



July 5, 2022

Annabel Majendie, President  
Squamish Chamber of Commerce  
38551 Loggers Lane, Suite 102  
Squamish BC V8B 0H2

Reference: 310575

Kirby Brown, Chair  
Tourism Squamish  
Squamish Adventure Centre  
38551 Loggers Lane, Suite 101  
Squamish BC V8B 0H2

Adrian Blachut, President  
Downtown Squamish Business Improvement Association  
PO Box 2597  
Squamish BC V8B 0B7

Dear Annabel Majendie, Kirby Brown and Adrian Blachut:

**Re: Transportation Recommendations**

Thank you for your letter of May 18, 2022, regarding your recommendations for improving transportation in Squamish.

I appreciated you taking the time to share your concerns regarding the effects of the transit strike in the Sea-to-Sky area. As you will have heard by now, the employer and the union have reached a settlement and BC Transit resumed service on June 22.

Our government fully supports the collective bargaining process. The best outcomes result from employers and unions being seated across the table, working collectively and collaboratively towards an agreement. We are pleased that a settlement has been reached and that transit service is available to support residents and businesses along the Sea-to-Sky corridor once more.

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As you mention in your letter, Squamish's population is growing, and the provincial government recognizes the importance of ensuring communities have access to safe, affordable and reliable transportation services. In June, the ministry will complete a travel demand study aimed at better understanding the need for inter-regional public transportation along Highway 99, in partnership with BC Transit and TransLink. The study will provide insight on travel patterns, and it will inform future decisions about the best transportation options for the corridor. The outcomes of the study will be shared with local partners.

I have shared your correspondence with staff in the ministry's Transit Branch for their consideration during future discussions with all transportation stakeholders in the Squamish region and Sea to Sky corridor.

Our [CleanBC Roadmap to 2030](#) outlines a plan to increase the share of trips made by walking, cycling and transit to 30 per cent by 2030, while reducing kilometres driven by personal vehicles by 25 per cent compared to 2020. To support these goals, our ministry prioritizes expanding active transportation and public transit whenever we build new infrastructure, undertake major rehabilitation projects or plan regional transportation strategies. Improvements can include such things as separated multi-use pathways or wider shoulders for pedestrians and cyclists, as well as transit priority signals and queue jump lanes at intersections.

Our [active transportation infrastructure grant program](#) provides funding to local and Indigenous governments to help expand their active transportation networks. As part of [Budget 2022](#), the budget for this program has been increased by 67 per cent to \$60 million over the next three years. This will provide further support to Indigenous and local governments to improve active transportation infrastructure.

The ministry also developed the [British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide](#) to help communities follow best practices when creating active transportation infrastructure. This free guide helps communities create safe, accessible infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists, such as pathways, crossings and end-of-trip facilities at places like transit hubs.

The ministry remains committed to continuing to work with the District of Squamish and stakeholders like you to ensure we are meeting the transportation needs of your community and beyond.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Fleming". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rob" being more prominent than the last name "Fleming".

Rob Fleming  
Minister

Copy to: Honourable Harry Bains  
Minister of Labour  
MLA, Surrey-Newton

Honourable Ravi Kahlon  
Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation  
MLA, Delta North

Honourable Nathan Cullen  
Minister of Municipal Affairs  
MLA, Stikine

Honourable Melanie Mark  
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport  
MLA, Vancouver-Mount Pleasant