



The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) gratefully acknowledges the support of:



Manitoba Transit Heritage Association, Inc.

★★★FINAL

THE SWITCH IRON

March 2018

Volume Eleven

Issue Number One

Editor: Alex Regiec

MTHA:
BAGGAGE IDENTIFICATION TAG
All baggage must be tagged before
boarding bus.
DESTINATION: _____
VIA: _____
NAME _____

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association (MTHA) is non-profit museum and registered charitable organization whose volunteers collect and preserve historic public transit memorabilia and classic vehicles. The MTHA is a proud affiliate member of the Canadian Transit Heritage Foundation.



Where Are We Going?

Overview of upcoming special events for 2018

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association is busy making plans to be active and involved in 2018 throughout our beautiful city and province by attending many special events.

CJNU "NOSTALGIA EXPRESS"

The Manitoba Transit Heritage Association will once again partner with the Nostalgia Broadcasting Cooperative (CJNU 93.7 FM) using our MC-9 heritage motorcoach as a promotional vehicle.

MTHA volunteers and CJNU personalities will bring this gleaming motor coach cruiser to visit various summer festivals across Winnipeg, and broadcasting live from the Goldeyes baseball games.

INLAND OCEANS & VIKINGS

Another MTHA "fan trip" is planned for this summer. Watch our website for details for a heritage day trip tour involving a motor coach trip to the Interlake exploring an Inland Ocean, a waterfront Boardwalk and Vikings.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS

Ross Smith, MTHA Secretary, together with David Wyatt, MTHA Historian, will be on the road making presentations to various Senior's Groups, and elementary schools during the summer months.

DAWSON TRAIL DAYS & OTHER FESTIVALS

The MTHA will be busy attending various community fairs and parades, including the Dawson Trail Days in St. Anne's, Manitoba.

SUNDAY NIGHT CRUISE AT THE PONY CORAL

Once again we will be the featured club at the Pony Coral on Grant at Wilton on August 26, 2018. The entire MTHA vintage fleet will be on display for the public to see and experience.

Check www.mtha.ca for more details.

A FORD AT THE FAB 50S FORD FLASHBACK WEEKEND?



Ex-Winnipeg Electric #565, a 1942 Ford Transit model 69B is ready to travel and showcase.

Fab 50s Flashback Weekend ...

Finally, the Manitoba Transit Heritage Association's grande finale for summer special events will occur at the **Fabulous Fifties Ford Club's Flashback Weekend** car show held at the Garden City Shopping Centre on September 9, 2018.

MTHA maintenance volunteers have been very busy repairing and restoring our 1942 Ford Transit model 69B vintage bus back to safe operational condition for public display.

The MTHA Board of Directors is aiming to have the restoration work completed and the bus ready for a visit to this wonderful annual car show.



THE SWITCHIRON - HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING

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Regular meeting of the MTHA Board of Directors

HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018 AT NORTH GARAGE IN WINNIPEG

PRESENT:

Al Brunsel, Alex Regiec, Ross Smith, David Wyatt, Pat Rogoski, Elizabeth Peters, Kuba Galobeski, Anna Galobeski, Jim Legge, Wayne Smith, John Kapusta, Bob Cooper, Peter Elwick, Dennis Cavanagh, Michael Kulczyk and Logan Poole.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 19:03.

MINUTES OF MEETING:

MOTION: Alan Brunsel moved the approval of the minutes as read. Peter Elwick seconded. Carried.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Duluth Transit: Alan Brunsel reported that he received a call from Duluth Transit in Minnesota inquiring if the MTHA would like to acquire their 1939 Twin Coach.

MOTION: Alan Brunsel moved to decline the Twin Coach offer from Duluth Transit. Michael Kulczyk seconded. Carried.

Alan also reported that Beaver Bus Lines has offered to provide storage space to the MTHA at its garage in Selkirk, Manitoba. There would be no costs to the MTHA.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Financial Report: Alex Regiec presented the Board with a 2018 Operating Budget.

MOTION: Alex Regiec moved that the 2018 Budget be approved. Alan Brunsel seconded. Carried.

Alex reported that MTHA has \$3,633.68 CAD cash in the bank.

Activity for the month of February amounted to \$470.02 in expenses and \$602.00 in revenue.

MOTION: Alex Regiec moved that the financial report be approved as presented. Wayne Smith seconded. Carried.

Other items: Alex reported that the individual and corporate membership renewal notices have been mailed out and are due by March 29th, 2018.

