



## Take Transit for the Planet this Earth Day and help reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

*TransLink customers collectively save 1.3 million kgs of CO2 by not driving*

*April 14, 2022*

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. – On April 22 for Earth Day, TransLink is calling on everyone to ditch their car and take *Transit for the Planet*, as part of a collective initiative to reduce the region’s greenhouse gas emissions. Choosing public transit over driving a vehicle is one of the most effective ways to reduce your environmental footprint.

“Personal transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) in Metro Vancouver, responsible for 35 per cent of all road-based transportation emissions,” says TransLink CEO Kevin Quinn. “We know that Metro Vancouverites want to make a difference, and taking public transportation is one of the simplest ways to reduce your carbon footprint. Join us in taking the pledge to take *Transit for the Planet* this Earth Day and leave your car at home.”

The annual *Transit for the Planet* campaign is just one initiative within TransLink’s broader commitment to sustainability and active transportation. As part of the [Climate Action Strategy](#), TransLink is committed to net zero emissions in its operations, fleet, and facilities by 2050. Over 400 new battery-electric buses will be in service by 2030 as TransLink works towards electrifying its entire bus fleet to accompany a fully electric SkyTrain and trolley bus system.

Customers can combine transit, walking and cycling by taking advantage of [secure bike parkades, lockers and racks](#) located at various transit hubs across the region.

“With all seriousness though with what we’ve been observing over the last few days and the month of April and what we’ve experienced here in British Columbia over the last several months in terms of extreme climate weather, what we know with certainty is that the climate emergency is here,” said Minister Ma, “we must address how we move people and goods around our community.”

“Public transit is a safe, affordable, and reliable way to get around, and is an important part of our CleanBC climate action plan to lower emissions and support a cleaner, more vibrant British Columbia.”

In 2021, [TransLink partnered with SCRAP-IT](#) to offer a Compass Card rebate when drivers scrap their used fossil fuel vehicles. In exchange, customers choose either an

## MEDIA RELEASE



eight-month adult 1-Zone or 14-month Concession Compass Card valued at \$802. There have been 34 vehicle trade-ins through this initiative since October 2021.

“TransLink was our original partner when the SCRAP-IT program began in 1996. We are so happy to be working with them again to provide this valuable service to our customers. We are encouraging everyone to take the pledge this Earth Day and to choose transit. If you’ve been thinking of scrapping a fossil fuel vehicle, now is the time to take advantage of these rebates,” said Diane Roberts, SCRAP-IT CEO.

For those who have switched to electric vehicles and need to combine driving with transit, TransLink offers [20 safe and convenient Park and Ride locations](#) around Metro Vancouver which serve SkyTrain, West Coast Express (WCE), and major bus loops.

Let’s get this eco-party started! Take the pledge to *Transit for the Planet* this Earth Day and share your commitment on social media with #Transit4thePlanet.

Plan your transit route with [TransLink’s Trip Planner](#) or contact Customer Information at 604.953.3333 for more information.

### Quick Facts:

- If every TransLink customer drove tomorrow, they’d produce enough CO2 to fill over 295 Olympic-sized swimming pools.
- For every 100 people that take SkyTrain, 229 kg of CO2 emissions are avoided - that’s the same amount of carbon stored in a cubic metre of BC softwood.
- Every time you take SkyTrain (instead of driving) you prevent 2.3 kg of CO2 emissions, or about five bathtubs full of CO2, from going into our atmosphere.
- Your trip on a hybrid-diesel bus reduces GHGs by 56% compared to driving.
- Your trip on an electric-trolley bus or SkyTrain reduces GHGs by over 99% compared to driving.
- One fifth of all trips in Metro Vancouver are by transit. But only 2.7% of regional road based GHG emissions are from transit.

### More information:

Transit for the Planet Campaign

[SCRAP-IT rebate program](#)

[TransLink Climate Action Strategy](#)

### Media downloads:

### Media contact:

TransLink Media Relations

E: [media@translink.ca](mailto:media@translink.ca)