



## Joint Media Release – For Immediate Release Tuesday, April 3, 2018

### Survey Helps Shape Future of Handibus Service

A survey launched today for area residents to participate in the Grande Prairie Regional Handibus Feasibility Study.

The survey is at [cityofgp.com/handibusstudy](http://cityofgp.com/handibusstudy). Participants can share information on their transportation needs, use and frequency of current modes of transportation services, other means of getting around, locations for travel and disability/mobility aid use. The survey enables respondents to comment on information the consultants have heard, add further feedback on challenges and opportunities, and offer feedback on potential new service levels and fares.

The City of Grande Prairie, County of Grande Prairie, the Towns of Wembley, Beaverlodge and Sexsmith, and the Village of Hythe initiated the project to improve mobility options primarily for seniors and disabled residents to attend to basic needs such as medical and dental appointments, shopping, and social outings.

Watt Consulting Group has been hired to determine the feasibility of a regional handibus service. The survey runs for three weeks and is part of a resident engagement program that includes a series of open houses on April 10 and 11.

Grande Prairie Regional Handibus Feasibility Study Open Houses			
Tuesday, April 10	9:00am – 10:30am	Grande Prairie	Rotary Community Room, Montrose Cultural Centre, 9839-103 Ave.
	11:30am – 1:00pm	Wembley	Silver & Gold Pioneer Club, 9816-101 St.
	1:30pm – 3:00pm	Hythe	Hythe & District Pioneer Home, 10103-100 St.
	3:30pm – 5:00pm	Beaverlodge	Neighbourhood Resource Centre, 400-10 <sup>th</sup> St.
Wednesday, April 11	9:00am – 10:30am	Grande Prairie	Grande Prairie & District Golden Age Centre, 10222-101 Ave.
	11:30am – 1:00pm	Sexsmith	Sexsmith & District Seniors Association (Sunset Homes), 9702-97 Ave.
	2:00pm – 3:30pm	Clairmont	Clairmont Senior Citizens Centre, 9801-100 Ave.

Input collected through the open houses and survey will be added to what has already been heard from stakeholders. This commentary will be used to refine final service proposals. The consultancy will provide its recommendation to the project steering committee which will share findings with respective Councils. The project is due for completion by June. It is funded by a \$67,500 Alberta Community Partnership grant obtained by the Town of Wembley.

Residents or stakeholders with enquiries about the study can contact the project team at [HandibusStudy@wattconsultinggroup.com](mailto:HandibusStudy@wattconsultinggroup.com) or 780-800-2957, Ext. 434.

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