

# Making Transit Work in Smaller Communities

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# Solutions for Small Communities



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QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

# A Changing Dynamic WITHIN Communities

## Factors have increased DEMAND

- environmental awareness
- energy costs
- sustainability movement

## Factors have increased NEED

- aging
- energy costs
- changing land use patterns

# A Changing Dynamic BETWEEN Communities

- **growing need for urban access for small and rural communities**
- **growing need for intra-community trips**
  - **centralization and regionalization of services**
  - **lack of local support networks**
  - **lack of local access and mobility**

# A Changing Dynamic BETWEEN Communities

- **lack of transit service in and between communities creates stress between staying in communities and moving to the city**
  - **lack of access to local services creates need to travel to the city**
  - **lack of transportation options to the city and back creates the need to stay there**

# Transit's Benefits in Communities

- **transportation service for riders**
  - riders benefit directly from the service, and pay a substantial portion of the cost
  - average rider in a small community pays twice as much per month as the annual contribution of a non-rider

# Transit's Benefits in Communities

- **access to employment**
- **social equity**
- **social inclusion**
- **regional travel**
- **support for retail and local services**

# The Big Picture

- **personal health and health service delivery**
- **social health and social service delivery**
- **personal activation and community involvement**
- **human resources**
- **environment**
- **local economies**

# Service Options - Success Stories, Good Ideas and ...

## Quebec - Rimouski

- demand-response service
- Shared-ride service - not subsidized taxi
- operated by local taxi company
- funded by users and community



# Service Options - Success Stories, Good Ideas and ...

## Quebec - Rimouski

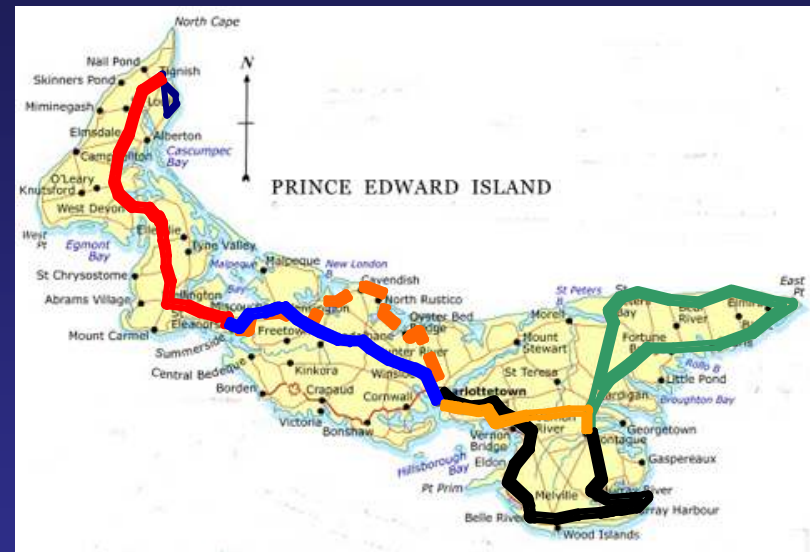
- Service started 1992
- 2004 Stats
  - 81,000 passengers
  - \$180,000 subsidy
  - 2.9 passengers per trip
  - Average fare: \$2.64
  - Cost Recovery: 45%



# Service Options - Success Stories, Good Ideas and ...

## PEI - Island-wide Transit -

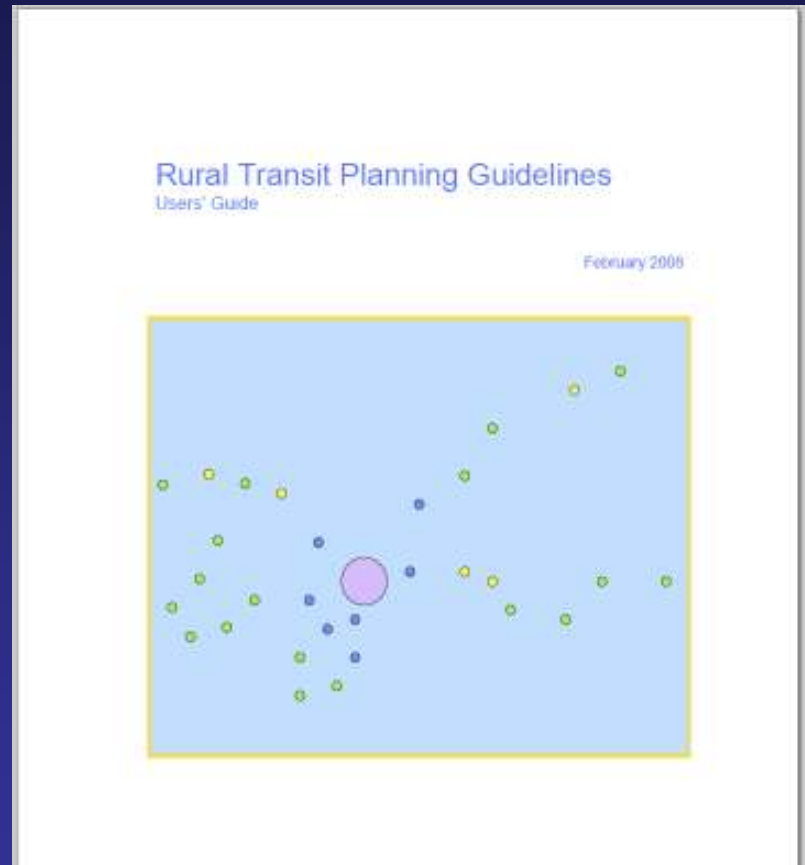
- Commuter Connectors
- Community Connectors
- community support network
- appropriate technology
- partner wanted



# Service Options - Success Stories, Good Ideas and ...

Halifax, HRM and Saint John -

- Express commuter service
- Park-and-ride in highway corridors
- Community connections



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# Factors for Success

- imaginative ideas
- local champion
- community support
- stamina



# Who Benefits?

**When people thrive, communities thrive,  
and when something helps our  
communities, it helps us all.**

