

**TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORY
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND
SENIORS IN NEW BRUNSWICK**

September 2007

Prepared by:

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**This document is available in alternate formats.
Ce document est aussi disponible en français.**

INTRODUCTION

Access to affordable, reliable and barrier free transportation is an issue that has been raised by individuals and stakeholders that represent persons with disabilities and seniors across the province.

New Brunswick is a small province with a relatively small population spread out across a largely rural setting. Even the urban centers are not concentrated with large numbers of population that would make it easier to develop special services.

Many consumers with disabilities are living on low fixed incomes or lower levels of employment income. Yet many of these individuals will have other extra costs directly related to their disability and are unable to shoulder the full costs of specialized transportation. Some persons with disabilities and seniors can drive but choose not to own a vehicle or cannot afford the costs of owning and operating a vehicle.

New Brunswick has a variety of accessible vehicles used by municipal transit services, non-profit community transportation groups, nursing homes, group homes, taxi and bus companies and private consumers but most of these vehicles are under-utilized due to problems related to operating costs, insurance, lack of drivers, lack of coordinated dispatch services and general lack of leadership in the community.

This document provides a list of transportation services, funding sources for transportation, and other general information on transportation for persons with disabilities and seniors. This list is to be used as a guide but is not necessarily all-inclusive. It is not an endorsement or recommendation by the Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons of the services or organizations included in the guide.

If you notice any corrections, omissions, deletions or additions to be made to this document, please contact the Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons at the number indicated on the front cover.

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TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

ACADIAN BUS LINES

Geographic Area Serviced: The Accessobus is active in New Brunswick, PEI and Nova Scotia on all Acadian Lines runs.

Mode of Transportation: accessible coaches equipped with wheelchair lifts.

Contact Information:

Acadian Bus Lines

300 Main Street

Unit B2-2

Moncton, NB E1C 1B9

Telephone: (506) 859-5060

Toll-free: (800) 567-5151

Fax: (506) 859-5106

Website: www.acadianbus.com/en/services/mobilite.asp

Hours of Operation:

Please call 1-800-567-5151 for schedules.

Description of Services Provided:

Acadian offers five physically accessible coaches equipped with wheelchair lifts for easy boarding. Each vehicle can accommodate up to two wheelchairs.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Please call for inquiries and/or reservations. A minimum of 72 hours notice is required.

User Fees:

Fares vary depending on destination. Personal attendants travel free upon presentation of a medical certificate testifying to a permanent disability that calls for assisted travel.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

COMMISSION DES LOISIRS

Geographic Area Serviced: Acadian peninsula.

Mode of Transportation: 18-passenger wheelchair accessible van.

Contact Information:

Commission des Loisirs
28 De l'Hôpital Street
P.O. Box 2037
Lamèque, NB
E8T 3N4
Telephone: (506) 344-3222
Fax: (506) 344-3266

Hours of Operation:

Van is available 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Keys must be picked up during office hours on Monday to Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

18-passenger wheelchair accessible van with a lift. Seats can be reconfigured to tie down a wheelchair.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Must have a qualified driver. Call the Commission des Loisirs to reserve.

User Fees:

\$0.85 per kilometre.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

LES RÉSIDENCES INKERMANN INC.

Geographic Area Serviced: Acadian peninsula.

Mode of Transportation: wheelchair accessible van.

Contact Information:

Les Résidences Inkerman Inc.

1171 Pallot Road

Inkerman, NB

E8P 1C2

Telephone: (506) 336-3909

Fax: (506) 336-3912

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Wheelchair accessible van with lift that can accommodate two (2) wheelchairs.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance.

User Fees:

\$90 per day, plus fuel, plus \$0.38 per kilometre.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

BATHURST COMMUNITY VENTURE VAN INC.

Geographic Area Serviced: Bathurst and surrounding areas.

Mode of Transportation: 12 passenger mini-bus with wheelchair lift.

Contact Information:

Bathurst Community Venture Van Inc.
23 Champlain Boulevard
North Tetagouche, NB
E2A 4Y8
Telephone: (506) 548-8644

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM if a driver is available.

Description of Services Provided:

Van is equipped to seat eight (8) passengers and four (4) wheelchairs.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Clients must register with the driver coordinator a couple of days in advance.

