

Not Responsive

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**From:** Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 3:45 PM  
**To:** Kapac de Frias, Martina E TRAN:EX; Anastasiadis, Katerina TRAN:EX; Denney, Jay TRAN:EX; Unwin, Holly L TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Trotter, Kate GCPE:EX; McGaghey Jones, Stacey GCPE:EX; Paine, Alison GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Info for Early Edition

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Here is the info for the minister's pre-tape with Rick Cluff of Early Edition at 7 a.m. Monday:

**Topic:** TransLink Audit – what will be the scope? Who will conduct it? Who will pay for it? What will be looked at?

**Studio call in number - 604 669-3733**

Back-up (control room) - 604 662-7157 or producer phone: (Karen) 604 662-6418

Updated issue note and Q&As are attached.

Thanks

Not Responsive

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**From:** Hester, Jim TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 4:55 PM  
**To:** Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Caul, Doug D TRAN:EX; McGaghey Jones, Stacey GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: TransLink Audit announced by Premier...

Thanks Jeff. Just spoke with Doug. He has been in contact with TransLink who indicated that a primary concern they have is the implication that there is a funding shortfall in Evergreen. The \$30M is associated with the property tax component of the supplemental plan which is the fall back should additional revenue measures not get enabled. Please ensure that everyone understands this.

**Jim Hester, Director**  
**Transit**  
**Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure**

**Phone:** (250) 387- 6024  
**e-mail:** [Jim.Hester@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jim.Hester@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 4:41 PM  
**To:** Hester, Jim TRAN:EX; McGaghey Jones, Stacey GCPE:EX; Trotter, Kate GCPE:EX; Paine, Alison GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FW: TransLink Audit announced by Premier...  
**Importance:** High

Fyi

Jeff Knight  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
250 356-7707  
Fax: 356-2950

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**From:** Molcan, Lyndsay TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 4:33 PM  
**To:** Main, Grant TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Caul, Doug D TRAN:EX; Ginger, Vanessa R TRAN:EX; Kenny, Liz TRAN:EX; Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** TransLink Audit announced by Premier...  
**Importance:** High

Date: Thursday Mar. 22, 2012 4:12 PM

**B.C. Premier Christy Clark has announced an audit of TransLink's books in an effort to address a \$30-million transit funding shortfall.**

The TransLink Mayors' Council has been pushing for the spending review, arguing that the public needs to know how their money is being spent before implanting any new taxes, levies or tolls to fund an upgraded transit plan.

The council passed a motion earlier this month asking for a review by either the provincial auditor general or a new local government auditor general. Council chair Richard Walton wrote a letter to Transportation Minister Blair Leckstrom, arguing that an audit would be necessary to ensure public accountability.

"It is the intent of the Mayors' Council that a system for ongoing performance reviews be required under legislation. Our position is that these reviews be done by an independent body thereby ensuring public confidence in the outcome of such reviews," Walton wrote.

The letter also asked Leckstrom for legislation that would allow for the implementation of a regional carbon tax; additional fuel tax; and vehicle registration fees based on fuel consumption, engine size and emissions. The mayors' council says those new costs to taxpayers could be possible solutions to the funding shortfall.

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**From:** Molcan, Lyndsay TRAN:EX

**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 4:00 PM

**To:** Main, Grant TRAN:EX

**Cc:** Caul, Doug D TRAN:EX; Ginger, Vanessa R TRAN:EX; Kenny, Liz TRAN:EX

**Subject:** TransLink Audit announced by Premier...

**Importance:** High

Grant – Ian Jarvis just called here looking to speak with you. He was not happy. I believe he may try your cell.

I am trying to dig up news releases now.

Lyndsay

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**From:** McGaghey Jones, Stacey GCPE:EX

**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 3:54 PM

**To:** Caul, Doug D TRAN:EX; Hester, Jim TRAN:EX; Paine, Alison GCPE:EX; Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX

**Cc:** Trotter, Kate GCPE:EX

**Subject:** RE: News 1130

TransLink has called to ask for more information.

