



May 16, 2019

Janet Fraser, Board Chair
Vancouver Board of Education
1580 West Broadway Ave.
Vancouver, BC V6K 5K8

Sent via email: janet.fraser@vsb.bc.ca

Chair Fraser,

Thank you for sharing this resolution with the Mayors' Council in your letter dated April 29, 2019. Mayor Cote, the Chair of the Mayors' Council, asked me to follow up.

This past winter, the Mayors' Council asked TransLink staff for more analysis on the issues and proposed actions outlined in the #AllOnBoard resolution considered by several councils and other local agencies in the region over the past six months.

The Mayors' Council and TransLink Board first considered these issues when they approved the Transit Fare Policy on July 26, 2018. At the time, after seeing analysis from staff and listening to public delegates from the #AllOnBoard campaign, both bodies agreed to support a provincial strategy, if one were to be developed, to further enhance fare subsidies for children, youth, and low-income transit users. At the time, it was noted that without provincial funding for such a measure, the very substantial costs of these additional subsidies would require large and unsustainable increases to adult transit fares or other regressive TransLink revenue sources. This position was re-affirmed at the Mayors' Council meeting on April 23, 2019 ([report can be downloaded here](#)). At that meeting, the Mayors' Council also asked TransLink to report back on the agency's ongoing review of its fare infractions policy which is within the Board's mandate.

The Mayors' Council has shared its re-affirmed position with the Province of B.C. and will advocate that the province fund further fare subsidies for children, youth, and low-income transit users. We will ensure that any provincial response is shared with you, other interested local agencies and governments, and #AllOnBoard.

In the meantime, we are open to providing interested local agencies like yours further briefing on this issue prior if requested, so please let us know and we will ensure TransLink expertise is made available.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Buda".

Mike Buda
Executive Director, Mayors' Council

cc: Members of the Mayors' Council