User Fees:

\$0.55 per kilometre plus a \$1 deductibility fee, up to \$5 maximum per month.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

HMS TRANSPORTATION

Geographic Area Serviced: Charlotte and Saint John counties.

Mode of Transportation: busses with wheelchair lifts.

Contact Information:

HMS Transportation
260 Water Street
St. Andrews, NB
E5B 1B5
Toll-free: 1-800-254-5466
Fax: (506) 529-4930
Email: hmstrans@nbnet.nb.ca
Website: www.hmstrans.com

Hours of Operation:

24-hour emergency service is available. Office is open seven days per week: 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Two busses with wheelchair lifts.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

For hire and for profit charter service. Reservations are required.

User Fees:

Call 1-800-254-5466 for charter rates.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

CHARLOTTE DIAL A RIDE

Geographic Area Serviced: Charlotte County

Mode of Transportation: volunteer drivers.

Contact Information:

Charlotte Dial A Ride

P.O. Box 172

St. Stephen, NB E3L 2X1

Telephone: (506) 466-4444

Fax: (506) 466-0779

Email: dialaride@nb.aibn.com

Website: www.charlottedialaride.com/

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

To provide access to transportation to those with little or no access due to geographic isolation, lack of accessible transport or affordability.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Members may be referred from agencies or self-referred to register with us. They must reserve at least 48 hours in advance.

User Fees:

Minimum charge depending on distance.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

GRAND LAKE ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION

Geographic Area Serviced: Chipman, Minto and Grand Lake area.

Mode of Transportation: van with a wheelchair lift.

Contact Information:

Grand Lake Area Accessible Transportation (GLAAT)

P.O. Box 1004

1100 Pleasant Drive

Minto, NB E4B 3Y6

Telephone: (506) 327-7853

Fax: (506) 327-7812

Email: llbetts@nb.aibn.com

Hours of Operation:

Per booking requirements. Available 7 days per week, anytime of the day, no overnight trips.

Description of Services Provided:

Van which accommodates driver, six (6) seated passengers and two (2) wheelchairs.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Own driver, no smoking or alcoholic beverages, no overnight trips. Driver must provide information: date of birth; full legal name and drivers license number.

User Fees:

Must be returned with a full tank of gas, no flat fee.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

DALHOUSIE NURSING HOME

Geographic Area Serviced: Dalhousie and surrounding areas.

Mode of Transportation: bus with a wheelchair lift.

Contact Information:

Dalhousie Nursing Home
296 Victoria Street, Unit 1
Dalhousie, NB E8C 2R8
Telephone: (506) 684-7816
Fax: (506) 684-7832

Hours of Operation:

Seven days per week: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Bus with a wheelchair lift.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

The public must reserve in advance, and a driver from the nursing home must be available.

User Fees:

Varies depending on the destination.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

DIAL-A-BUS

Geographic Area Serviced: Fredericton city limits.

Mode of Transportation: accessible "Cutaway" style bus.

Contact Information:

Dial-A-Bus

P.O. Box 130

Fredericton, NB E3B 4Y7

Telephone: (506) 460-2211

Fax: (506) 460-2211

Email: transit@fredericton.ca

Website: www.fredericton.ca

Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday: 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

Saturday: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and 7:15 PM to 11:00 PM

Description of Services Provided:

Wheelchair accessible service to registered users. Dial-a-bus also has a service available to "scooter" mobility aid users. A scooter lift has been installed on a minivan operated by our taxi contractor.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Users must be registered. Registration is through Easter Seals New Brunswick at (506) 458-8739.

User Fees:

One way fare are \$3. Attendants, where required, travel free of charge.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

CANADIAN RED CROSS

Geographic Area Serviced: Fredericton area.

Mode of Transportation: volunteers who use their own vehicle.

Contact Information:

Canadian Red Cross
318 Maple Street
Fredericton, NB E3A 3R4
Telephone: (506) 458-8445
Fax: (506) 454-7522

Hours of Operation:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM (depending on volunteer availability).
Occasional weekend service should a volunteer be available.

Description of Services Provided:

A transportation service of "last resort" providing assistance to those requiring someone to remain with them.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

A referral service based on age and the necessity of having someone to accompany the user. Essential appointments only such as medical, banking, lawyer, etc.

