

Transportation

Our Commitment

- To ensure all persons with disabilities are not impeded from access to services available to those without disabilities.
- To ensure all members of the municipality have access to affordable transportation services throughout the municipality and extending to other areas when required for medical and other appointments. Sou'West Nova Transit Association (SWNT) provides door-to-door, wheelchair accessible transportation options to all municipal residents.
- To continue to support SWNT in their services of providing affordable and accessible transportation to residents of the municipality. Commitment to funding, particularly for MoB ridership.

Our Starting Point

Overview

- Sou'west Transit is currently available. From personal experience, the vehicles are/seem accessible for those with physical difficulties. The drivers have been very willing to help with vision difficulties and their escorting around obstacles is very helpful.
- Sou'West Nova Transit has a number of fleet vehicles including a wheelchair accessible van and minivan. In addition, volunteer drivers use their own vehicles and are reimbursed mileage for their trips. SWNT transports riders to medical appointments, errands (groceries), recreational activities, Covid-19 vaccination appointments, etc.

Achievements

- SWNT now has an accessible mini-van and van and provides door-to-door services to its riders. MoB has provided financial support towards operational costs and fare reduction for municipal riders.

Barriers

- Barriers may not always be completely removed, but sometimes they can be modified so that these barriers are manageable.
- Transportation continues to be a barrier for many individuals. SWNT is not equipped / capable of providing rides to everyone who needs it. And they require 24 hours advanced notice for trips. Many persons with disabilities who need daily travel to school (adult education

or post-secondary) or work still struggle as SWNT does not have the capacity to do this every day. No taxi services available. Many areas (besides Barrington Passage) do not have sidewalks for safe travelling by walking or wheelchairs/scooters.

Policies

- Municipality of Barrington will continue to work with SWNT and other community groups to address transportation issues for persons with disabilities. Will ensure persons requiring an accessible vehicle (example: use of the SWNT van instead of a car with a SWNT volunteer driver) will not be charged extra due to the use of the accessible vehicle.

Actions

- Actions can be documented and reviewed and revised if necessary.
- Explore taxi services if this is suggested by a potential new business owner?
- SWNT - Continued funding for operation costs and fare reduction rates for municipal residents.
- Continued timeliness with removing snow from sidewalks, parking lots and other municipal spaces.
- Accessible parking spaces at municipal locations? (example: Library building)

Top Priorities

- To identify where the area of most need is, then work from there.
- Work with employers in the community/ possibly help with funding? to support employers who are able to use a van to pick up/ transport persons to work. This may be done locally with some employers who have hired through the Temporary Foreign Worker program, but would be beneficial to offer to PWD's/ low income, or others who do not have adequate access to get to and from work.

Other Priorities