



# Meeting Minutes

Monday October 24, 2022

5:30pm - 7:30pm Remote/Virtual Meeting

Meeting No. 22.10

Prepared by Mag Leung

## Members Present:

Giselle General (Chair), Serena Tang (Vice Chair), Bob Turner, Emily Batty, Joshua Jackman, Zohra Jabeen

## Regrets:

Michelle Peters-Jones, Mudasser Seraj, Madeleine Stout

## ETS & City of Edmonton Staff:

Councillor Erin Rutherford, ETSAB Council Advisor - Regrets

Marc Lachance, ETS Staff Liaison

Mag Leung, ETS P&S Admin

## External Liaison:

Steve Bradshaw (President, ATU 569)

## External Presenters:

Steve Bradshaw, ATU 569

## Materials & Attachments:

- [Meeting Agenda](#)
- [ETS Branch Highlights Report](#)

<p><b>Land acknowledgement - G. General</b></p> <p><b>CALL TO ORDER 5:35 PM</b></p>
<p><b>AGENDA REVIEW DECISION</b></p>
<p><i>MOVED: by B. Turner to approve the October 24, 2022 agenda.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><u>CARRIED</u></b></p>
<p><b>MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING DECISION</b></p>
<p><i>MOVED: by S. Tang to approve the September 26, 2022 minutes.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><u>CARRIED</u></b></p>

<p><b>ATU Local 569 and the History of Unions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Presentation - Steve Bradshaw</b></li> </ul>
<p>Steve presented on the history and current standings of Unions.</p> <p><i>Wikipedia defines Unions as "an organization of <a href="#">workers</a> intent on "maintaining or improving the conditions of their <a href="#">employment</a>",<sup>[1]</sup> such as attaining better <a href="#">wages</a> and <a href="#">benefits</a> (like holiday, health care, and retirement), improving <a href="#">working</a> conditions, improving safety standards, establishing complaint procedures, developing rules governing the status of employees (like promotions, just-cause conditions for termination) and protecting the <a href="#">integrity</a> of their trade through the increased <a href="#">bargaining power</a> wielded by solidarity among workers.</i></p>

Currently unions fall into the following categories.

- Craft Unions – those that organize a particular section of skilled or unskilled workers,
- General Unions – those that seek to organize workers wherever they are and including the unemployed and
- Industrial Unions – those that seek to organize workers in a particular industry.

The Amalgamated Transit Union falls in the Industrial Unions and they have been representing Edmonton transit workers since 1911.

ATU Local 569 operates in 5 bargaining units:

- ETS Main: represents - Operations, Maintenance and Security
- ETS DATS: represents - DATS Operators
- Workers at St. Albert: represents - Operators
- Red Deer Transit: represents - Operators and Service Lane workers
- Edmonton on Demand (EOD): represents - Operators

There are 16 individuals that are elected Executive of the ATU Local 569. They represent all groups and bargaining units except Edmonton on Demand (EOD).

Currently there are 2700 members, 800 retired members.

#### **New Business/Updates:**

##### **ETSAB Board Group chat for quick Transit conversations**

- After discussing with M. Everett and the Civic Agencies team it has been decided that the board will not have a separate group chat as it risks becoming a way of discussing matters within the mandate of the committee and it being deemed as an improper meeting and that the chat group becoming records that are subject to FOIP.

##### **Leave of Absence/ AAC**

- M. Peters-Jones will be taking a leave of absence for the next 5 months
- J. Jackman and Z. Jabeen are interested in helping out with being the liaison for Accessibility Advisory Committee
- G. General will touch base with M. Peters-Jones, J. Jackman and Z. Jabeen with the role of AAC
- S. Tang will continue as the sole Vice Chair for the ETSAB board for the remainder of the year

##### **Recap October 13th luncheon**

- 6 board members, 3 Councillors, and 1 representative were able to attend the luncheon
- Members enjoyed chatting with Councillors; they thought it was a good opportunity to briefly discuss transit related motions. Members appreciated the Councillors who asked a representative from their office to attend on their behalf when they are not able to come themselves. Interested in hearing from Councillors from other parts of the City such as South/Southeast that were not able to attend.
- Board would like to organize another meet with Councillors early Spring 2023 and will then decide to see if this will be a twice or once a year meet.

CUTA

- Unfortunately, two ETSAB members were not able to attend CUTA due to registration being closed.
- Note to have this on next year's August agenda as a standing item to discuss for early registration.
- M. Lachance will ask ETS representatives that attended CUTA to share some highlights/ information on the conference.
- Additional information such as the agenda and committee sessions for 2022 CUTA are posted [online](#)
- 2023 CUTA will be held in Edmonton, which brings possibilities of ETSAB board members to be involved in a planning/ presentation capacity.

#### December meeting

- December's board meeting will be moved to Monday December 19 , 2022

#### Annual Plan

- G. General would like to get started on the Annual plan
- ETS admin will check with Office of the City Clerks for template/requirements needed to draft the Annual plan

#### Board Member Term Renewal

- Board members will need to decide if they would like to end their term April 2023 or renew term for May 2023
- ETSAB Membership Intention form for 2023-2024 term will be sent out shortly

#### Sub Committee Updates

##### Safety and Security

M. Peters-Jones

- Not available to update
- G. General will follow up with M. Peters-Jones regarding the report. Report has been approved, there are a couple comments that still need to be reviewed by M. Peters-Jones.
- Report will be finalized soon.

