



**BayRides Returns to Regular Service – Fare increase planned for October**

After three months of reduced service, BayRides now has four of its regular drivers and three volunteer drivers back on the road, Monday to Friday from 6 am to 6 pm. The Seniors Grocery Shuttle is not yet back in service. To prevent the spread of Covid-19, BayRides has implemented a number of protocols for drivers and passengers based on public health directives.

Over the years, BayRides has experienced amazing growth. Until the Covid-19 slow-down, up to 1.000 rides were provided each month. “To meet the demands of this growth, and contribute to the financial viability of BayRides, we are introducing a small fare increase in October. It will be the first increase since we began operating in 2015. The Board of Directors explored all other avenues of funding before adopting the new fare structure.” says Patty King, Executive Director.

The cost of rides will continue to be heavily subsidized. Fare revenue accounts for only 16% of BayRides revenue. Provincial and municipal funding programs account for 60% of revenue, with the remaining 24% coming from fundraising. King noted that, “In order to keep the fare increase as low as we did, it will be necessary to increase fundraising.”

Following the example of other members of the Rural Transportation Association in Nova Scotia, BayRides will use a fare structure based on kilometre ranges.

**BAYRIDES FARES AS OF OCTOBER 1**

<i>Distance</i>	<i>Cost -- One Way</i>
0 km - 5 km	\$3
5.1 km - 10 km	\$4
10.1 km - 15 km	\$6
15.1 km - 20 km	\$8
20.1 km or more	\$8 + \$0.40/km over 20 km
Extra stops	\$2/stop

For detailed information on the Covid-19 protocols and new fare structure, visit [www.bayrides.ca](http://www.bayrides.ca). To book a ride or speak with the Dispatcher, call (902) 820-6600, Monday to Friday, 10 am -1 pm. BayRides is a not-for-profit charitable organization that provides door-to-door transportation for residents of St. Margaret’s Bay.