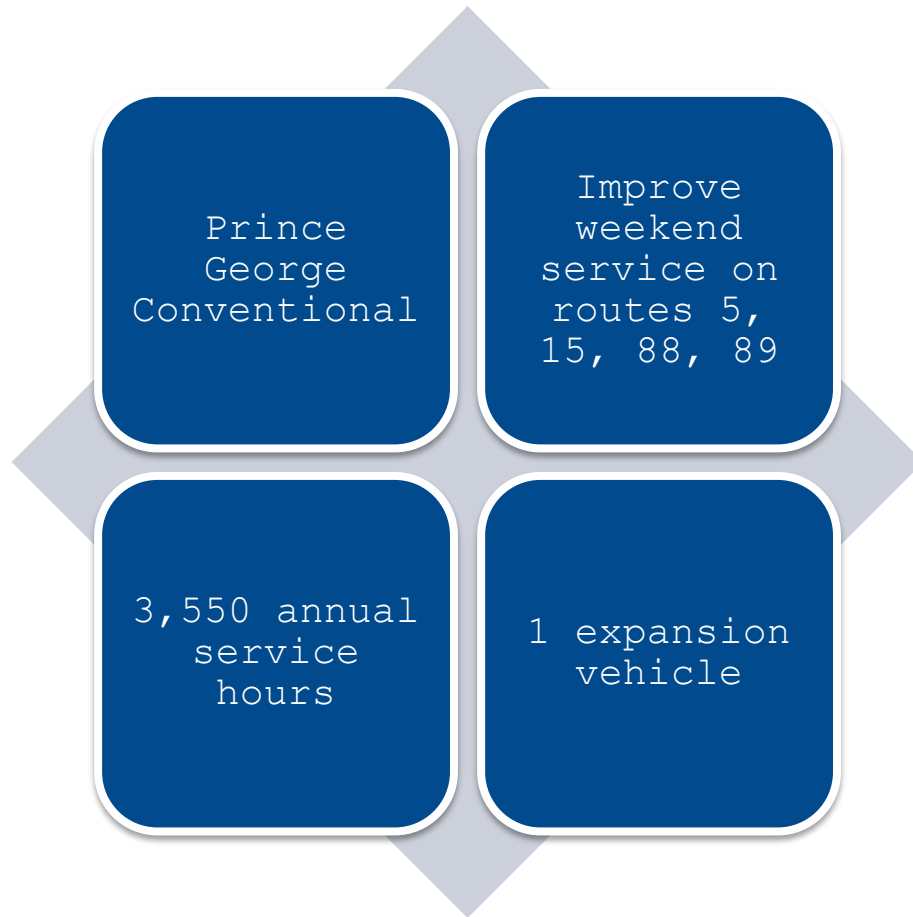
- Provides budget expectations for base service levels
- A separate expansion budget is also provided



## Transit Improvement Program

- Communicates expansion initiatives proposed for the next three years
- Seeks commitment from local government, allowing BC Transit to proceed with securing Provincial funding

# Transit Expansion 2025/26 Approved



- BC Transit has confirmed provincial funding of \$183.8M for 2025/26 which includes funding for City of Prince George
- Unprecedented level of service expansion requested in 2025/26 from local governments
- Those approved typically have a high potential for ridership growth and are addressing acute operational challenges
- Implementation – January 2026

# Canada Public Transit Fund – Baseline Funding Award

- Federal Department of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC) has promised \$3 billion/year for public transit and active transportation infrastructure, starting in 2026/27
- Funding is split across 3 funding streams: Baseline Funding, Metro Region Agreements and Targeted Funding
- Funding is designed to support capital-related investments (operating funding is not eligible)
- Baseline Funding Awarded for Prince George:
  - Anticipating a mix of vehicle replacements and infrastructure investments over a 10-year period

# Looking Ahead – Strategy for Growth – Next 3 Years



Continued improvement of FTN (frequent transit network): routes 5, 15, 88, 89 for weekday evening



Transit Exchange Study



Operations and Maintenance Facility Study



Investigate service to the airport/industrial area



Improve service frequency between Spruceland Exchange and Westgate Exchange

# Looking Ahead – Growth Limitations



Affordability



Provincial demand on expansion resources



Vehicle procurement



Ambitious infrastructure projects



# Questions?





# Thank You!

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