User Fees:

None

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

WHITE RAPIDS MANOR INC.

Geographic Area Serviced: Fredericton Junction and surrounding areas.

Mode of Transportation: bus with wheelchair lift.

Contact Information:

White Rapids Manor Inc.
233 Sunbury Drive
Fredericton Junction, NB E5L 1S1
Telephone: (506) 368-6508
Fax: (506) 368-6512
Email: brees@whiterapidsmanor.nb.ca
Website: www.whiterapidsmanor.nb.ca

Hours of Operation:

The bus is available upon request Monday - Sunday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM dependant upon the availability of volunteer drivers and the needs of White Rapids Manor.

Description of Services Provided:

One wheelchair accessible bus which can accommodate 3 wheelchairs and 10 seated passengers or seats can be removed to accommodate more wheelchairs as required.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

The public must request the bus in writing a minimum of 3 days prior to time required. The bus must be returned in good condition, i.e, clean and tidy. Only those drivers listed on the insurance policy can drive the bus.

User Fees:

There is no user fee, however, the bus must be returned with a full tank of gas. All donations are greatly appreciated.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

DR. V.A. SNOW CENTRE INC.

Geographic Area Serviced: Hampton and surrounding areas.

Mode of Transportation: 14-passenger bus with wheelchair lift.

Contact Information:

Dr. V.A. Snow Centre Inc.

54 De Mille Court

Hampton, NB

E5N 5S7

Telephone: (506) 832-6210

Fax: 832-7674

Email: adminvasnow@nb.aibn.com

Website: www.snownursing.com

Hours of Operation:

First come first served basis. The van is only available in favorable weather conditions as determined by the Centre.

Description of Services Provided:

14 passenger bus with hydraulic lift.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Available only to those groups (minimum 8) residing within a 25 kilometer radius of the Town of Hampton. Users must have a physical, mental health or other medical condition that limits their ability to use public transportation. Only drivers designated by the Centre can drive the van. The group renting the van must provide proper supervision. Contact the Centre for more information on other rental requirements.

User Fees:

Payment of the driver will be the responsibility of the group renting the van. Rental cost of the van will be the approved amount charged for the rental of government school buses.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

MANOIR SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE

Geographic Area Serviced: Kent region.

Mode of Transportation: 17-passenger minibus.

Contact Information:

Manoir Saint-Jean-Baptiste

5 Richard Street

Bouctouche, NB

E4S 3T2

Telephone: (506) 743-7344

Fax: (506) 743-7343

Email: dirmsjb@nb.aibn.com

Hours of Operation:

Seven days per week: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Minibus with a wheelchair lift. Four (4) seats have been adapted to accommodate a wheelchair.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Clients must reserve at least 48 hours in advance.

User Fees:

\$90 per day plus \$0.32 per kilometre and returned with a full tank of gas.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

MIRAMICHI ACCESSIBLE TRANSIT

Geographic Area Serviced: Miramichi and surrounding areas within 10 kilometers.

Mode of Transportation: wheelchair accessible buses.

Contact Information:

Miramichi Accessible Transit

1759 Water Street

Miramichi, NB

Telephone: (506) 773-9437

Fax: (506) 773-9439

Email: mpdha@nb.aibn.com

Website: www.mpdha.nb.ca

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday: 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Description of Services Provided:

Two accessible buses which can accomodate six (6) seated passengers and four (4) wheelchairs.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Clients must give at least 24 hours advance notice.

User Fees:

\$3 to \$6 depending on the distance.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

ABILITY TRANSIT

Geographic Area Serviced: Moncton

Mode of Transportation: wheelchair accessible bus.

Contact Information:

Ability Transit
236 St. George Street, Suite 115
Moncton, NB E1C 1W1
Telephone: (506) 853-3055
Email: abilitytransit@rogers.com

Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
Wednesday: 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM.
Friday: 7:00 AM to 11:30 PM
Saturday: 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Three busses each equipped with hydraulic lifts and tie-downs for five (5) wheelchairs and room for four (4) seated passengers.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Persons with severe mobility problems. Call as early as possible.

User Fees:

\$2.25 per one way trip or book of ten (10) tickets for \$20.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

CANADIAN RED CROSS

Geographic Area Serviced: Moncton and Dieppe.

