

Getting around on the Sunshine Coast

a compendium of transportation-related services, programs, agencies, and contact information for Coast residents

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Lighthouse Learning Network

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What you'll find inside...

- Sunshine Coast Transportation Survey... an Overview
- Sustainable Transportation— What is it?
- Sunshine Coast Transportation Services
- Transportation and Government



Transportation Survey Overview

Getting around on the Sunshine Coast is the focus of a public survey being conducted by the Lighthouse Learning Network from summer 2006 until early in the New Year of 2007. When the research team that started the LLN investigated adult learning on the Sunshine Coast in 2003-04, transportation was identified as one of the barriers for residents in accessing learning opportunities.

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Rural communities tend to be automobile-dependent due to low population densities. Improving access to affordable transportation options helps people to meet their basic needs and enables people to travel to such things as jobs, education and health services, shopping, daycare, and social life. Basic access to transportation is affected by: affordability; availability (location and time); accessibility for special needs and disabilities; and acceptability or suitability for users. Different transportation options each have their own advantages, limitations, and most appropriate users.

LLN has been working over the past year to bring learning opportunities closer to home by setting up internet access sites along the coast and presenting free community capacity building and skills development workshops. Until January 31, 2007 LLN will be conducting the Sunshine Coast Transportation Survey, intending to spark public thinking and dialogue about alternative modes of travel on the Sunshine Coast... and to explore interest in transportation options that presently may not be available. The focus includes the following alternatives:

- Ride Share • Car Share • Bike Share
- Community Bus • Car Pool • Van Pool
- Public Transportation

Sustainable Transportation— What is it?

According to Wikipedia, the internet's open source encyclopedia, *sustainable transportation* is about finding ways to move people, goods and information in ways that reduce the impact of transport on the environment, the economy, and society— such as using transport modes that use energy more efficiently (walking, cycling, and transit), improving efficiency of car use (fuel efficient vehicles, carpools), using cleaner fuels, using telecommunications to reduce travel, land use planning to bring people and their needs closer together, developing policies that promote these actions (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_transportation).

Why check out alternative ways of getting around?

- Save money
- Reduce stress
- Reduce emissions
- Improve Health

This section offers sources of information and inspiration about the unfolding experiment in human mobility.

NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORT

Community Bike Programs – Community bike programs from around the world: computerized check-in/out; co-op; locking rack programs; community open shop; nonprofit bicycle shop; bike recycling; community bike tool and collective and more: (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_community_bike_programs)

Momentum, “the magazine for self-propelled people”— includes articles on the Sunshine Coast (www.momentumplanet.ca)

Sprockids - Innovated on the Sunshine Coast, Sprockids has integrated mountain biking into every aspect of the school curriculum, and has been adopted in schools internationally (www.sprockids.com)

Walking and Cycling - Lots of ideas from the Victoria Transport Policy Institute on enhancing possibilities for walking, cycling, and other forms of non-motorized transportation (www.vtpi.org/documents/walking.php)



RIDESHARING / VANPOOLS / CARPOOLS

Ridesharing: Shared use of a car or van - Includes carpooling, vanpooling, and ride-matching - Usually associated with centres of employment, events, and long trips

- Carpooling and ridesharing are often informal in rural areas - On the Sunshine Coast, some employers utilize local transportation services for vanpools or carpools to transport employees and tools to and from work sites - Benefits: Environmental; Social connections; Accessibility for those underserved by transit.



Jack Bell RideShare Foundation www.ride-share.com
- info@ride-share.com Toll Free: 1.888.380-RIDE (7433)

Vanpool, carpool and rideshare program offers door-to-door commuting options to individuals travelling in and out of the Lower Mainland. JBF carpools/vanpools are the lowest subsidized form of public transportation in the province. JBF provides the vehicles; carpool/vanpool riders are responsible for a monthly fare based on mileage and number of riders in the vehicle, as well as any parking costs. JBF uses these fares to cover all carpool/vanpool operating costs, while TransLink and BC Transit provide administrative funding.

Vanpools/ carpools advertise if they need passengers. Mainly for commuters with full-time regular schedules, especially those who live more than 15 km from work or have little or no available public transportation.

Sunshine Coast Ride Share Network

www.lagoonsociety.com/rideshare – Regional on-line ride matching service – “Folks with cars and folks without will benefit from using this webpage which will link people in need of a ride with drivers who are looking to reduce their fuel costs and impact on the environment.”

