

Transit Riders' Union of Edmonton

- TRUE is a group of concerned transit users currently researching and developing strategies to improve transit in Edmonton
- Our goal is to channel transit riders' needs and opinions into a unified voice for an efficient, affordable, and accessible public transit system
- TRUE is a working group of the Alberta Public Interest Research Group (APIRG)



Late Night Transit Across Canada

- Toronto and Montreal run 24 hours
- Vancouver and Ottawa run until about 3:30am
- Calgary runs LRT from 4:00am to 2:30am
- Quebec City, Winnipeg, and Hamilton all run later than Edmonton
- *“Edmonton is quickly becoming a 24/7 city, and its transit system should attempt to keep up with Edmonton's dynamic growth.”*



Costs of Providing the Service

- 24 Hour service is only a 6% increase in cost for approximately 20% more service hours
- 3:30am service is only a 4% increase in cost for approximately 10% more service hours
- Edmonton can't afford to not extend service
- *"Does the City not realize that there are thousands of people working nights, every night? I've turned down many a good night shift job, simply because I don't own a car."*



Costs of Not Providing the Service

- Late night workers pay for poor service through lost job opportunities or nightly cab fares
- Melissa Taylor: *"I've lost jobs because of my dependence on transit. I would have to be 30 minutes late or pay more than 2 hours in wages (\$30) to be on time. I don't mind leaving early if it means I still get to eat that day."*
- Connie Dymont: *"...most have to pre-pay a cab home - \$20 is a lot of money!"*



Costs of Not Providing the Service

- Curtis Williams: *"When I took a management position at my new job I had to make a choice, ride transit and risk losing my job, or take cabs to and from work every day at \$15 per ride and have no extra cash for myself. I spend more than **\$600 in a month now for taxi service and it's killing me.** We as workers run the infrastructure of this city so we need to be able to get to work to keep it up!"*



Costs of Not Providing the Service

- Poor service forces transit riders without other options into unsafe situations
- Ester Malzahn: *"I've had to walk home alone, hoping I don't run into trouble. I would much prefer to have any means of transportation than being female and walking alone at night."*
- Melissa Taylor: *"I had to walk all the way from Commerce Place. That's a long walk, especially for a female late at night."*



Costs of Not Providing the Service

- Transit riders pay for poor service with restricted social options
- Nick Tostowaryk: *"I know some who have avoided going out or leaving work early some nights because they cannot afford cabs."*
- Brett Lambert: *"I was at Cowboys with some friends, and left at 2am. The buses all stopped running by then, so I walked. I didn't end up getting home until 5 am."*



Benefits of Providing the Service

- Late night transit would increase ridership
- Jordanna Guetre: *"Being an RN includes early mornings and late nights. I would definitely utilize the transit system if it offered 24 hour service, I think it's a great idea!"*
- Jill Easy: *"Not only would I save money on gas, but it costs \$14 a day to park past 6 PM using Impark. If 24 hour service was implemented, I would definitely invest in a bus pass."*