Mode of Transportation: car

Contact Information:

Canadian Red Cross
246 Lutz Street
Moncton, NB E1C 5G3
Telephone: (506) 863-2650
Fax: (506) 863-2662
Website: www.redcross.ca

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday: 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Seniors 65+ for medical appointments depending on availability of volunteers.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Clients must be registered and mobile. They must reserve 72 hours in advance.

User Fees:

None.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

WHEELS ON WHEELS

Geographic Area Serviced: Moncton and surrounding areas

Mode of Transportation: handivan.

Contact Information:

Wheels on Wheels

P.O. Box 1302

Moncton, NB

E1C 8T6

Telephone: (506) 384-0969

Toll-free: 1-866-856-0969

Hours of Operation:

24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Description of Services Provided:

Van with ramp and raised roof. Attendant service available (upon prior notification).
Assistance to and from medical appointments.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Client must book for out-of-town trips.

User Fees:

Please call for fares.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

CANADIAN RED CROSS

Geographic Area Serviced: Saint John and surrounding areas.

Mode of Transportation: volunteer drivers.

Contact Information:

Canadian Red Cross
70 Lansdowne Avenue
P.O. Box 39
Saint John, NB
E2L 3X3
Telephone: (506) 674-6179
Fax: (506) 674-6129
Email: krista.wilcox@redcross.ca
Website: www.redcross.ca

Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Volunteer drive for seniors to needed medical appointments or to obtain groceries.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Availability of drives is based on volunteer resources.

User Fees:

Free of charge or donation to Canadian Red Cross.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

HANDI-BUS

Geographic Area Serviced: Saint John; Rothesay; Quispamsis; Grand Bay-Westfield.

Mode of Transportation: wheelchair accessible vans.

Contact Information:

Handi-Bus
66 Waterloo Street, Suite 125
Saint John, N.B. E2L 3P4
Telephone: (506) 648-0609
Administration: (506) 643-7004
Fax: (506) 643-7009

Hours of Operation:

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 7:00 AM to 6:30 PM.
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM.
Saturdays: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, with extended hours upon request for special events.
Additional service available at charter rates. Office hours from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM for bookings. After hours leave message for next day response.

Description of Services Provided:

An accessible transit system serving persons with mobility impairments, special needs and seniors unable to utilize regular public transit system.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Persons using wheelchairs, having mobility problems, seniors, parents with special needs children, visual impairments. Registration required with verification of mobility impairment.

User Fees:

Individual one-way cash trips within city limits - \$5
Monthly passes available - \$75 for twenty trips or \$40 for ten trips.
No charge for attendant(s) or companion(s)

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

KIWANIS NURSING HOME

Geographic Area Serviced: Sussex and surrounding areas.

Mode of Transportation: wheelchair van.

Contact Information:

Kiwanis Nursing Home

11 Bryant Drive

E4E 2P3

Sussex, NB

Telephone: (506) 432-3158

Fax: (506) 432-3104

Email: knhioffice@nb.aibn.com

Hours of Operation:

Anytime. Residents needs take priority.

Description of Services Provided:

Wheelchair van and driver (if needed). Will hold three (3) wheelchairs and four (4) seated passengers.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Drivers must be put on the nursing home's insurance and take a one hour course for the wheelchair van. Reservations are made through the business office of the nursing home.

User Fees:

Donations. If driving a long distance, the tank must be filled upon return of the van.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BY REGION

WOODSTOCK COMMUNITY TRANSPORT INC.

Geographic Area Serviced: Woodstock and surrounding areas.

Mode of Transportation: wheelchair accessible van.

Contact Information:

Woodstock Community Transport Inc.
c/o Canadian Red Cross
110 Richmond Street, Unit 10
Woodstock, NB
E7M 2N9
Telephone: (506) 328-8881
Fax: (5006) 328-4873
Email: stepwil@nbnet.nb.ca

Hours of Operation:

Van is available by reservation seven (7) days per week. Keys must be picked up at local Red Cross office from Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Description of Services Provided:

Large van seating sixteen (16) passengers or four (4) wheelchairs or a combination of the two.