Alex reported that he is the MTHA representative on the board of the Canadian Transit Heritage Foundation. He also contacted Christy Davidson, New Flyer & MCI's representative on the MTHA Board.

Alex indicated that he and Alan Brunsel had worked on and submitted two applications to the Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries Employees Charitable Program. The MTHA applications were declined for funding. Ross Smith mentioned that the Manitoba Classic & Antique Automobile Club has obtained a grant from the Federal Government Heritage Program for Jim's Garage.

The Tax Charity Report Form will be completed and filed shortly with the Canada Revenue Agency. Alex asked for some assistance with the process, and Wayne Smith agreed to help.

Finally, Alex reported that he has redesigned the MTHA website with a new computer program. It should go live by the end of March. Also he indicated that he has finished drafting the next newsletter for distribution in mid-March.

MOTION: Ross Smith moved that the MTHA appoint a Membership Chair to be chosen at the next meeting. John Kapusta seconded. Carried.

MAINTENANCE STATUS:

Jim Legge reported that bus 565 does not have an oil pressure problem. The P-41 Canuck requires new belts. He advised that he has a CD player which could be installed into Bus 112, the MC-9.

Ross Smith indicated that volunteers plan to begin work on the 1954 GM Old Look bus soon, including repairs to the air valve and fuel lines. He will again talk to Jim Dudych about having the bus painted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Streetcar 356 Update:

John Kapusta provided an update on his work with the Heritage Winnipeg Streetcar 356 group. He indicated that work had progressed, albeit not during the winter months, and that the group would like the lights and other parts that the MTHA has been storing. Logan, John, Ross, David and Jim will visit FRG to identify the streetcar parts in storage.

2018 Events:

Alan mentioned the MTHA's attendance at the Pony Coral on August 26th, Flashback Weekend on September 8th & 9th.

Peter Elwick reported that the Dawson Trail Days in Ste. Anne, Manitoba would like the MTHA to attend on September 1st.

Alex Regiec mentioned that CJNU would like the MC-9 Cruiser at the Teddy Bear's Picnic on May 27th.

Logan Poole explained that due to the amount of organizing involved and low turn out, that the MTHA will not be in the 2018 Pride Parade.

Re-Fit Centre Request:

MOTION: Alan Brunsel moved that MTHA provide the MC-9 for the Re-Fit Golf Tournament transport. Logan Poole seconded. Carried.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 27th at 7:00 PM at North Garage.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Al Brunsel moved to Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 20:14. ■



INTERCITY BUS INDUSTRY REPORT

Manitoba Maneuvers Forward - The Saga Continues

By Alex Regiec

In late 2009 Greyhound Canada shocked the province and its mostly rural and northern residents by announcing that it would cease all intercity passenger bus service in Manitoba. Matters only became worse when Jefferson Lines of Minneapolis, Minnesota announced it was ending its nine year international bus service to Winnipeg.

The provincial government responded by announcing in March 2010 that it would invest \$3.12 million in a one-year service agreement with Greyhound Canada to keep buses rolling across Manitoba. As the province investigated a solution to the crisis and undertook public consultation, the service agreement was extended further lasting until March 31, 2012.

By July 1, 2012 the province had decided to relax it's regulatory regime restricting authorities that had been in place since the 1930s, allowing Greyhound Canada the freedom to restructure its service delivery network in Manitoba. Key inter-provincial and northern routes were maintained while 12 short-haul rural routes were abandoned. A further reduction in service occurred on September 20, 2015 along the Trans-Canada Highway route. Other bus companies were also liberated.

After searching for a long-term solution and ways to sustain bus service in Manitoba, the provincial government's new direction appears to have worked. On November 3, 2013 Greyhound extended new routes northward from Thompson up to Gillam and also into Cross Lake largely servicing the demand created by the Manitoba Hydro power dam construction sites. Also in 2015 other Manitoba based common carriers such as Brandon Bus Lines and White Owl Bus Lines took bold steps by offering trial scheduled services from Winnipeg to Brandon and to Steinbach respectively, albeit short-lived when anticipated ridership did not show up at the bus stops.

Greyhound still in the race

Greyhound Canada continues to be the main intercity bus carrier providing service to many Manitoba Communities and connections across Canada. Greyhound operates along 7 main routes in Manitoba. Four of these routes are completely within Manitoba, while three routes connect to neighbouring provinces (one to Thunder Bay-Toronto and one each to Yorton-Saskatoon-Edmonton and Regina-Calgary-Vancouver).

Continued on next page.

