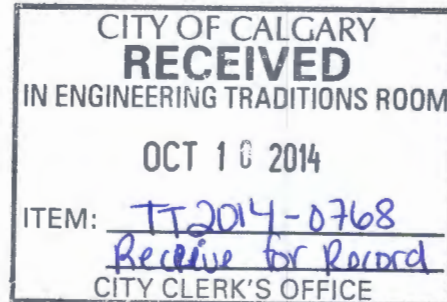




September 12, 2014

Councillor Shane Keating
Standing Policy Committee on Transportation
PO Box 2100 Stn M
Calgary, AB
T2P 2M5



Dear Councillor Keating,

The Calgary Ability Network (CAN) writes to voice its support of the proposed sliding fee scale for low income transit passes. This proposal would see the amalgamation of the existing low income, and low income seniors programs into one program that would best meet the needs of all Calgarians living on low incomes.

The introduction of a sliding scale that includes citizens up to 125% of known LICO would ensure that those who live at or just above LICO would be able to access public transit for a reasonable rate that is affordable for them. As we know, those who live at or just above LICO struggle to make ends meet as they often bear the full cost of activities, housing and transportation. By introducing this sliding scale we can support those at risk of poverty as well as those we know are living in the most challenging of circumstances.

As Transit services become increasingly accessible, having a comprehensive low income transit policy will support increased ridership and thereby increase access to civic engagement, volunteerism, educational engagement and likely employment for low income Calgarians.

We encourage the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation to consider this proposal and the doors it would open for the most vulnerable among our citizens.

We await with great interest Council's response to this matter.

Respectfully,

Mezaun Lakha Evin
Calgary Ability Network (CAN)
Transportation Working Group – Co-Chair