Restrictions and/or Requirements for Use:

Available for all members of the community. Must have a qualified driver with a class 4 license, a criminal record check and instruction in using the wheelchair tie-downs and lift if they are to be used.

User Fees:

\$20 plus \$0.50 per km for trip segments over 30 kms. Van must be returned with a full tank of diesel.

FUNDING SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Private Vehicle Medical Transportation

This special benefit may be available to social assistant recipients (SAR) who require transportation for medical reasons and who travel by private vehicle, whether their own or another's. When the vehicle being used is not the social assistance recipient's, the special benefit is still paid to the SAR as opposed to the owner of the vehicle. This benefit may be paid:

- in emergency situations.
- if frequent medical attention is required creating financial hardship (documented by physician).
- if medical service is not available within 25 km.

If service is available within 25 km, only to be paid outside area if:

- SAR is referred outside region with documentation from physician indicating why the SAR cannot obtain service in region or
- SAR has had surgery outside region and is returning for checkup.
-

The most economical method of transportation must be paid if medical condition of the SAR will permit. Regardless of the number of SARs in a vehicle, payment is only made for one. Payment is limited to \$0.20 per km for all vehicles.

Required Documents:

- For ongoing benefits - a report from physician stating diagnosis, transportation required, number of trips, and length of time needed.
- If going outside the area for services available within area, documentation as to why the SAR cannot obtain service in region.
- Proof that the appointment was kept.

Public Transportation Medical Transportation

This special benefit may be available to SARs who require transportation for medical reasons and who use public transportation.

FUNDING SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

NOTE: This special benefit may also be selected to pay the Medical Transportation - Taxi benefit within a municipality according to the criteria etc. for that benefit. This is necessary as the regular taxi rate may not be based on a per kilometer amount.

May be paid:

- in emergency situations
- if frequent medical attention is required, creating financial hardship (documented by physician)
- medical service is not available within 25 km. If service is available within 25 km, only to be paid outside area if:
 - SAR is referred outside the region with documentation from physician as to why the SAR cannot obtain service in the region or
 - SAR has had surgery outside the region and is returning for checkup.

The most economical method of transportation must be paid if the SAR's medical condition will permit.

Guidelines to these payments:

- Bus/train: cover cost of fare.
- Air transportation: (use Hope Air (www.hopeair.org) or Air Canada's medical fare (if available in your region); full fare paid only if no other options are available.

Required Documents:

- Medical Report completed by physician, stating diagnosis, transportation required, number of trips, and length of time needed.
- If going outside the area for services available within area, documentation as to why the SAR cannot obtain service in region.
- Proof that the appointment was kept.
- Confirmation of cost - i.e. estimate, invoice or receipt.

Taxi Medical Transportation

This special benefit may be available to SARs who require transportation for medical reasons and who use taxi. May be paid:

- in emergency situations.
- if frequent medical attention is required, creating financial hardship (documented by physician).
- if medical service is not available within 25 km.

FUNDING SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

If service is available within 25 km, only to be paid outside area if:

- SAR is referred outside region with documentation from physician indicating why the SAR cannot obtain service in the region or
- SAR had surgery outside the region and is returning for checkup.

The most economical method of transportation must be paid if medical condition of the SAR will permit. Regardless of the number of SARs in a vehicle, payment is only made for one. Payment is to a maximum of \$0.33 per km outside municipality. If within municipality where municipal taxi rates must be paid, choose public transportation.

FEDERAL EXCISE GASOLINE TAX REFUND PROGRAM

If you have a vehicle, you may be eligible for the Federal Excise Gasoline Tax Refund Program if you are an individual who has permanent mobility impairment and cannot safely use public transportation, as certified by a qualified medical practitioner.

This program allows you to claim a refund of part of the excise tax on gasoline at the rate of \$0.015 per litre or \$0.0015 per kilometre. To qualify for a refund, the gasoline you buy must be for your use and not for resale. Diesel fuel, heating fuel, propane and aviation fuel does not qualify for an excise tax refund.

To claim your refund, complete the *Application for Refund of Federal Excise Tax on Gasoline* form which can be obtained by calling the Canada Revenue Agency at 1-877-432-5472. Keep one copy of the completed form for your records and send one to **Federal Excise Tax Refund, Summerside Tax Centre, Suite 101, 275 Pope Road, Summerside PE C1N 6E7**. Please allow up to 60 days to process your refund.

