

## LETTER OF THE DAY

# BC Transit the way to go

Agency manages services well in the rest of the province

Too many cooks spoil the broth. When each of many cooks adds something to a soup, the result can be awful ... or apparently when 21 mayors run a transit system.

Metro's transit plebiscite failed and the mayors, who we pay to govern it, have no Plan B. Now the premier has named a minister to find a solution.

One obvious solution seems worthy of consideration. Give Lower Mainland transit back to BC Transit. Before 1999 they competently provided our transit services. They still provide transit services to all the rest of British Columbia; 130 communities and 1.6 million customers.

In 1997, GVRD (now Metro) mayors decided they wanted to run transit in the Lower Mainland. They formed a committee, negotiated detailed responsibilities and funding sources, held public consultations, and in 1999 TransLink was born.

It seems to me the first question should now be whether Metro's mayors have proven themselves collectively competent to manage our transit services, or should TransLink be given back to BC Transit. One wonders if the latter might be the more likely path to success.

**ED RIES**

*Tsawwassen*