



# Municipal Government Representatives

November 18

1:00 – 2:00 pm ET



# Today's Agenda

- Welcome
- Topic – *What are effective strategies to engage municipal leaders so that we get our issue on the agenda?*
- Check-Ins
- Calgary presentation
- Discussion
- Closing Announcements

# Check Ins

Please introduce

- Your name and role
- Where you're calling from

# About Fair Fares & Fair Calgary Community Voices

We are a group of citizens living on low-income, community organizers and service providers. We work with the City's Community Neighbourhood Services and Calgary Transit towards affordable, accessible transportation for all. [Link](#) to in depth history and tactics

## **We have two teams:**

- Fair Fares (Small action orientated group that works on issues related to the Low-Income Transit pass. We are a member of FCCV)
- Fair Calgary Community Voices (FCCV) (Large collective that works on issues related to City Subsidized Services including the Low-Income Transit Pass)

Our Current campaign is called [“Transit for All”](#)



# Building community through stories

*"I felt like a kid in the candy shop when I got my affordable transit pass"*

*Katie Gerke*

- Our meetings are open to all with an interest in affordable transit.
- We encourage City staff to become members of the committee.
- We aim to bridge the gap between people living in poverty, agencies, City administration and elected officials
- Stories are valued. They demonstrate why the LITP is vital
- We share our stories with decision makers and decision takers
- We share our work with friends in order to move the work forward.

# How to keep the work going...

*“The bus is my lifeline.” – Lloyd Thornhill*

- FCCV and Fair Fares are grassroots groups
- Grassroots groups can be small consisting of just a few members.
- The work takes time. (Celebrate baby steps)
- Do not assume your work is done once the policy is in place.
- Ensure you keep a history and records of the work.

# How to keep the work going...

*“The bus is going by anyways, I might as well be on it” – Gracie Seto*

- We keep up to date on issues through “Fair Entry data” and stories told by community
- We spend our time talking about issues and strategizing how best to respond
- It is critical everyone sings from the same song sheet.
- We create community engagement packages and tools.
- Build relationships within the media.
- Show up at Council to put a human face to the issue



# Our story tellers

- City staff
- City councillors
- People buying the pass
- Agencies sharing information with citizens impacted by transit
- FCCV meetings with City Councillors and MLA's
- People from FCCV who attend community meetings
- Social media



# Ways to collect stories of impact

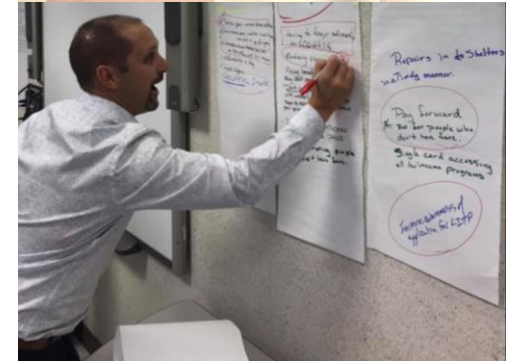
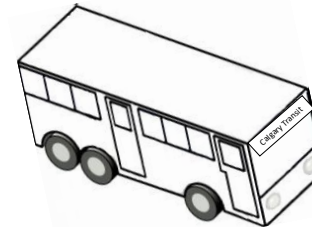
THE SLIDING  
SCALE GETS  
PEOPLE WHERE  
THEY NEED TO  
GO EASIER

**76% AGREED THAT THEY ARE NOW ABLE TO GO TO  
DIFFERENT PLACES COMPARED TO BEFORE**

A CITY THAT MOVES  
City of Calgary Citizen Priorities 2019-2022



Affordable Transit Makes it Possible for Me to...



enough  
for all

# Effective Strategies to Build Relationships

*“The last time I talked to him about getting more bus tickets to get to his new job, he told me it was just too hard.”  
-Tracey Livingstone, Outreach worker on sliding scale*

- Spend time getting to know the City Councilors and MLA's
- Building relationships with all levels of government helps create credibility and inform decisions
- Understand how other levels of government policies impact the effectiveness of the program.
- Try to align your message with existing provincial and City goals
- Monitor the City's Council and committee meetings and agendas for opportunities to present
- Stay Issue focused
- Work with the community & remain action oriented
- Create networks and relationships across the communities and province

# Questions and Discussion

- New insights? New strategies?
- Thoughts on a National Transportation Strategy?

# Closing Announcements

Today's notes and meeting resources will be circulated in the coming days

**Next Call:** December 17<sup>th</sup> at 1pm ET (*consider moving to the new year with new set of bi-monthly dates*)

**Topic:** *How do we get buy-in and engage the business sector over the long term?*

Content lead/speaker? Chair?



# Authentic Engagement with People of Lived and Living Experience

**November 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET**  
**Speaker: Cheryl Whiskeyjack**

Join us on November 25th for a webinar discussing meaningful engagement with individuals and communities that is underpinned by inclusion, diversity and equity. Hear how the power of collaborative efforts can be more impactful and tackle deep rooted social issues such as racism.