##### Budget

J. Jackman

- J. Jackman presented the Terms of reference
- Research Statement: To review the proposed four-year budget that will be proposed by the City for ETS to communicate clearly the impact on everyday transit users
- G. General moved motion to approve the Budget sub committee's Terms of reference.
- Members approved the Terms of reference
- Action item: Joshua will email the group for next steps

##### Mobility and Accessibility in Edmonton Winters

S. Tang

- S. Tang presented the terms of reference
- Research Statement: To present a review of the usability of transit after a few months of winter and identify key challenges and opportunities for improvement
- J. Jackman moved motion to approve Mobility and Accessibility in Edmonton Winters Terms of Reference.
- Members approved the Terms of reference
- Will be focused on trip, bus stops and transit centers
- Action item: S. Tang will email the group for next steps

<b>External Updates</b>	
<b>ATU 569</b>	<b>S. Bradshaw</b>
<p>S. Bradshaw appreciates the effort and hard work done by the board</p> <p>Union is focused on the budget and will be talking to the Councillors regarding the budget on the capital side.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to build a new transit division which needs to be funded to get that going in the new year.</li> <li>• On the operations side Union is lobbying for more Transit Peace Officers</li> <li>• Need new service hours</li> <li>• Negotiations for DATS and Edmonton On Demand, slowly making progress on the collective agreement</li> <li>• Will be working on St. Albert and Red Deer's contract later this year</li> <li>• Warming shelter concerns - will drive ridership away</li> <li>• Issues on temporary workers - Transit fleet recently announced they will be moving 9 temporary workers to full time</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the COTTS team being used on Transit? TPO's trained ready to go, not as many social workers available to help</li> <li>• There will be 2 warming buses first run by Boyle Street Community, second runned by ETS</li> <li>• Do we see this wage difference between DATS and Conventional drivers, in other regions? It does vary from property to property across the country.</li> </ul>	

**ETS Branch Highlights Report**

The ETS Branch Highlights report was presented:

**Ridership:**

- The statistics and graph showing ridership numbers was not available for presentation at the time of the meeting.

**ETS Updates**

- On Demand Transit Service Delivery Model - Oct 11 Administration presented service DeliveryModel report to Council
- 2023-26 Budget Process- During November and December, Council will be considering the 2023-26 budget which includes the capital and operating budget and utility services capital and operating budgets. the budget process will begin on Oct 31
- ETS Stuff a Bus 2022 - In partnership with Save-On-Foods, ETS will be launching the annual ETS Stuff a Bus campaign in November to support the food bank during the holiday season

**ETSAB information requests**

- Millwoods Transit Centre Pride walkway - was an initiative part of the community based budgeting project led by Councillor Knack and Councillor Tang
- Arc Fare Vending machines signage - ETS is currently working on signage for the Arc fare vending machines to help clarify some confusion among non-Arc cardholders attempting to use the machines to purchase transit fares.

**Battery Electric Buses vs. Hydrogen Buses**

- ETS is committed to helping the City meet climate resilience goals and reduce carbon emissions by transitioning to a zero-emission fleet. Since introducing the first 20 electric buses in 2020, the electric fleet has grown to 60 buses as of 2022. In 2023 ETS and Strathcona County will begin piloting Alberta's first two hydrogen transit buses after safety protocols, training and infrastructure are established.

**LRT - Major Rail incidents**

- The safety of riders and staff is a top priority and one incident is too many. ETS has several safety measures in place to prevent the risk of rail incidents occurring within the LRT system. These 3 measures include the use of gates, warning bells, flashing lights, signage and pedestrian signals to alert riders, pedestrians, vehicle drivers and City staff when it is not safe to cross the tracks.

**Security Cameras on Buses**

- There are over 3,900 security cameras across the ETS transit network, including multiple cameras on buses and trains. The ETS Control Centre regularly monitors cameras and can dispatch security personnel if needed. ETS buses are equipped with security cameras located near the bus operator's seat and on the exterior of the bus near the front door.

**Q&A**

Marc to follow up on the breakdown of ETS budget

<b>Councillor Emerging Issues Update</b>	<b>E. Rutherford</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not available to update</li> </ul>	
<b>Accessibility Advisory Committee - AAC</b>	<b>M.Peters-Jones</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not available to update</li> </ul>	
<b>Monthly Branch Update with Carrie</b>	<b>G. General</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was not able to meet with Carrie. G. General plans to meet with Carrie after the CUTA conference to discuss strategies for the Budget subcommittee.</li> </ul>	

<b>Topics of the Night</b>	<b>S. Tang</b>
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- Board was able to approve both terms of reference for the two sub committees
- Announced leave of absence for board member M. Peters-Jones
- Steve Bradsahw presented on the history of Unions

**Motion to Adjourn 7:42pm**

CHAIR SIGN-OFF 