

# Calgary Idea: Calgary Transit Card Passes & Fares

Idea by Raphael Ramos

The change with Calgary Transit Passes to Card passes is to reduce the monthly fee payment among transit riders and citizens of the costly transit passes that are very close to reaching \$100 per pass. The simple way we can reduce the cost of passes and fares is to replace them with new Card Passes and Fares.

Card Passes and Fares will replace a the majority of the paper pass and fare, the costly price of the monthly payment for a new ticket, and the waste of paper that is printed for them.

- **Transit Cards (TC) replacing Transit Passes**

### How will it work?

The 'Transit Cards' (or TC, for short) will be produced in a plastic card similar to your Credit Cards or Library Cards, etc., using recycled material to reduce environmental impact by cutting trees down. The cards will be distributed similarly through how paper transit passes and fares were; your local drug or grocery or convenience stores, customer service centers, city hall cashiers, or online. Cards will be registered through where you have bought them and that will be registered through the Transit Databases under the name, profession, main email, main phone, and current address in who will use the card no matter what age.

Transit Cards are not free however, every purchase upon registration will have a price when bought:

❖ <b>YOUTH</b> ( <i>Ages: 7-17/18 pending on education</i> )	<b><u>Card Fee: \$20.00</u></b>
❖ <b>ADULTS</b> ( <i>Ages: 18-64</i> )	<b><u>Card Fee: \$30.00</u></b>
❖ <b>SENIORS</b> ( <i>Ages: 65 &amp; older</i> )	<b><u>Card Fee: \$25.00</u></b>

When you enter a bus, a train, or anything Calgary Transit, you will tap or scan your card on a small system that will beep and read quickly your tap. After tapping or scanning, you are charged **\$1.50** per entrance of any Calgary Transit. You **DO NOT** need to rescan or tap upon entering or departing transit, if you do, it won't be active (so don't worry!). If the card is not scanned upon entrance, but you do have your card on your person, your card will be autoscanned so you cannot avoid any payment. There is currently no prevention upon taking transit without the transit card, unless the bus driver has asked so or if you are on a train and police have asked to check with your card.

You don't need to get a new Transit Card every month. Transit Cards will only last 12 months (which is one year) after your purchase. So if you purchased your Card on October 16, **2017**, your card will expire on October 16, **2018**.

Within every month after your purchase, you will receive a bill regarding your Transit Card that will tell you how much you must pay within that month. How much you pay varies in how much times you have taken transit (**Times you have taken transit x \$1.50 = Your monthly payment**). So if you were to take transit 57 times within that month, your monthly payment is \$85.50 (**57 x \$1.50 = \$85.50**). If you took transit twenty times, your monthly payment is \$30.00 (**20 x \$1.50 = \$30.00**), and etc. This will go on every month until your card expires.

Once your card has expire, you may purchase and register a new one.

- **Limited Transit Cards (LTC) replacing 10 Page Booklet Tickets**

**How will it work?**

The 'Limited Transit Cards' (or LTC, for short) are made for citizens who *do not* use transit as often, this is similar to the 10 ticket booklet but in card form. Since a standard booklet has 10 tickets, the Limited Transit Cards will only be valid 10 times for use and will expire within one year (**YOUR CARD WILL NOT SAY WHEN IT EXPIRES!**). Each entrance fee when tapped or scanned costs: **\$2.25** for youth **OR \$3.25** for adults and seniors, meaning your monthly bill will vary upon use. If the LTC has not been fully used within the expiration of the card, you are allowed to have it rebated within a percentage of how many uses you have left . For example; if you have *five uses left*, you can rebate that for *5% off* your monthly bill purchase. **HOWEVER**, you *cannot* rebate your card if you have **six uses or more** left on your card.

Like Transit Cards, Limited Transit Cards are still registered normally within your purchase, and the payment and price of the card varies within age group:

❖ <b>YOUTH</b> ( <i>Ages: 7-17/18 pending on education</i> )	<b><u>Card Fee:</u> \$10.00</b>	<b><u>Charged:</u> \$2.25</b>
❖ <b>ADULTS &amp; SENIORS</b> ( <i>Ages: 18 &amp; older</i> )	<b><u>Card Fee:</u> \$15.00</b>	<b><u>Charged:</u> \$3.25</b>

Limited Transit Card's are still used in the same fashion as a Transit Card when it comes to scanning. The only change is, when you card expires, your do not need to repurchase a new Limited Transit Card, as it regenerates back to 10 uses again, a great way to save card production. If you still have a 6-10 uses on your card, you will pay an additional fee of \$1.50 along with the card price.

