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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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Websites: [www.bctransit.com](http://www.bctransit.com)[www.uvic.ca](http://www.uvic.ca)

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**GRAND OPENING OF EXPANDED UVIC TRANSIT EXCHANGE**

**VICTORIA** – The Victoria Regional Transit Commission (VRTC) along with the Government of British Columbia, BC Transit and the University of Victoria are pleased to officially open a 10-bay expansion of the UVic transit exchange. The expanded exchange, on the north side of the Student Union Building, will alleviate bus capacity issues at peak times and support future service expansion.

The cost of the \$1.52 million expansion was shared among the VRTC, the Government of British Columbia through BC Transit and the university. 17,000 passengers are served daily at UVic by 1,100 transit trips on 14 routes. There are now a total of 21 transit bays at the university.

“This an exciting day for the VRTC as we deliver on our commitment to better serve the University of Victoria,” said VRTC Chair Susan Brice. “The expanded transit exchange is a considerable investment which we are making in support of one of our largest partnerships in the Victoria Regional Transit System.”

“Improved transit service to campus is an important part of UVic’s sustainable transportation efforts, and our students, faculty and staff have been looking forward to this,” said Carmen Charette, UVIC Vice-President of External Relations. “Our goal is to have, by 2019, 75% of people coming to campus by means other than single-occupancy vehicles. These transit improvements will encourage more people to leave their vehicles at home in favour of greener modes of transportation.”

“This much-needed expansion at UVic will allow us to meet the growing demands for transit services by students and faculty,” said BC Transit President and CEO Manuel Achadinha.

For more information on BC Transit routes and schedules in the Victoria Regional Transit System please consult [www.bctransit.com/regions/vic](http://www.bctransit.com/regions/vic) . For more on UVic’s sustainability initiatives including transportation demand management, see <http://www.uvic.ca/sustainability>

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