HISTORICAL LISTING OF INTERCITY BUS COMPANIES THAT PROVIDED SCHEDULED INTERCITY SERVICE:

Between the 1920s and 1990s, the Province of Manitoba had many bus companies that provided schedule intercity service to rural and northern communities. The following is a list of a few of the past operators:

- Grey Goose Bus Lines
- Eagle Bus Lines
- Webb Bus Lines
- Moore's Trans-Canada
- Southern Bus Lines
- Manitoba Motor Transit
- Trans-Continental
- Sonnichen Bus Lines
- Red River Motor Coach
- Interlake Bus Lines
- Northern Bus Lines
- Kelsey Bus Lines

Prior to the late 1980s, one could find daily bus service on most Manitoba Highways, operating from all of the major cities. Most of the companies above have been bought out or are defunct and no longer operate.



A Greyhound Canada MCI D4500 arriving in Brandon on schedule 5150.



A Greyhound Canada MCI D4505 arrived in Winnipeg on schedule 5442.

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INTERCITY BUS INDUSTRY REPORT

Manitoba Maneuvers Forward ...

Continued from previous page.

For the past four years, the Manitoba network of routes has remained stable - the Trans-Canada Highway offers one trip in each direction daily on the Winnipeg-Regina-Calgary segment and one trip a day in each direction between Winnipeg, Thunder Bay and Toronto. On the Yellowhead Highway, the schedule offers one daily round trip between Winnipeg, Yorkton and Saskatoon, which also is the pattern on regional lines such as Winnipeg-Thompson and the Monday to Friday service on the Winnipeg-Flin Flon, Thompson-Gillam and Thompson-Cross Lake routes.

Jefferson returns to Winnipeg

After discontinuing its international service between Sioux Falls, South Dakota and Winnipeg in October 2010, Jefferson Lines announced its return to Canada beginning on Wednesday, August 16th, 2017.

The new schedule operates five days per week, from Wednesday to

Sunday. Jefferson Lines' terminal is at the Greyhound Canada Bus Depot located at the Winnipeg James A. Richardson International Airport, connecting with Greyhound's regional Manitoba service and mainline national Canadian routes.

Jefferson provides a key link to Grand Forks and Fargo, North Dakota with connections onto Minneapolis, Minnesota, Kansas City, Missouri, Spokane, Washington and the mid-western United States.

The Historic Selkirk Commuter Line

On Tuesday, September 5th, 2017 Kasper Transportation of Thunder Bay, Ontario assumed operation of public transit service on the 114 year old Selkirk-Winnipeg commuter line.

The new company represents the 5th carrier to operate the route, deploying 15-passenger Sprinter vans to handle service demand. Beaver Bus Lines had operated the route from October 1948 until July 1, 2016 offering commuter transit bus service started by the Winnipeg Electric

Company (predecessor of Winnipeg Transit) in 1938. Headingly based Exclusive Bus Lines had taken control of the route on July 3, 2016 operating luxury motor coaches featuring on-board WiFi service until September 1, 2017. Thus on September 5, 2017 Thunder Bay, Ontario based Kasper Transportation assumed operation of the route using the comfortable Mercedes-Benz vans.

Changes to the schedule included an initial offering of 9 daily round trips operating between Selkirk and Winnipeg via Main Street / Highway #9. However this has been recently modified to 6 daily round trips mostly in the morning, midday and afternoon time periods.

A revised "flat rate" fare structure has replaced the former zone fare system, with the option of purchasing a ticket online from the Kasper website at a discounted price compared to buying at the time of boarding from the bus driver.



Jefferson Lines #1840 was the inaugural arrival on August 16, 2017.



Kasper Transportation #3 arrives at its terminal stop in Selkirk, Manitoba.

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INTERCITY BUS INDUSTRY REPORT

... and the Saga Continues

Kasper adds routes and connections

In addition to establishing a base of operation in Manitoba related to the Selkirk Commuter Line, Kasper Transportation has added two additional routes to its network, including operating inter-provincially and eastward into Northwestern Ontario.

On November 14, 2017 Kasper connected its new Manitoba operation with its existing Northwest Ontario operations by running the Winnipeg-Prawda-Kenora-Dryden-Sioux Lookout service. This service connects with its Kenora-Fort Frances-Atikokan-Thunder Bay and Sioux Lookout-Thunder Bay services. Kasper also operates a route from Thunder Bay to Longlac and Hearst connecting with Ontario Northland's network linking to Timmins, Sudbury and Toronto.