Examples of other on-line rideshare (or ride-matching) services:

Carpool.ca www.carpool.ca Used by employers, post-secondary institutions, transportation management associations, and regional districts who pay an annual subscription fee. Provides ride-matching services and technical support for developing ride-matching programs.

Carpooltool.com www.carpooltool.com Carpooling anywhere in Canada for regular commuters; a free, Internet-based ride-matching system that uses city maps and postal code locations at home and work to help commuters find partners.

Carpoolworld.com www.carpoolworld.com A free world-wide, self-service commuter carpooling system that uses latitude and longitude coordinates for automatic carpool matching - Can sign up for either regular commuting or a one-time trip. “Start your own carpool group” feature enables linkage to their database software

through your organization’s website starting at \$10 per month for up to 500 users.

CAR SHARING

Carsharing: A viable alternative to private car ownership – Operations may be non-profit, for-profit, or co-operative – Low-cost access to a car when it is needed – A type of vehicle rental service with short-term pricing located in residential areas and activity centres – Shared access to a car or car fleet - Low hourly rate (and possibly a distance rate) that includes gas, insurance, and maintenance, in exchange for a monthly or usage fee - An entry fee is paid to join.

Cooperative Auto Network www.cooperativeauto.net
- info@cooperativeauto.net 604-685-1393 – The Co-op has 140 cars (Sept 2006) parked throughout the Lower Mainland and beyond. To encourage carsharing, CAN offers a service for start-up operations in areas beyond the Lower Mainland for a low monthly administration fee, providing access to their on-line reservation system and linkage with the CAN car network in the Lower Mainland. www.cooperativeauto.net/about/GettingStarted.pdf

Carsharing – Start Up Issues and New Operation Models (Brook, 2004) www.carsharing.net/library/StartUp_Issues_TRB04_Dbrook.pdf

Carsharing in North America: Market Growth, Current Developments, and Future Potential (Shaheen, Cohen and Roberts, 2005) <http://www.carsharing.net/library/UCD-ITS-RR-05-30.pdf>

Evaluating Carsharing (Todd Litman, 1999) www.vtppi.org/carshare.pdf

MORE INSIGHTS ON TRANSPO

Car Sharing, Electric/Hybrid/Solar Vehicles, Alternative means to travel, Improving travel – Projects and Schemes www.netmobil.org/resources/links.htm

BC Sustainable Energy Association www.bcsea.org/transport/ 250-744-2720 Ideas for environmentally friendly transport

Innovations in Personal Transit www.greencarcongress.com/personal_transit/index.html

Better Environmentally Sound Transportation www.best.bc.ca/resources/links.html#

Canada Urban Transportation Showcase Case Study Library www.tc.gc.ca/programs/environment/UTSP/casestudylibrary.htm#Public%20transit%20%20Service%20and%20operations

Independent Transportation Network www.itnportland.org
A model for senior mobility



Sunshine Coast Transportation Services

AIR SERVICE

Charter and regular scheduled service between Vancouver, Nanaimo and Victoria harbours and Porpoise Bay in Sechelt, and between Vancouver and Victoria airports and Sechelt airport (top of Field Road in Wilson Creek):

Tofino Air www.tofinoair.ca 604-740-8889

West Coast Air www.westcoastair.com 604-885-2111

AUTOMOBILE RENTALS

Skookum Chrysler - 604-886-3493 Gibsons

National Car Rentals - 1-800-227-7368

Sunshine General Motors - 604-885-9120 Wilson Creek

Prime Time Rentals www.primetimerentals.com

604-885-6422/1-800-663-5334 Sechelt

Pender Harbour Transportation 604-883-2040

BICYCLES

Biking on the Sunshine Coast – Completed bike lanes are in the following areas of the SCRD: adjacent to highway 101 west of Roberts Creek Road; Roberts Creek Road to the Gumboot Café; Halfmoon Bay General Store to Coopers Green Regional Park; in the Elphinstone area; in areas of Redroofs Road. Narrow shoulders in areas of Highway 101. Info on biking paths in regional parks, contact SCRD Parks: 1975 Field Rd, Wilson Creek 604-885-2261 www.scrd.bc.ca

Town of Gibsons Trail and Bicycle Network Master Plan www.gibsons.bc.ca/pdfgibsonsbc/pdfOfficialCommunityPlan/GibsonsOCP2005.pdf

BICYCLE RENTALS

On The Edge Bike Shop Sechelt
604-8854888

www.ontheedgebiking.com



BUSES

Sunshine Coast Transit www.busonline.ca OR www.scrd.bc.ca 604-885-3234/Info line 604-885-6899 - Public transit service operated by the Sunshine Coast Regional District. Fare: \$2.25 adults; \$1.75 seniors and students; children under 5 free; 10-ticket and monthly passes.

