

Booking Window

Effective November 1, 2020 Access Transit will move to a **3-day** booking window.

What does that mean? It means you will be able to book trips three days out, rather than seven. Shortening the booking window allows for more efficient trip planning and fewer missed trips. It is sometimes difficult to plan seven days out. Shortening the window will allow for more flexible and spontaneous travel.



Online Booking

Book your trip online:
SaskatoonTransit.ca/Access

Click ▶ **Booking a Trip** on the left side of the page.

Tips & Tricks

Lost & Found

Did you leave something behind on the bus?

If so, give our office a call at **306-975-3555** between 1:30 pm and 4:00 pm. We will hold it for you until you ride again.

Responsible Travel

Some things to consider when booking your travel:

- ▶ **Understand the hours of business for your destination.** If the doors are locked, the bus and driver cannot wait there with you. If you cannot wait alone, book to arrive later or travel with a companion.
- ▶ **If you book a trip based on an appointment time,** you may be really early and forced to wait simply due to our routing and scheduling. Maybe the first appointment of the day isn't the best if there is a risk you will be waiting outside.

What does a 3-day booking window look like?

Today is:	▶	Book travel for:
Sunday	▶	Wednesday
Monday	▶	Thursday
Tuesday	▶	Friday
Wednesday	▶	Saturday
Thursday	▶	Sunday
Friday	▶	Monday
Saturday	▶	Tuesday

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to any of our Booking and Scheduling clerks for more information or clarification on how this will work.

Driver Spotlight



GALIB MIRZA

Galib has been part of the Access Transit team since 2015.

His favourite part of being an operator at Access is hearing stories from his passengers. Talking to passengers and receiving excellent life advice are things he looks forward to every day on the job.

When Galib is not working he can be found fishing, camping, and discovering new adventures throughout Saskatchewan. Galib loves to travel and see what our great province has to offer.

Check out his YouTube channel called *Bangladeshi Canadian Couple* where they highlight some of Saskatchewan's best camping and hiking locations and show abundant kindness to others.

Did you hear about the man who ran in front of the bus?

He got tired.

Message from the Manager

Seven months into living through a pandemic here in Saskatoon, I have learned a few things:

- 1. I thought I was an introvert**, but I've discovered I really miss being around people.
- 2. It is important to slow down and do things that make me happy.** I am teaching myself how to make risotto. It takes patience and time; the process is part of the reward.
- 3. Being at home all the time, often by myself, is very hard on my mental health.** I need to deliberately find ways to connect with people via phone or video chat.
- 4. Visiting my family by video conference simply isn't the same.** I value my family in ways that I haven't before.

These are just a few of my observations as we enter month seven of being affected by COVID-19. People have been affected in so many ways. For individuals in homes or residences, cut off from their families and friends with no other form of communication, it must be extremely difficult.

The *Re-Open Saskatchewan* plan allows people to return to a new normal. Day programs are slowly reopening which means Access is seeing an increase in ridership. Access is experiencing approximately 40% of the daily ridership that was seen prior to pandemic restrictions. However many of our operators are still redeployed cleaning buses at night or mid-shift at the downtown terminal. I think it will be a long time until we have an opportunity to return to anything that resembles pre-pandemic behaviour. An uptick in ridership in September brought more drivers back to their regular duties.

Mask use is now required on all of Saskatoon Transit vehicles. The use of masks is shown to reduce the risk of transmission from those who may not be showing symptoms. Operators at Access may request that a customer use a mask if they appear to be displaying symptoms.

Please take all necessary precautions when travelling on Access. If you have been out of the country or province and are displaying symptoms, or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus, please remain at home. We will be happy to have you travel with us when you are ready to go out again.

Take care,

Tracey Davis
Access Transit Manager

Enhanced Protection

During this time, Access Transit is going the extra mile to help protect our customers and our Access family. Here are some of the things we are doing:

- ▶ The hard surfaces of each bus are wiped down after each shift on the road.
- ▶ Overnight, each bus is sprayed with a disinfectant to help clean the soft surfaces
- ▶ Drivers are provided with a disinfectant spray to wipe down touch points on the bus throughout the day
- ▶ Drivers are provided with disposable gloves and masks to wear.



Here's what you can do to help:

- ▶ **Masks are mandatory** when traveling on Saskatoon Transit vehicles.
- ▶ Observe the restrictions that are put in place by the Provincial Government and the City of Saskatoon.
- ▶ Do not travel if you are displaying any symptoms. Access can refuse the trip at the door if visible symptoms are displayed.



2020 Stat Holidays

- ▶ **Thanksgiving**
Monday, October 12
- ▶ **Remembrance Day**
Wednesday, Nov. 11
- ▶ **Christmas Day**
Friday, December 25
- ▶ **Boxing Day**
Saturday, December 26

On-Demand Transit is here!

Book a trip today!



For more information visit SaskatoonTransit.ca or call 306-975-3100

SASKATOON
transit

How do leaves get from place to place?

Autumn-mobiles.

Clerk Spotlight

SHAILEE TURCHENEK

Shailee has been a Booking and Scheduling Clerk at Access Transit since June 2017.

Shailee has three children, Nicholas (20), Haylee (17), and Hanna (13). Shailee is also a proud Grandma to Jahsan, Nicholas' son, born in January. Nicholas and his family live right next door which allows her to get lots of Grandma time in.



Shailee planted a garden for the first time this year and really enjoyed it. Shailee enjoys spending time with her family, watching movies, and camping.

Taxis



As we continue to partner with **riide** to provide trips at Access, you may see a variety of logos arriving at your door. Vehicles with any of the following logos may be dispatched to perform your trip:



Taxis are expected to provide the same level of service as an Access bus. Please let us know if you encounter any issues when traveling by taxi.

Transit Pass Vendors

- ▶ Circle K Convenience Stores (Mac's)
- ▶ Avalon Auto Service
- ▶ Co-op Grocery Stores
- ▶ Mayfair Drugs
- ▶ Nordon Drugs
- ▶ Safeway Grocery Stores
- ▶ Shoppers Drug Mart
 - ▶ Canarama
 - ▶ Circle Centre
 - ▶ Market Mall
 - ▶ Midtown Plaza
- ▶ Sask Polytech
- ▶ Walker's Pharmacy
- ▶ City Hall
- ▶ Transit Customer Service

Contact Us

✉ AccessTransit@Saskatoon.ca

🏠 SaskatoonTransit.ca/Access

Booking and Scheduling ☎ **306-975-3555** | Customer Service ☎ **306-975-3100**

Return Undeliverable
Canadian Addresses to:
ACCESS TRANSIT
422 46TH ST E
SASKATOON SK S7K 0W9
accesstransit@saskatoon.ca