Media is calling them too.

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**From:** McGaghey Jones, Stacey GCPE:EX

**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 3:52 PM

**To:** Caul, Doug D TRAN:EX; Hester, Jim TRAN:EX; Paine, Alison GCPE:EX; Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX

**Cc:** Trotter, Kate GCPE:EX

**Subject:** fyi: News 1130

Hi –

Kate is getting media calls for MBL to respond to this:

Christy Clark announces audit of TransLink

The premier notes a \$30-million shortfall for the Evergreen Line led to the decision. A date for the review has yet to be set.

Not Responsive

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**From:** Hester, Jim TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 11:50 AM  
**To:** Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX; McGaghey Jones, Stacey GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Caul, Doug D TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Translink Questions

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See responses below

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**From:** Knight, Jeff J GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, March 23, 2012 11:42 AM  
**To:** McGaghey Jones, Stacey GCPE:EX; Hester, Jim TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Caul, Doug D TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Translink Questions

Please see below.

Jeff Knight  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
250 356-7707  
Fax: 356-2950

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## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Date: updated March 23, 2012

Minister Responsible: Blair Lekstrom

## TransLink- Mayors' Council request

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### KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

The Province has announced that TransLink will be audited.

The audit is in response to the Mayors' Council's request for new funding tools. The Mayors' Council is looking for other funding so they do not have to increase property taxes next year. Property taxes are scheduled to increase on average of \$23 per household, which would generate approximately \$30 million.

The Province will be developing a terms of reference for the audit – which will define what will be done, how much it will cost, how it will be managed and when it will be complete.

The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation has sent a letter to Minister Lekstrom with their requests to the Province about governance and funding. The Mayors' Council may invite the minister to their next meeting on April 10.

The resolutions are:

**Motion #1**

The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation requests changes to legislation to:

- require the approval of both TransLink's base and supplementary budgets by the Mayors' Council;
- enable a Graduated Vehicle Registration Fee or a new Regional Carbon Tax in order to avoid the short-term property tax increase; and
- provide for review of TransLink by the Provincial Auditor General or the new Local Government Auditor General.

**Motion # 2**

The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation requests that:

a) the Provincial Government of BC amend or introduce legislation prior to June 2012 to enable the following long term revenue sources:

1. Comprehensive road pricing to be built on sound demand management strategies and consistent with the principles adopted by the Mayors' Council on May 3, 2011;
2. New Regional Carbon Tax;
3. Allocation of future or restructured Provincial Carbon Tax revenues;
4. Graduated Vehicle Registration Fee based on engine size, fuel consumption, emissions rating;
5. Additional Fuel Tax;
6. Flexibility to add other best practices from around the world; and

b) clarify that any new funding changes are to be implemented by the Mayors' Council subject to public engagement.

**Motion #3**

The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation authorizes the release of the motions from the Mayors' Council March 7, 2012 In-Camera meeting, and the resulting draft letter to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, to local councils.

**Motion #4**

The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation:

a) requests changes to legislation to:

- add Electoral Area A Director as a full member of the Mayors' Council;
- allow the Mayors' Council to call regular or subcommittee meetings when required and for remuneration in a manner consistent with Metro Vancouver to be funded within the Mayors' Council funding envelope;

b) wishes to engage an independent, third party governance consultant and undertake a process that will review past and current public transportation governance models and best practices from other jurisdictions, with a view to recommending future changes to legislation based on the following principles:

- Openness and transparency to the shareholders (taxpayers) as exemplified by more public meetings;
- More direct involvement of the region in planning, funding and establishment of long term vision for transportation; and
- Review and establishment of long term funding options and allocations based on agreed on plans and vision.

Communications Contact: Stacey McGaghey Jones  
Program Area Contact: Doug Gaul

Minister's Office	Program Area	ADM	Comm. Dir
	JH	DC	



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