

Beaver Bank Transit

Halifax Transit cut bus service by 7 kilometers on the Beaver Bank Road at Kinsac Road, Turning at the Beaver Bank Community Centre in front of the Fire Department Doors. Halifax has placed the Urban Transit Boundary at Tucker Lake Road where the Halifax Water service stops. Bus Service used to be to 'The Villa' at Scotia Terrace. **This was not to happen for another year.**

Cutting this route has great adverse effects on **the community which has had the service for 30 years**. Affordable housing has allowed families to have maybe one car, no car and get to work, have their children and seniors able to take the bus for first jobs, school, universities, groceries, community events, appointments and mental health services. **People are considering selling their home now**, and will have to at a reduced value because there is no longer bus service.

This was **done without considering criteria, like where the largest employer is in the community**, Ivy Meadows Continuing care facility has **100 employees and 51 Residents**. This was also done **without considering access for family members** that may not be able to drive or have a car to visit a loved one (Mother, Father, Husband, Wife, Brother, Sister, Daughter or Son).

Access a Bus will no longer be available to new applicants who are truly in need of transportation to appointments, treatments and programs. So if someone suffers an injury or chronic illness in the community that they require a wheelchair or limited mobility, that service is no longer available for them to apply for.

Home daycare placements have greatly suffered as there is no longer a way to take **children on an outing safely without a 7 Kilometer walk to the Community Centre**. A local daycare used to be able to take weekly visits to Ivy Meadows to have the youth and seniors interact to help relieve feelings of isolation and loneliness. **That has been happening since 2010 when the Beaver Bank Community Centre burned down**, leaving the daycare with no place to go. Ivy Meadows offered their breakroom for the daycare and that relationship had existed until November 25th when Halifax Transits 'Moving Forward Together' plan came into effect.

The road does not have sidewalks, is dimly lit, has an **unpaved and unplowed shoulder** and has seen a big influx of Construction Trucking from several quarries and an asphalt plant in East Uniacke. These trucks travel at 70-90km/h. **A count over a 3 hour period numbered 98 trucks**, varying from dump trucks, to large triple axle trailers and tandem trailers. Residents and seniors are now feeling more isolated in their home and struggling with what's next, not willing to risk their lives with the 7 kilometer walk to the bus stop.

Small businesses are suffering as employees can't get to work, **residents are isolated**. Rocky Hollow Ranch was taking O2 Co-op students wanting to get a high school credit. The students now struggle to get to their placement. They have animal therapy programs that now can no longer reach people that require Access a bus services. **A Taxi Ride from Satellite Taxi is quoted at \$30.**

In 2018, A report was completed by Halifax and presented 5 options, **4 options allowed service to continue** in some manner. Reasons varied, the main one was that they didn't fit the

criteria of the 'Moving Forward Together Plan'. There was an agreement in July, 1996 that Halifax Transit would agree to service Beaver Bank.

So what needs to change? People suffering the expense of moving, suffering the health costs of isolation? or the criteria of the 'Moving Forward Together Plan'?
Instead of one bus servicing the whole route, we now have 2 buses chasing each other halfway down the Beaver Bank road at Peak hours.

Something can be done, sign the petition, everyone in your household. We need to **go to meetings** and show solidarity for this, wearing red and black if you can, or the plaid jacket...
The Beaver Bank tax. We need people to attend, we need people to present. Anyone can attend and speak for up to 5 minutes during public consultation.

The next meetings are the:

- 1) North West Community Council January 13th 7pm, Hoping in Beaver Bank, details below:

<https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/community-councils/north-west-community-council>

- 2) Regional Council January 14th 10am-10pm at city hall. Public Consultation is at 6pm.
See Details:

<https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/regional-council>

- 3) Transportation Standing Committee January 23rd, 1pm at city hall. See Details:

<https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/standing-committees/transportation-standing-committee>

To make a 10 Minute presentation that can include slides, at any of these meetings contact:

Phone: 902.490.4210 Fax: 902.490.4208 TTY: 902.490.7083 Email: clerks@halifax.ca

Mail:

Office of the Municipal Clerk

PO Box 1749

Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Main Floor Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30

FOR INFORMATION, HELP, VOLUNTEER, DONATE:

On Facebook:

Join the Beaver Bank Community Watch Group for updates and have your questions answered.

Join 'North Beaver Bank Need A Lift?' Group if you need a ride to the bus stop.

Like the 'Beaver Bank Transit' Page for history and updates.

Send your story about how this has affected you to: beaverbanktransit@gmail.com

www.BeaverBank.ca is the Community Awareness Associations Page, and they have been posting updates as well.

Our District 14 Councillor: Deputy Mayor Lisa Blackburn Call: 902-579-7164

Email: lisa.blackburn@halifax.ca

Lyle Mailman, Beaver Bank, NS