



MEDIA RELEASE



Friday, February 3, 2012

Free transit for YRT/Viva riders begins tomorrow, Saturday, February 4

The Regional Municipality of York pledges free service on ALL YRT/Viva routes February 4 through March 31

NEWMARKET – The Regional Municipality of York is offering two months of free transit service to any rider who uses any YRT/Viva route in York Region beginning tomorrow, Saturday, February 4. The offer of free travel throughout York Region is valid through Saturday, March 31, 2012.

In a commitment pledged by Regional Council last December to return strike savings back to taxpayers, the eight weeks of free transit service will benefit everyone affected during the labour dispute that disrupted YRT/Viva.

For those never experiencing transit in York Region, this incentive plan offers the perfect opportunity to experience our YRT/Viva system.

No form of currency, tickets or passes will be required to ride YRT/Viva between February 4 and March 31. Residents are encouraged to leave their cars at home and let someone else take the wheel. Free rides also apply to Dial-a-Ride, Mobility Plus, TTC routes operating in York Region and GO Route 69 – Sutton GO Bus.

If you have already purchased a monthly pass for February 2012, it will be honoured during the month of April or can be returned for a full refund at YRT/Viva's head office (50 High Tech Road, Town of Richmond Hill).

Modified service will resume tomorrow, Saturday, February 4. Effective Monday, February 6, **96 per cent** of YRT/Viva customers, or approximately 76,000 riders, will have a route available to them, including all school specials.

Attached Fact Sheet provides an overview of when YRT/Viva routes will be available from Saturday, February 4 to Monday, February 27, 2012.

YRT/Viva continues to assist transit riders with travel options through the Customer Service Centre at **1-866-MOVE-YRT (668-3978)**. Ongoing updates are available on www.yrt.ca and www.york.ca Residents can also follow York Region on Twitter [@YorkRegionGovt](https://twitter.com/YorkRegionGovt) and Facebook www.facebook.com/YorkRegion

- 30 -

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Founded in 1971, The Regional Municipality of York is made up of nine municipalities and provides services to more than one million residents, 29,000 businesses and 495,000 employees.

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Fact Sheet

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