Register here: <http://events.tamarackcommunity.ca/authentic-engagement-of-people-with-lived-and-living-experience>

# Asking our Communities: A Journey to Understand Participation and Involvement

**November 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET**  
**Speaker: Lidia Kemeny and Paul Born**

Join a discussion with Vancouver Foundation's Lidia Kemeny and Tamarack's Paul Born as they explore how we can engage community to get input on a particular issue. Together they will discuss findings on questions about how citizens feel about participating and about feeling involved in community life.

Register here: <http://events.tamarackcommunity.ca/asking-our-communities-a-journey-to-understand-participation-and-involvement>

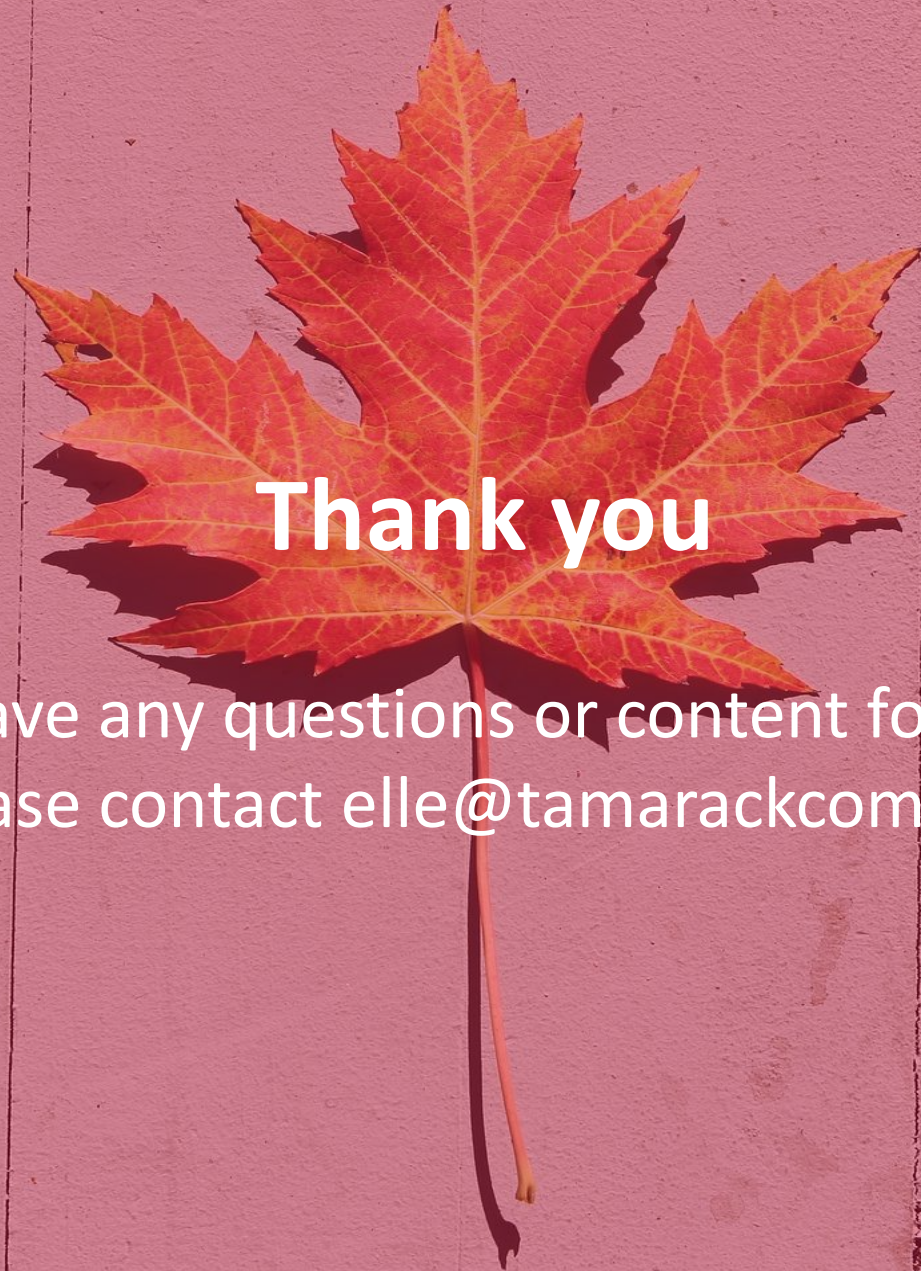
# A (Re-)Orientation to the Cities Reducing Poverty Membership

**Date: December 10, 2-3 pm ET**

This webinar will introduce the 2020 Cities Reducing Poverty (CRP) membership package. It is open to both new members and colleagues, as well as to existing members and colleagues, who would like a reminder of what supports are included as part of their annual CRP membership package.

<http://events.tamarackcommunity.ca/re-orientation-to-the-cities-reducing-poverty-membership>





**Thank you**

If you have any questions or content for the next  
call, please contact [elle@tamarackcommunity.ca](mailto:elle@tamarackcommunity.ca)