

Transit supporters making big push for yes vote in plebiscite

BY KELLY SINOSKI, VANCOUVER SUN APRIL 21, 2015 12:16 PM



Transit supporters are pulling out all the stops to pull out a yes vote in the ongoing plebiscite, with ballot parties and 'lunch and learn' sessions with big corporations such as Hoot Suite and Van City.

Photograph by: Ric Ernst, PNG

METRO VANCOUVER - Transit supporters are pulling out all the stops to pull out a yes vote in the ongoing plebiscite, with ballot parties and 'lunch and learn' sessions with big corporations such as Hoot Suite and Van City.

But mayors and coalition members acknowledge there are challenges, with Yes coalition member Gavin McGarrigle, of Unifor, warning "it's mission critical."

"We've got five weeks left to go and we've got to do more to get the votes out," he told regional mayors.

Nathan Woods, spokesman for the bus drivers union, said drivers and riders are the most disenfranchised with the transit system because of the repeated pass ups they experience on a daily basis.

Unless they understand they will get more buses, Woods said, he expects they will vote no.

"They don't see the success of transit since the Olympics," he said. "The pass ups continue and are increasing. When we go out to campaign, we get a lot of people saying 'how will this help me when I have to wait for a bus?' We have our work cut out to sell this."

More to come

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