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June 5, 2023

Mayor and Council
Resort Municipality of Whistler
4325 Blackcomb Way,
Whistler, BC, V0N 1B4

Re: Commuter Transit Support

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Transit Working Group for the Village of Pemberton, Li'wat Nation, and Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Electoral Area C. The 99 Commuter Service is a critical part of the Regional Transit Network, and importantly serves as a vital artery connecting many workers with their places of employment in Whistler. The route has seen a significant and sustained increase in demand in the 2022/2023 season, where demand often exceeds bus capacity.

We have surpassed a critical point at which riders are more frequently unable to reliably board scheduled buses due to bus capacity constraints, which is compounded by limited-service offerings, and as a result we are falling behind in delivering an efficient Local and Regional public Transit Network that *"serves our unique climate, culture and economy"*.

Recognizing the great value in connecting our communities with interest in creating a stopgap until true regional transit is achieved, the Working Group would like to extend an invitation to meet to discuss ways in which our organizations could better work together to meet the transit and economic needs for our communities. We would like to approach this in a way which considers sustainable partner funding, adequate service expansion design and integration that aligns with the vision and goals set forward by our communities, with consideration that we too are concurrently working toward the goals set forth in Transit Future Plan, and more broadly an integrated and Regional and Interregional Transit Network.

Please contact Elizabeth Tracy, CAO, at etracy@pemberton.ca to arrange a date and time to meet with Mayor Richman and CAO Tracy as representatives of the Village's Transit Working Group.

On behalf of the Pemberton transit partners we look forward to meeting to discuss options for this important community service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MR", followed by a horizontal line.

Mike Richman
Mayor, Pemberton

Cc: Chief Dean Nelson, Lil'wat Nation
Russel Mack, Area C Director, SLRD
Elizabeth Tracy, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Pemberton
Kerry Mehaffey, Chief Administrative Officer, Lil'wat Nation
Craig Dalton, Chief Administrative Officer, SLRD