Malaspina Coachlines www.malaspinacoach.com
604-886-7742/604-885-2217/1-877-227-8287 (toll-free)
Private inter-city passenger and parcel bus servicing Sunshine Coast from Powell River to Langdale and through downtown Vancouver to the Vancouver airport. Numerous pick-up and drop-off points; two round trips daily. Fares approx: Langdale - Earl's Cove \$24; Sechelt - Gibsons \$8. Available for charter.

Sunshine Coast Shuttle www.sunshinecoastcircuitours.com 604-740-0703/1-877-740-0703 (toll-free) - Pick up and drop off service from May to Labour Day from Langdale to Half Moon Bay. Available for private charters, shuttle service, tours and events on/off the Coast.

Sechelt School Bus Service 604-885-2513 Charter and rental; sight-seeing; serves School District 46

West Vancouver Transit www.translink.bc.ca Info: 1-604-985-7777

Translink (Lower Mainland) www.translink.bc.ca Info: 1-604-953-3333

Powell River Regional Transit www.busonline.ca
1-604-485-4287

SERVICES FOR SENIORS / THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

Sunshine Coast Transit HandyDART www.scrd.bc.ca
604-886-3234 Service for those with physical or mental disabilities – Advance booking required – Call Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm

“Transportation Options for the Lower Sunshine Coast”

Details on available transportation services and rates - a booklet available from SCRD Transit 604-885-3234, or Vancouver Coastal Health Home and Community Care 604-741-0726. (PRESENTLY BEING UPDATED)

Sticks and Wheels: A Guide to Accessible Travel on the Lower Sunshine Coast, by Ellen Frank, available at local bookstores and libraries.

FERRIES

BC Ferries www.bcferries.com 1-888-223-3779 (toll-free) Passenger, private vehicle and commercial truck ferry service from Langdale to Horseshoe Bay, and Earl's Cove to Saltery Bay (Powell River region). Seasonal schedule and rates.

Langdale Terminal 604-886-2242

Saltery Bay & Earls Cove Terminals 1-604-487-9333

Gambier/Keats Ferry (Langdale terminal): Kona Winds Yacht Charters www.konawindscharters.com 604-886-3105

RIDESHARING/VANPOOLS/ CARPOOLS

Sunshine Coast Ride Share Network

www.lagoonsociety.com/rideshare – Regional on-line ride matching service sponsored by Ruby Lake Lagoon Nature Reserve Society – “Folks with cars and folks without will benefit from using this webpage which will link people in need of a ride with drivers who are looking to reduce their fuel costs and impact on the environment.”

Jack Bell RideShare Foundation www.ride-share.com
- info@ride-share.com Toll Free: 1.888.380-RIDE (7433)
Vanpool, carpool and rideshare program offers door-to-door commuting options to individuals travelling in and out of the Lower Mainland. Some vans drive onto the ferry and drop people at home on the Coast; others park at Horseshoe Bay. Vanpools advertise on the website when they need riders.

TAXI

Sunshine Coast Taxi provides service to and from the ferry terminal; offers mail delivery service and car or vanpool service for some employers - Gibsons area 604-886-7337 - Sechelt area 604-885-3666

WATER TAXI

Cormorant Marine Water Taxi 604-947-2243 Bowen Island

Gambier Island Water Taxi 604-886-8321 Langdale

Gibsons Water Taxi 604-740-2000 Gibsons

High Tide Tours & Water Taxi 604-883-9220 Egmont

Island Girl Water Taxi 604-483-1353 Jervis Inlet

Pender Harbour Water Taxi 604-740-2486 Pender Harbour

Thormanby Island Water Taxi 604-740-0703 Secret Cove

Transportation and Government

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Transport Canada www.tc.gc.ca/en/menu.htm - Sets, promotes and enforces policies, regulations and standards to protect the safety, security and efficiency of Canada's rail, marine, road and air transportation systems - Pacific Region Vancouver: 604-666-3518

