

*** MEDIA STATEMENT ***

MVT Canadian Bus, Inc.

March 26, 2020

Re: St. Johns Paratransit Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

On Wednesday, March 25, MVT Canadian Bus was notified by an employee who supports the St. John's Go Bus Para-Transit service, that they had tested positive for novel coronavirus. MVT Canadian Bus is the independent contractor for St. John's Go Bus Para-Transit Services.

This employee was notified by Public Health on Sunday, March 22, and began self-isolation at that time. The employee is not in a role that interacts with passengers, the public or transit vehicles in service in St. Johns. The employee's last time in the Go Bus Para-Transit service facility was Friday, March 20.

Given the close working proximity of employees working at the Go Bus Para-Transit service facility, and out of an abundance of caution, we have closed the facility and all employees have been sent home for self-isolation. Despite the facility being closed, Go Bus Para-Transit service will remain available for eligible riders with service now shifted to local taxi partners, who are already contracted and trained to provide service. Riders should continue to utilize the same phone numbers and websites for customer service and trip scheduling.

The safety and wellbeing of the Go Bus Para-Transit passengers and our employees is our foremost consideration. Since the initial coronavirus outbreak, MVT began encouraging employees to follow the advice of the CDC and local public health officials and ensure that they wash their hands frequently to prevent the spread of the virus and, when soap is not available, utilize hand sanitizer. This awareness training also included directions to not come to work when sick and to contact their healthcare provider.

Additionally, MVT implemented enhanced cleaning protocols that included daily cleaning of all public-facing vehicles supporting Go Bus Para-Transit service with an extra-strength, hospital-grade disinfectant that has been proven to be effective against viruses like COVID-19. We clean all surfaces that customers and staff come into contact with including seats, seatbelts, seat frames, stanchions, doors, bus interior surfaces, wheelchairlifts and controls, floors and the driver's area including instrument panel. This same cleaner is used multiple times per day in our facilities.

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