



Covid-19 – Busing – in Atlantic Canada

CHARTER BUSING TOURS

Background:

Coach Atlantic Maritime Bus provide busing service throughout Atlantic Canada. These services include:

- Maritime Bus (Intercity Line Run service pan provincial coverage (PEI/NS/NB) into Quebec);
- Coach Atlantic Transportation Group (Charter bus services serving Atlantic Canada to all parts of Canada and the USA, providing busing for Schools; Sports; Conferencing; Cruise Ship Shore Excursion; Multi Day Tour; Social and Business movements etc.) from depot locations in Halifax, Moncton and Charlottetown.
- School Busing – servicing routes in New Brunswick
- T3 Transit – Municipal transit for Greater Charlottetown

The Coronavirus Pandemic has challenged our company to step up and provide busing as essential services:

- Maritime Bus – continue to operate on a reduced schedule moving people integral to the continuing operation of our provinces, such as, health care workers; grocery store and distribution centre workers; and those who must travel for work or for personal reasons. The parcel and freight services of Maritime Bus are essential in the movement of PPE, Blood products; Medical supplies; test specimens and tissues; medicines between and amongst hospitals etc. Additionally, with the shutdown of air service and passenger train service, Maritime Bus is the only transportation carrier operating for those who need it.
- T3 Transit – continues to operate as an essential public service.
- Coach Atlantic Transportation – has provided unique charter services during this time including:
 - Movement of symptomatic patients from their homes to testing sites to clear backlog for NS Health Authority.
 - Movement of health care workers from Halifax to Cape Breton for a private Nursing Home.
 - Crew changes for platform workers for an Energy Company
 - Movement of Farm/Fishery Foreign Workers to corners of NS and PEI and NB
 - Providing safe transportation for Autoport workers as they move cars off ships
.....all of these movements, essential to the organizations who needed them.

We are here to provide **TOUR CHARTER SERVICES** to our clients – can adapt to each of our clients’ special needs.

Equipment:

Social Distancing (Using Passenger Barriers)

We have equipped some of our 56 passenger coaches with Lexan passenger barriers. A capacity of 27pax can be reached (if passengers are travelling as individuals – window seating). This can increase up to 54 only, if the side by side seat in each row is occupied by a member of the extended household (or gathering group) of the person sitting at the window seat.

Supplies:

- All units have sick-kits on board; garbage bags for waste removal; hand sanitizer; extra disinfectant wipes and spray
- All Drivers have been trained as to how to provide the necessary level of sanitation.

Logistics

Safety:

Unit Cleaning:

- Once daily cleaning of the interior of the unit will be done daily using approved disinfectants and techniques for assuring that all contact areas are sprayed with disinfectant, thoroughly cleaned with disinfectant soap and water and then the area is again sprayed with disinfectant.
- Change in passengers or mid day cleaning will consist of disinfectant spray and thorough wipe down of high touch surfaces.

Passenger:

- Social distancing will be maintained at all times with the driver being first off and last on at all time.
- All seating will be in “designated” seats to ensure social distancing
- Passengers are encouraged to wear masks (albeit not mandatory)
- Passengers who disembark are to, when the embark, sit in the same seat as they did prior to leaving the coach.
- Manifests must be available to bus supplier to have for provincial border crossing (as necessary) and to keep for Health Authority contact tracing.

Loading/Unloading passengers; luggage and Driver Safety

- Driver will be outside the bus when loading or unloading passengers (2M away). Note: for any stops the driver will be last on and first off – on no occasion will the driver be at the wheel and have passengers embarking or disembarking.
- All units will be loaded (embark) back to front.
- All units will have passengers unload (disembark) front to back.
- No changing of seats shall be permitted throughout the trip.
- Driver will wear mask and gloves when loading-in or unloading luggage.
- Passengers will be asked to stay on the bus until the luggage is loaded or un-loaded and then the passenger may choose their luggage from the sidewalk/flat surface area.

Unit Cleaning Protocols

This is a heightened standard of cleaning and preparation of the coach.

Buses:

Location	Area	Application	By Who	Product	Frequency
Entrance	Railing	wipe	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Entrance	Railing	Garbage Bag	Washbay		Daily
Entrance	Dash	wipe	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Entrance	Dash	Hand Sanitizer	Washbay		Daily
Throughout	Touch areas	Wiped	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Each Seat	Tray Tables	wipe	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Washrm	Sink Counter	Hand Sanitizer	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Washrm	All (toilet/sink walls/floor)	Wiped	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Each Seat	Armrests	Wipe	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Each Seat	Seatbelts	wipe	Washbay	Disinfectant	Daily
Full unit	All	Sweep/pickup	Driver	All garbage	Daily
Pax seating	Seat	Wipe	Passenger	Disinfectant wipe	First entry
Pax seating	Seat	Place in Mag rack	Washbay	Plastic Baggy	Daily

On Board Supplies:

- Hand Sanitizer at entrance and in washroom
- Garbage Bag at entrance
- In compartment
 - Spare medium garbage bags (frequently dispose of tissues etc.)
 - A contained/sealed sick kit
 - Contamination Kit (gloves; disinfectant spray; disinfectant wipes; paper towel; small garbage bags; supply of small baggies)

Drivers

To ensure all protocols are adhered to:

- Initial safety talk about need to keep us all safe
 - On first entrance to the bus, a “disinfectant sheet” will be taken by each passenger (the passenger can wipe down their seat area and dispose of the towelette in the plastic baggy at their seat.
 - Before entering the bus each time, passenger to take a squirt of hand sanitizer as passenger enters the bus;
 - general tips of keep hands away from your face;
 - Cough into elbow away from others – don’t sneeze with head back (up in the air)
 - dispose of all tissues (use only once) after each use (plastic baggy)
 - Special filters are on all units (air purification enhanced)
 - Air exchanges 6 times per hours while unit running
 - Overhead air nozzle to be pointed downward (to help keep air moving)
 - if on the trip you are feeling sick ie elevated temperature please inform the Driver and remove yourself from the Coach (arrangements will be made to get you home).

- Driver will be outside the bus when loading or unloading passengers (2M away). Note: for any stops the driver will be last on and first off – on no occasion will the driver be at the wheel and have passengers embarking or disembarking.
- All units will be loaded (embark) back to front.
- All units will have passengers unload (disembark) front to back.
- No changing of seats shall be permitted throughout the trip.
- Driver will wear mask and gloves when loading-in or unloading luggage.
- Driver is distanced by empty seats behind (he/she will not necessarily be wearing a mask while driving (their choice) no passenger is to walk up to driver area.
- Passengers will be asked to stay on the bus until the luggage is loaded or un-loaded and then the passenger may choose their luggage from the sidewalk/flat surface area.