GOVERNMENT OF BC

BC Ministry of Transportation www.th.gov.bc.ca/mot_org/about.htm -

Core business areas 2006: Transportation improvements (policy, legislation, planning, engineering, construction, partnerships, port and airport development); Public transportation (transit and ferry services); Highway operations; Passenger transportation regulation; Executive and support services -

Major capital projects 2006-2009: www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2006/sp/trans/ResourceSummary7.htm

Minister Kevin Falcon, ph 250-387-1978 fax 250-356-2290 Minister.Transportation@gems5.gov.bc.ca

Deputy Minister John Dyble - ph 250-387-3280 DeputyMinister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca

Lower Mainland District - Operations Manager, Sunshine Coast and Sea-to-Sky - 604-660-9217 Brian.Atkins@gov.bc.ca

Sechelt Area Office - 3rd floor Teredo Square, Sechelt - Area Manager 604-740-8985 Don.Legault@gov.bc.ca

Roads: The Ministry of Transportation has jurisdiction over roads in the SCRCD. Road maintenance is contracted out by the Ministry to Capilano Highway Services. Municipalities are responsible for road maintenance within their boundaries, with the exception of Highway 101, which continues to be under the Ministry's jurisdiction. Signage on road right-of-ways is also under the Ministry, as are streetlights under certain conditions.

Capilano Highway Services - 604-740-0667

Road maintenance contractor for Ministry of Transportation in the Sunshine Coast Regional District.



South Coast-Mountain

Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

www.th.gov.bc.ca/RTAC/rtac.htm -

Composed of representatives from government, business and industry of the Sunshine Coast, Powell River, and Squamish-Lillooet Regional Districts - Is one of eight RTACs in BC that identify regional transportation needs and advise the Minister on regional priorities - Meets annually with the Minister; may consult with the public - Present representative: Tucker Forsythe

Passenger Transportation Board www.th.gov.bc.ca/ptb/index.htm - Approves applications to operate inter-city buses and passenger directed vehicles (taxis, limousines and small vans) in BC

BC Ferry Commission www.bcferrycommission.com - Martin Crilley, Commissioner: 250-339-2714 info@bcferrycommission.com - BC Ferries, once a provincial Crown Corporation, was established in 2003 as a self-financing company operating under a service contract with the BC Government. The BC Ferry Commission sets "price caps" on ferry fares, and monitors adherence of BC Ferries to its contract; the contract is up for review in 2008 - **Process for Public Input to BC Ferries:** www.bcferrycommission.com/public_input.html - Depending on the topic, the public should contact either the BCF Commissioner, the local Ferry Advisory Committee, elected officials or civil servants... OR ...Offer feedback on-line: www.bcferry.com/contact_us.form/
Southern Sunshine Coast Ferry Advisory Committee www.bcferry.com/about/publicconsultation/interestgroups.html - Chair: Ed Steeves: 604-885-2261 ehsteeves@telus.net - Local government and First Nations appoint 8 members for 3-year term (done March 2006) to advise BC Ferries on local ferry issues; may advise on policy and service issues.

REGIONAL AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS -
SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

Sunshine Coast Transit www.scrd.bc.ca 604-885-3234 - Funding for SCT is shared by the SCRCD and BC Transit (www.bctransit.com), a BC Crown Corporation overseen by the BC Ministry of Transportation - Fares, schedules, and routes are determined by the SCRCD based on information and planning provided by BCT Municipal Systems Program. SCT responds to petitions or surveys requesting desired changes in operations by presenting them to the SCRCD Transportation Advisory Committee.

Sunshine Coast Regional District Transportation Advisory Committee info@scrd.bc.ca - Various organizations on the region involved in transportation meet every two months at the SCRCD office to present and discuss issues, share information, make recommendations, and provide an opportunity to consult regarding transportation issues. Citizens can present issues by arranging to be on the meeting agenda.

TOWN OF GIBSONS

Town of Gibsons Public Works - 604-886-2274

SECHELT INDIAN GOVERNMENT DISTRICT

Sechelt Indian Government District - 604-885-2273

DISTRICT OF SECHELT

District of Sechelt Public Works - 604-885-1986



www.lighthouselearning.ca

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Please report changes or additions to survey@lighthouselearning.ca

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