PARTNERSHIPS
The Key to Addressing the Challenges of Homelessness and Transit
Who We Serve

SkyTrain
- 53 stations
- 79 kms of rail

West Coast Express
- 8 stations
- 65 kms of rail

CMBC
- 1,500 buses
- 215 routes

TransLink

Metro Vancouver Transit Police
- 183 Police Officers

SeaBus
- 1 route
Policing the Moving City

- 21 Municipalities
- 17 Jurisdictional Police agencies
- 1800 sq. kilometers (1120 miles)
The Metro Vancouver Transit Police Motto is, “Safely Linking Communities”

The concerns of the communities we serve and our transit enterprise partners around homelessness include:

- Personal safety
- Increase in needles
- Garbage / hoarding
- Panhandling
- Street Vending
- Mental Health
- Fire risk
Health and Safety Concerns
All persons using the TransLink transit system must comply with the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority (TransLink) Transit Tariff.

The Tariff:
• define the obligations of transit passengers
• define the authorities of transit employees
• define the enforcement authorities of police officers

The Tariff allows for the enforceability of the Transit Conduct and Safety Regulations.
• Any Transit Employee may exercise all of the rights of the Tariff which allows for the Refusal of Transportation or Access to transit property.
Transit Conduct and Safety Regs.

Requirement to obey signs and rules

- a transit employee may require the person obey the signs or comply with the rules posted on transit vehicles and transit property.

If a person does not obey a sign or comply with the rules when required to do so by a transit employee the employee may:

- Refuse the person
- Order the person to leave
- Order the person not to enter

Failure to comply is enforceable under the Transit Conduct and Safety Regs.
Jurisdictional Issues

- Whose jurisdiction?
- Who is the property rep?
- What outreach, social and community services are available?
- What housing opportunities are there?
- What enforcement options are there?
- What By Laws are there?
- Who will clean, remove the garbage?
Enforcement

We recognize that being homeless is not a Crime!

- Notice to Vacate, (served by Property Rep)
- Transit Act
- Railway Safety Act
- Safe Streets Act
- By Law
  - Inform
  - Educate
  - Enforce
- Provincial Act
  - Offence Act
- Criminal Code of Canada
  - Trespass
  - Mischief
Partnership are the Key

- Homelessness is not a policing issue but has become one. We recognize that being homeless is not a crime.

- The goal of transit police and our police partners within the Metro Vancouver region is for consistent rules of engagement in policing to work with the homeless.

- We could not address the homeless problem without our transit enterprise, community and police partners!