

For immediate release

January 30, 2020

BCIT Student Association Welcomes the Continuation of the U-Pass BC Program for an Additional Five Years

Burnaby, B.C. — Today, the BC government announced the renewal of the Universal Transit Pass Agreement (U-Pass BC) between TransLink, public post-secondary institutions, and student associations until 2025. This commitment to the U-Pass BC program is a historic victory that students have been working on for over a decade.

“The BCIT Student Association is pleased to continue providing the U-Pass BC program benefits to our members,” said Steven Palfrey, Vice President External. “This investment improves students’ lives. The U-Pass BC program supports our ability to get around and makes our lives more affordable.”

Since the implementation of U-Pass BC in 2020, students have enjoyed affordable and sustainable modes of transportation, where all three travel zones are included in the cost of U-Pass BC. The renewal of U-Pass BC will continue to foster a generation of transit users, with fewer people driving, less traffic congestion, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. This five-year renewal represents the longest timeframe for a U-Pass BC agreement, providing more stability for students who rely on the program.

Support from the Province and TransLink has enabled affordable student rates with minimal annual increases in the long term. “I’m proud to see our government making it easier for the hardworking students of Burnaby, and across the Lower Mainland, to access public transportation,” said Janet Routledge, MLA for Burnaby North. “No student should have to worry about how they will pay to take the bus or Skytrain, and it is wonderful to see our government putting students first by supporting the U-Pass program.”

Between February 2019 and November 2019, Student Associations in Metro Vancouver hosted successful referenda, approving the continuation of the program until April 30, 2025 — and sending a strong message that this is an invaluable service that students depend on. For additional details on this announcement, please consult the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure’s news release, [here](#).

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