Do not send receipts or other documents with your refund application. However, you must keep documents such as invoices, vouchers and confirmation-of-use statements, since the Canada Revenue Agency may ask you for proof that you purchased the gasoline for which you are claiming a refund. Your documents must contain enough information for a complete verification of your gasoline tax refund claim.

Your proof of purchase must include the supplier's name, the buyer's name, the purchase date, and the quantity and price of gasoline purchased. The Canada Revenue Agency does not accept estimates for missing records, or receipts made out to "cash" as proof of purchase.

FUNDING SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

FUEL THE CARE PROGRAM - IRVING OIL

Fuel the Care covers part of the travel costs for families traveling between home and hospital when their children need medical care.

In Canada, Fuel the Care program benefits are distributed through the IWK Health Centre in Halifax, the Saint John Regional Hospital and the Janeway Child Health and Rehabilitation Centre in St. John's.

If your child is a patient at one of the following healthcare systems, and you would like more information about the Fuel the Care program, please call:

Saint John Regional Hospital (NB)
Telephone: (506) 648-7369

IWK Health Centre (NS)
Telephone: (902) 470-8076

Janeway Child Health and Rehabilitation Centre (NL)
Telephone: (709) 777-4452

INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS

For several years, the cost of adapting a van for a person with a significant mobility impairment has been claimable as a medical expense. 20% of the cost of a van that has been adapted or is adapted within six months of purchase to transport an individual who uses a wheelchair to a maximum of \$5,000.

The medical expenses amount is a non-refundable tax credit which reduces the amount of federal income tax you pay. It is called "non-refundable" because, even if you do not need the full amount to reduce your federal tax payable to zero, you do not receive a refund for the difference.

Attach your original receipts and a statement listing your expenses to your return and claim your vehicle modification(s) on line 330. The Canada Revenue Agency will not accept cancelled cheques as receipts for the purposes of this claim.

For more information on whether or not you qualify for any personal tax credits, please contact the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency at 1-800-959-8281 or access their Web site address www.cra-arc.gc.ca (search medical expenses).

FUNDING SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS REBATE

Most car manufacturers offer their disabled clients rebates to help defray the cost of adapting *new* vehicles.

Rules vary from maker to maker, so you should enquire directly with the dealer regarding the small print details of each offer. To be eligible, the car must be new and unused. Some dealers may require an authorising physician or rehabilitation specialist's letter recommending the installation of adaptive equipment.

Car manufacturers cannot install adaptive equipment when the car is being built at the factory. Most car manufacturers require that the adaptive equipment be fitted into the new vehicle within four to six months of its delivery to the customer in order to be eligible for any rebates.

Proof in the form of a receipt must be attached to a completed rebate application form. The allowance goes towards covering the cost of installing adaptive equipment and, depending on the manufacturer, the cost of the adaptive equipment itself.

It should be noted that any after market installation of equipment that could have been factory installed (such as an air conditioner) does not qualify under any of these rebate programs.

VEHICLE RETROFITTING AND ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE PROGRAM

This program is designed to increase the mobility of persons with a disability residing in the province of New Brunswick by providing financial assistance towards the cost of supplying and installing eligible retrofitting and accessibility features for vehicles.

Grants are available to eligible applicants up to 80% of the first \$5625 and 50% of the next \$7000 towards the cost of eligible accessibility features for a new or existing vehicle, up to a maximum grant amount of \$8000. This grant amount is renewable every 10 years for individuals and 5 years for organizations. Eligible applicants include individual residents, organizations, municipalities or private companies providing transportation services to persons with a disability, all of which must reside or be based within the province of New Brunswick.

Some examples of retrofitting and accessibility features eligible for assistance under the **FUNDING SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION**

program are:

- wheelchair lifts and ramps
- hand controls, steering devices and left-foot gas pedals
- wheelchair restraint systems
- special needs seating
- roof, floor and door alterations (if part of an accessible retrofit)
- scooter lifts

Consideration may be given to other features not listed above.