After applying for an operating authority from the Manitoba Transport Board, approval was

granted for the resurrection of a former Grey Goose Bus Lines route running between Winnipeg-Stonewall-Teulon-Fisher Branch-Peguis-Koostatak. Starting on December 19, 2017 the southbound trip began leaving the northern terminal at 7:00 AM with the return northbound trip leaving Winnipeg at 6:00 PM Monday to Friday.

Brandon Air Shuttle Service

Since its inception in 1997, the Brandon Air Shuttle has been offering a direct daily connection between the City of Brandon and Winnipeg's James A. Richardson International Airport.

Using 15-passenger Ford vans, Brandon Air Shuttle offers 3 daily round trips based on a pre-booking system. During the holiday season, an additional round trip is added to meet demand. The company also offers two daily trips in each direction between Brandon and Dauphin.

The Road Ahead

Rural populations and demographics continue to change, with some cities and towns growing and while many other towns and villages decline. In many rural and northern communities, where bus service is the only alternative to personal vehicles, a few residents depend on bus service to visit families and friends, to access school, college and university or for a shopping trip to a nearby city.

Now, as in the past, intercity bus service in Manitoba is primarily provided by private companies that generally do not receive any government subsidy. Despite the long distances between settlements, the change to the regulatory environment has allowed the intercity bus industry flexibility to adjust and adapt to new economic realities, demographic challenges and changing travel preferences.

Bus carriers have responded by increasing or decreasing service frequencies according to real demand, using smaller vans rather than large motor coaches, adding comfort amenities to buses and depots and using social media and the internet to provide real time information and communications with their customers. ■

Update:

At the time that this newsletter went to press, Kasper Transportation has announced that it had served notice to the Manitoba Transport Board and its customers that it would be ceasing operations on the Selkirk Commuter Line effective at the end of May 2018.

It is unknown if any other bus company will be applying for the operating authority for this route.



Brandon Air Shuttle #13 waits for its departure time at Winnipeg Richardson International Airport.

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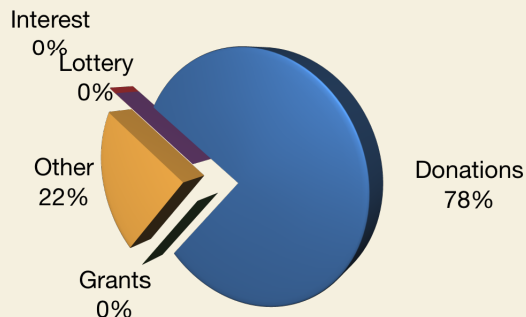
2017 Annual Financial Report

UNAUDITED 2017 STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE MANITOBA TRANSIT HERITAGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

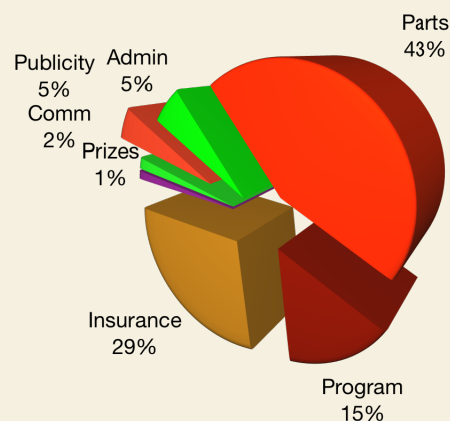
Description	Dollars
REVENUE	
Donations (ERCF Transfer, Farebox, Program & Corporate)	\$8,561.50
Grants	\$0.00
Gaming & Raffle (50/50 Lottery)	\$0.00
Interest	\$0.04
Other Revenue (Membership Fees, Calendar Sales)	\$2,440.00
Total Revenues	\$11,001.54
EXPENSES	
Administration (Post Office Box, Stationary, Office Equipment & Professional Services)	\$1,033.63
Rent - Storage	\$0.00
Insurance (D&O, SRE and Storage, Vehicle License)	\$5,496.00
Communications (Webpage & Newsletter)	\$303.72
Equipment, Materials & Parts (Bus Maintenance)	\$8,274.03
Lottery Prizes	\$225.00
Artifacts & Preservation	\$0.00
Programming (Fuel, Driver Stipend, Volunteer Meals)	\$2,962.74
Publicity	\$871.00
Total Expenses	\$19,166.12
Surplus/Deficit	-\$8,164.58

NOTE: Cash in the Bank was \$3,046.89 as at 31 December 2017.