- **Transferring from a Limited Transit Card to a Transit Card or a Transit Card to Limited Card**

**How will it work?**

Sometimes we might use transit less or take transit more, and it's okay to switch cards. If you want to switch from a **Limited Transit Card to a Transit Card**, you **must** go to your local drug or grocery or convenience stores, customer service centers, or city hall cashiers to pay the rest of the card fee of a Transit Card. Here are the following payments below to switch from a Limited Transit Card to a Transit Card:

❖ **YOUTH**      **LTC: \$10.00 -> additional payment to a -> TC: \$10.00 = \$20.00**

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❖ **ADULTS**      **LTC: \$15.00 -> additional payment to a -> TC: \$15.00 = \$30.00**

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❖ **SENIORS**      **LTC: \$15.00 -> additional payment to a -> TC: \$10.00 = \$25.00**

If you have use the Limited Transit Card and want to switch to a Transit Card, the times you have used it prior switching will be paid immediately when purchasing and registering a Transit Card so you can have a clean slate of zero. Any *unused uses* will **no longer be valid**, so be wise when you want to switch to a Transit Card. If you switch cards after paying your monthly bill, you don't need to pay directly since you have paid the monthly payment.

Switching from a Transit Card to a Limited Transit Card, you will pay your monthly payment directly from your Transit Card. Like before, if you have paid your monthly bill prior to switching, you do not need to pay directly. If you want to switch from a **Limited Transit Card to a Transit Card**, you **must** go to your local drug or grocery or convenience stores, customer service centers, or city hall cashiers you will rebate your cards to the payment of an LTC:

❖ **YOUTH**      **TC: \$20.00 -> rebated to -> LTC: \$10.00 = \$10.00**

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❖ **ADULTS**      **TC: \$30.00 -> rebated to -> LTC: \$15.00 = \$15.00**

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❖ **SENIORS**      **TC: \$25.00 -> rebated to -> LTC: \$10.00 = \$15.00**

You are then given a new card with 10 uses on it and the monthly payment bill will still apply.

- **Current Elements From Transit Passes & Fares That Will REMAIN**

If you barely use Transit, you can still get the automated tickets from the stations still provided; **90 minute fares, \$7 or \$10 day passes, \$3.25 or \$2.25 cash and bus paper transfer, airport passes, and pets & 7 years old and under riding transit for free.** Any monthly bus passes, 10 ticket booklets or Senior passes cannot be in use after the cards have taken effect.

- **The Monthly Bill**

After every purchase, every month you will receive a monthly bill that shows your months history upon Calgary Transit. It will show you how much you owe the city transit after every ride. Remember, varying the card and the charges, as well as the amount of uses within that month, the bill is delivered every 30-31 days after your cards purchase, pending on the delivery date.

The letter contains the following:

- Verification (Name, Profession, Phone, Email, Address)
- Type of Card You Own with your cards digits and age group
  - **YOUTH: 94 (YH)**
  - **ADULT: 18 (AT)**
  - **SENIOR: 73 (SR)**
- Update upon your transit and date considered monthly (i.e. March 3-April 3)
- Your (monthly) payment that is due
- How many times you have taken a bus route(s) and/or train route(s) (along with its fleet number)
- Timestamp of when and where you entered and departed
- Next monthly bill for you/Reminders on lost cards and updating information and Card expiration
- Updates of Calgary Transit

The bill can be transmitted via email or letter, the safer option would be by letter. How do you pay? You can make your transaction through your local drug or grocery or convenience stores, customer service centers, city hall cashiers, local stations, or via phone. The bill can also help with the alert if your card was stolen or if there were inconsistencies or suspiciousness with lines that you may have not taken or frauds that you identify with. If you have identified your card as stolen or lost, the bill will still come in HOWEVER, it will contain the date and time you have called in when it was lost or stolen and see if someone had used your card after calling in. If you see stops you have never taken, you must report it to us. From there, administration will help you and you will not pay anything past when you have called in your card lost or stolen.

**Hope you take the time to read through it and take the idea into consideration! ( I really recommend it.) Thank you!**