For further information, contact:

Claudette McAllister, Coordinator

Vehicle Retrofit Program

N.B. Department of Transportation

P.O. Box 6000

Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1

Telephone: (506) 453-5818

Fax: (506) 453-5859

Email: Claudette.McAllister@gnb.ca

VEHICLE TAX REFUND FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Upon the purchase of a motor vehicle in the Province of New Brunswick, the New Brunswick Government may refund the 8% provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) or 14% Provincial Vehicle Tax (PVT) on private sale transactions for persons with disabilities if:

- the motor vehicle is specially equipped with a device to enable a wheelchair or scooter to enter or leave the passenger vehicle (i.e. hydraulic lifts); or
- the motor vehicle is specially equipped with auxiliary driving controls (does not include spinner knobs) that are used to facilitate the operation of the passenger vehicle; and
- the motor vehicle is not operated by any person for the purpose of earning a profit for any person or as part of any undertaking carried on for gain; and
- the claimant is not eligible for any other GST/HST credit or rebate related to this purchase.

Applications for refund of the 8% provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST), form #HST-R-02, or 14% Provincial Vehicle Tax (PVT) form #PVT-R-01, can be obtained at any Service New Brunswick Centre or by contacting the Revenue & Taxation

FUNDING SOURCES FOR TRANSPORTATION

Division, Department of Finance at (506) 453-2404.

Along with the application the claimant must submit the following necessary supporting documents:

For refund of the 8% provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST):

- a) Copy of Bill of Sale and/or New Brunswick Tax Receipt;
- b) Proof that the motor vehicle is specially equipped with a device to enable a wheelchair or scooter to enter or leave the passenger vehicle; or
- c) Proof that motor vehicle is fitted with auxiliary driving controls that are used to facilitate the operation of the passenger vehicle, truck, or van;
- d) Letter from a medical practitioner certifying that the person is disabled.

For refund of the 14% Provincial Vehicle Tax (PVT) on private sale transactions:

- a) Copy of Bill of Sale and New Brunswick Tax Receipt;
- b) Proof that motor vehicle is specially equipped with a device to enable a wheelchair or scooter to enter or leave the passenger vehicle; or
- c) Proof that motor vehicle is fitted with auxiliary driving controls that are used to facilitate the operation of the passenger vehicle, truck, or van;
- d) Letter from a medical practitioner certifying that the person is disabled.

Applications, along with supporting documents, can be mailed to:

Department of Finance
Revenue and Taxation Division, Refund Section
P.O. Box 3000
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5G5

Inquiries on refund eligibility and/or criteria can be made to the Revenue and Taxation Division of the Department of Finance at (506) 453-2404.

Please note: Any inquiry on eligibility for obtaining a refund of the HST paid on adaptive equipment placed on such motor vehicles or the 6% portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax paid on the purchase of the motor vehicle must be made to the Canada Revenue Agency at (800) 959-5525.

OTHER TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

ADAPTIVE DRIVING SERVICE - STAN CASSIDY CENTRE FOR REHABILITATION

The Adaptive Driving Service enables persons with disabilities to have safe and accessible transportation in their community.

It is a provincial rehabilitation service. Services are directed towards individuals who, as passengers or drivers, may benefit from specially adapted vehicles and/or driver training. The Adaptive Driving Service is not covered by Medicare.

Services Provided

Driver Assessment

The driving assessment helps to determine the client's potential to begin or resume driving. A comprehensive assessment is completed that considers the client's physical, visual and cognitive/perceptual abilities. Specially adapted equipment may be suggested to help the client to access and control the vehicle. Information on equipment, suppliers and funding sources is provided. Driver training may be recommended. In some situations further testing or alternative transportation may be recommended.

Driver Training

Driver training may be recommended for those clients who need to learn a new skill and/or improve driving habits and behaviors. A driver assessment must be completed by the Adaptive Driving Service in order to confirm the client's needs and abilities.

Consultation Services

The Adaptive Driving Service provides consultation services to clients, caregivers and health professionals regarding vehicle selection and modification. This may include information on ways to transfer in and out of the vehicle, equipment for lifting and stowing mobility devices (wheelchairs, scooters) and issues related to safety. Information on equipment, suppliers and funding sources is provided.

Services Location

Clients may be seen at the Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation in Fredericton on an inpatient or outpatient basis. Outreach clinics are scheduled on a regular basis throughout the province according to the demand.

