

COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT REPORTING

Appointment:	Canadian Urban Transit Association Transit Board Members Com...
Classification:	External Agency - Intergovernmental
Councillor(s):	Councillor Andrew Knack
Reporting Period:	November 1, 2022 - May 10, 2023

Mandate

The Canadian Urban Transit Association Transit Board Members Committee provides a forum for municipal decision-makers to:

- Exchange information, ideas and experience
- Identify current and emerging municipal issues of concern to the industry and provide assistance in resolving them
- Raise awareness and promote the use of transit best practices throughout the municipal sector
- Enhance the profile and voice of transit among municipal decision-makers nationwide, and to use this profile in advocating for transit at the provincial and federal levels

Background

CUTA helps connect the public transit industry. Their members include transit systems, public bodies, companies that supply the sector, and experts in urban mobility. They advocate for investment and support from governments. They facilitate conversations and connections to help transit professionals keep up with the latest. And they are the leading data collection body in the field.

Report on activities, projects, and outcomes

The Transit Board Members Committee has been more active in the last year thanks to the leadership of Councillor Sarina Gersher from Saskatoon. More elected representatives from across the country are getting involved which provides us with more opportunities to learn from each other.

From May 7-9, Councillor Rutherford and I attended the CUTA Spring Summit in Saskatoon. Two of the biggest takeaways from this summit are:

1. Saskatoon Transit is using AI for preventative maintenance on the buses. So far they have experienced significant cost savings and the reliability of their fleet has been improving. If ETS hasn't already engaged Saskatoon Transit about this, it might be worth connecting with them to see if this is something that can help ETS.
2. CUTA has engaged Leading Mobility to complete a project on the intersection of housing and transit. There will be roundtable discussions held across the country including in Edmonton. It will be held in June but the date has not been finalized.

Upcoming events and milestones

CUTA Young Leaders Summit 2023: November 10-12 in Edmonton. The Young Leaders Summit (YLS) is a 3-day youth conference that seeks to inspire a new generation of transit leaders. This will be accomplished through a series of speakers from across the transit industry, technical tours, case competitions, and unique networking opportunities. Delegates have the opportunity to attend at a relatively low-cost, as well as have access to the full CUTA Annual Conference and Transit Show at a heavily discounted rate. <https://cutaactu.ca/events/yls/>

CUTA 2023 Annual Fall Conference and Transit Show in Edmonton. November 12-15 at the Westin and Edmonton Convention Centre. This is the biggest annual gathering for CUTA and since we are hosting in Edmonton this year, I would highly encourage all members of council to attend this year and learn more about what is happening in transit agencies across the country.

Evaluation

With the resurgence of the Transit Board Members Committee, I would recommend that the City of Edmonton continue to work with CUTA. There has already been great engagement from City Administration and now there is a lot of potential to have involvement from City Council.