REVENUE:



EXPENSES:





2017 Annual Financial Report

NON-CASH ASSETS

SUMMARY OF VEHICLES & MEMORABILIA OWNED IN 2017 BY THE MTHA

Description	Value	Status	Original Owner(s)
VEHICLES			
1936 Twin Coach 23R (95582) Bus 111	\$50,000.00	Operable	Winnipeg Electric Company
1936 Dodge/Lawrie (4024R9) Bus 501	\$500.00	Unrestored	Winnipeg Electric Company
1941 Twin Coach 30GS (108770) Bus 214	\$5,000.00	Partial Restore	Winnipeg Electric Company
1946 Ford Transit 69-B (66116X) Bus 565	\$5,000.00	Partial Restore	Winnipeg Electric Company
1947 CCF-Brill C-36 (CCB-CD36-47-2329) Bus 707	\$500.00	Storage Shed	Winnipeg Electric Company
1950 CCF-Brill T-48A (8151) Bus 1758	\$500.00	Partial Restore	Winnipeg Electric Company
1954 GMC TDH-4801 (TDH4801-249) Bus 200	\$20,000.00	Operable	Los Angeles Municipal Transit Co. & City of Regina, Saskatchewan
1956 Western Flyer T36-2L (MBPGSIN6458) Bus 20	\$196,000.00	Operable	Grey Goose Bus Lines/New Flyer
1958 Western Flyer T38/40 (RD115412) Bus 75	\$107,000.00	Operable	RCAF/New Flyer Industries
1963 GMC SDM-4517 (C006) Bus 33	\$5,000.00	Unoperable	Beaver Bus Lines
**1964 Western Flyer P-41 Canuck (3966) Bus 111	\$50,000.00	Operable	Northern Bus Lines
1971 GM T6H-4521A (T6H4521814) Bus 751	\$5,000.00	Operable	Metropolitan Winnipeg "Metro" Transit
1980 Orion 01.501 (90810167) Bus 651	\$5,000.00	Operable	VLS Prairie Dog Central
1984 Flyer D901A (D102403025) Bus 107	\$5,000.00	Operable	Winnipeg Transit
**1984 MCI MC-9 (1M89CM6A9DP038668) Bus 112	\$25,000.00	Operable	Northern Bus Lines
PARTS			
Bus Parts	\$60,500.00		
ARTIFACTS			
Uniforms, Badges, Passes, Tickets, Manuals & Pictures	\$60,000.00		
Total Equity Value	\$600,000.00		

NOTES:

- Vehicles highlighted in light orange indicate fully operational as of December 31st, 2017.
 - Vehicles identified in light blue have been partially restored but are not yet operational.
 - Vehicles in white are unrestored and will be re-assessed for historical value or scrapped.
- ** Bus donated by Northern Bus Lines in July 2015 to MTHA collection.



THE SWITCH IRON - END OF THE LINE

ATTENTION MEMBERS - IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Your 2018 MTHA membership fees are due by March 29th.

Individuals:

Please remit \$25 with the application form enclosed with this newsletter.

Corporate:

Please remit \$1,000 with your application form or contact the MTHA Treasurer.

If you have already sent in your dues, then please fill out the form enclosed to help us update our mailing list.

Thank You!

93.7 FM

For the very best in Nostalgia Music



All your favourite nostalgia music and feature programs are found at just one spot on your radio dial — 93.7 CJNU. Our power has been boosted to 500 watts to give you clear reception throughout Winnipeg and surrounding areas. Any time you want to hear the very best easy listening, nostalgia music from the past 80 years, as well as special feature programs from or about years gone by, tune in CJNU Nostalgia Radio at our new spot on the dial, 93.7 FM.



93.7 NOSTALGIA CJNU RADIO

93.7 NOSTALGIA BROADCASTING COOPERATIVE INC.
ON THE AIR | ON THE WEB | ON MTS TV | 1350 A - One Lombard Place
93.7 FM | CJNU.CA | CHANNEL 725 | Winnipeg, MB R3B 0X3
COMMUNITY NON-PROFIT RADIO | Phone: 204.942.CJNU (2568)
E-mail: info@cjnu.ca



PHOTO MEMORY FROM THE ARCHIVE



This wonderful photograph comes to the MTHA courtesy of John Day of Vancouver, British Columbia.

John captured this wonderful picture of Brandon Transit #16 travelling eastbound on Rosser Avenue at 9th Street in downtown Brandon while on vacation in September 1981.

This bus was a 1972 Flyer Industries model D700A powered by a Detroit Diesel 6V71N with a Spicer transmission.

Thank you John for sharing this great photo memory with us!

If you have a picture you'd like to share with us, please send it to: contact@mtha.ca