Referral Process

Document required for driver assessment:

- Physician referral (can be initiated by the therapist or client but a physician is required to sign a referral).

Documents requested for driver assessment (as appropriate):

- Summary of relevant -
 - occupational therapy findings;
 - physiotherapy findings;
 - psychology reports; and
 - speech language pathology reports.
- Results of visual tests (e.g., optometry, ophthalmology).

Contact information

Scheduling and general information:

Danielle Coleman
Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation
800 Priestman Street
Fredericton, NB
E3B 0C7
Telephone: (506) 447-4214
Fax: (506) 447-4160
Email: danielle.coleman@rvh.nb.ca

Assessment and consultation:

Carol Morrison
Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation
800 Priestman Street
Fredericton, NB
E3B 0C7
Telephone: (506) 452-5876
Fax: (506) 447-4160
Email: carol.morrison@rvh.nb.ca

OTHER TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

The Accessible Transportation Directorate of the Canadian Transportation Agency is responsible for ensuring that undue obstacles to the mobility of persons with disabilities are removed from federally regulated transportation services and facilities. The Agency removes undue obstacles in two ways: on a case-by-case basis by resolving individual complaints, and on a systemic basis by developing regulations, codes of practice and standards concerning the level of accessibility in modes of transport under federal jurisdiction, such as air, rail, and marine.

If passengers with disabilities encounter obstacles when travelling, they can file a complaint with the Agency in writing. An online complaint form and guide are available on the Agency's website. For further information, contact the Agency at any of the coordinates listed below.

Accessible Transportation Directorate
Canadian Transportation Agency
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N9

Toll-free: (888) 222-2592
Toll-free TTY: (800) 669-5575
Fax: (819) 953-6019
Email: cta.comment@cta-otc.gc.ca
Website: www.cta-otc.gc.ca

DISABILITY TRAVEL CARD

Easter Seals National Council and its members and/or affiliates are authorized to approve reduced fare tickets allowing persons with permanent disabilities to travel with an attendant* on the lines of Motor Coach Companies that participate in the reduced fare plan and Via Rail.

The Disability Travel Card provides identification to a person with a permanent disability, which will allow an adult attendant, traveling with the person with a disability, to travel at no cost.

Reduced fares will be granted to the person with a permanent disability, unable to travel alone, (regardless of age) and accompanied by an adult attendant, if such person with a disability has received authorization from Easter Seals / March of Dimes National Council or one of its designated affiliated members.

Only persons with a permanent disability who require a support person when travelling

OTHER TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

can apply for the card. The applicant must agree to follow the Terms and Conditions for use of the card.

* An attendant is an individual who accompanies a person with a permanent disability who cannot travel independently. An attendant will provide that person with required services that are not normally provided by a vehicle operator. These services include assisting the person with eating, administering medication and using the facilities in an on-board washroom or a washroom at a stop.

How to Apply

Contact Easter Seals New Brunswick for an application form for the Disability Travel Card. The form contains detailed instructions on what information is required and where to send it once completed. If you have any questions please contact:

Easter Seals New Brunswick
65 Brunswick Street
Fredericton, NB
E3B 1G5

Telephone: (506) 458-8739 (Voice/TTD)
Fax: (506) 457-2863
Email: info@easterseals.nb.ca
Website: www.easterseals.nb.ca

PARKING PLACARDS FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

The Province issues parking permits and placards displaying the international disabled symbol to promote special parking areas for persons having a disability. The permit and placard do not exempt the vehicle-owner from payment of any parking fees.

The intent of this program is to limit eligibility for the parking permit and placard for person(s) having a disability to those situations where the person has a significant degree of mobility impairment caused by paralysis, lower limb amputation, heart or lung disease or other health problems such that the person would have difficulty walking unassisted more than 50 metres in outdoor weather conditions.

Disabled placards may be issued for a period up to a maximum of five years.

Service New Brunswick TeleServices takes applications by phone for Parking Placards for persons with disabilities toll-free at (888) 762-8600. The application form is also available online through SNB's website or at SNB Service Centres.

TeleServices

Toll-free: (888) 762-8600, outside New Brunswick (506) 684-7901
Email: snb@snb.ca
Website: www.snb.ca