

Brantford Transit Goes “Green”!

Spring is the perfect time of year for Brantford Transit to introduce hybrid electric (“green”) buses into the fleet. Thanks in part to a federal Gas Tax grant and provincial funding, Brantford Transit is replacing some of its older model buses with new, environmentally-friendly hybrid electric alternatives. Five hybrids have been purchased in total; four replacement buses and one to expand service to Brantford’s southwest region.

Why hybrids?

What makes hybrid electric vehicles different from regular conventional buses? These buses use a blend of electric power and diesel power. The battery powers the vehicle from a stopped position and at low speeds, and the engine takes over powering the vehicle at higher speeds, when it is most efficient. Additionally, when stopping or decelerating, the transmission converts the energy of the rolling vehicle into electricity and stores it in the battery, for use in powering the bus all over again. The hybrid buses will be used on Brantford Transit’s busiest routes with frequent stops— ideal conditions for these vehicles.



Benefits of hybrid buses

- **Decreased fuel consumption (up to 20% less than regular conventional diesel buses).**
- **Lower greenhouse gas emissions (hybrids release up to 60 per cent less emissions).**
- **Lower maintenance costs - the electric operating system places less stress on the engine’s mechanical components, resulting in less frequent maintenance.**
- **Quieter and smoother ride than regular conventional buses.**



In addition to the environmental benefits, the low-floor design of the hybrids means that the Brantford Transit fleet will now be fully accessible! Brantford Transit is the third system in Ontario to have a fully accessible fleet.

Attend the launch!

Brantford Transit will be holding an official launch of the hybrid buses on April 19, 2010 at City Hall. The ceremony will begin at 4:00 pm and a Brantford Transit hybrid bus will be onsite to be unveiled for public viewing. Everyone is invited to attend the launch and get a preview of one of the hybrid buses before they go into service later in April.

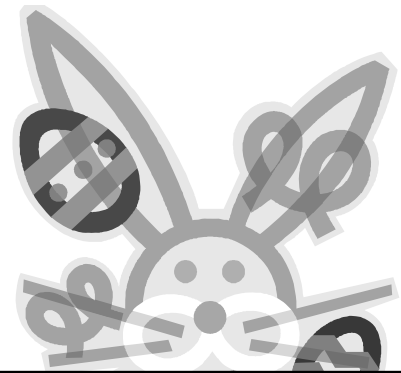
Top Ten Reasons to take Brantford Transit

April 22 is Earth Day, and of course everyone's thoughts are turning to ways to make a positive impact on the environment. What better way to be good to the environment than to use public transit? Environmental benefits notwithstanding, there are other compelling reasons to leave the car at home and ride Brantford Transit. Here's our top ten!

10. Let us worry about **road construction and detours** while you prepare for and unwind from your day.
9. Take the time to **enjoy that cup of coffee** on the way to work, while our capable drivers worry about the traffic. 
8. Let us worry about **inclement weather** and getting around. Brantford Transit is the last thing to be pulled from the road in case of a snow emergency.
7. The **Transit Tax Credit!** Visit www.cra-arc.gc.ca for more information.
6. Insurance costs for vehicles...**no insurance** necessary to ride Brantford Transit.
-  5. **Gas prices!** Why worry about rising oil prices when you can take Brantford Transit for a lot less?
4. Students in the house? Our **student passes can be cheaper** than the price of a car, additional insurance and gas for your young drivers! And yes, we do provide service Monday to Saturday, 6:00 am to 1:00 am and Sunday 8:30 am to 6:30 pm.
3. We do have **Transit Accessible routes** and are working towards more all the time - call for details or check out our website.
2. Give youth the chance to develop independence, self sufficiency and other important **life skills** necessary for going off to post-secondary education, jobs, or social activities.
1. And our favourite...**The Environment!** One bus can replace up to 40 cars on the road!!

Brantford Transit Easter Holiday Hours:

Friday April 2	Good Friday	No Transit Service
Saturday April 3	Saturday	Regular Saturday Service
Sunday April 4	Easter Sunday	No Transit Service
Monday April 5	Easter Monday	Regular Weekday Service



WHAT'S ON:

April 11, 16-18: Brantford Idol, Army, Navy & Airforce Club, 519-752-1694

April 23 - 25: Brantford Potters Guild Spring Pottery Show & Sale, Mohawk College, 519-758-1676

May 5: Buddy Wasiname and the Other Fellers, Sanderson Centre, 519-758-8090

May 9: Eliza Bell's Mother's Day Lunch Bell Homestead NHS, 519-756-6220

May 15: 4th Annual Spring Clean-Up, Personal Computer Museum, 519-753-8825

May 16: Strodes Amateur BBQ Challenge, Harlequin Club, 519-752-3151

May 17: May is Museum Month, Bell Homestead NHS, 519-756-6220

May 29: Mom to Mom's Garage Sale, T.B. Costain/ SC Johnson Community Centre, 519-752-5509

May 29: 15th Annual Barn Sale, Bell Homestead NHS, 519-756-6220

May 30: Harmony at Home, Home & Garden Show Harmony Square, 519-756-1500

June 4 - 5: "Find Your Spirit" Festival, Harmony Square, 519-756-1500

June 5: Brant United Way Giant Warehouse Sale Former Bi-Way Building, 519-752-7848

June 4 - 6: Walter Gretzky Street Hockey Tournament, Steve Brown Sports Complex, Lions Park, Ball Hockey International location, 519-756-1500, ext. 5506

& WHAT'S COMING:

Brantford Transit Student Summer Pass: 2 months, one great price! Valid for July and August only.

100th Anniversary Homecoming Weekend: Bell Homestead NHS, July 23-25, 519-756-6220

Childrens Theatre Series: Free outdoor theatre in Harmony Square, 7pm, bring lawnchair. Running July 21 to August 25, visit harmonysquare.ca for details and show listings (519.756.1500).

Movies in Harmony Square: Free outdoor movies, Thursdays at dusk, bring lawnchair. Running July 8 to September 2, visit harmonysquare.ca for details and show listings (519.756.1500).

Summer edition of the Parks & Recreation Leisure Activity Guide: Look for your copy in the Expositor, Weekender or in most City of Brantford facilities, as of May 20..visit us online www.brantford.ca to view pdf. format.

The Sanderson Centre's NEW SEASON: visit www.sandersoncentre.ca for details, or facebook!

For more info regarding most events listed here, visit www.brantford.ca