

1866-1890s

HORSE DRAWN RAILWAY

- Halifax's first public transit system.
- Initially rates were \$0.08 for adults and \$0.04 for children between the age of two and 10. By 1874 it cost \$0.07 per adult and \$0.03 per child.
- Originally, the service ran from 6 A.M to 10 P.M Monday to Friday at 15-minute intervals.

1890s-1949

ELECTRIC TRAMS AND BIRNEYS

- Trams ran every 15 minutes.
- The cost was \$0.05 per person when the service started. In 1925 it cost \$0.10 for adults and \$0.05 for children.
- The original trams were replaced by Birneys in the 1920's. They were considered more efficient in both size and operation.



Birney Car no. 140, [between 1947 and 1949], Douglas Parker collection of photographs of Nova Scotia Light and Power Co. tram cars, CR60.16 - Halifax Municipal Archives.

1949-1969

ELECTRIC TROLLEY COACHES

- They were connected to an overhead wire.
- In a brochure promoting the then-new service, the trolley coaches boasted an ability to pick up passengers at the curb. Previously, passengers had to step into the street, as tram cars were fixed to the rails.
- The brochure announced 10 routes, including a Point Pleasant Park to Highland Park and Armdale to the rail station.
- The changeover came in stages. The first tram lines replaced were the Belt Line and the Agricola - South Park and Winsor - Inglis.

1970

DIESEL-POWERED BUSES

- Service started in 1970.
- Over the years has expanded to many communities throughout the HRM and, unlike many earlier services, isn't confined to Halifax.
- The first service owned by the HRM/ City of Halifax.
- With their purchase of the transit system from The Nova Scotia Tramway and Power Company, the former city made the transition from electric to diesel.
- In the early 1970s tickets cost \$0.25 for adults and \$0.10-0.15 for children. Currently tickets cost \$2.75 for adults, \$2.00 for seniors (65 and older) and youth (13 to 17). Children under 12 ride free.

2021

THE FUTURE

- HRM is taking on two projects, the Rapid Transit Strategy and the Electric Bus Proposal, designed to improve transit and its environmental impact.
- As part of the Rapid Transit Strategy there will be three new bus routes, or BRT lines, that will run every 15 minutes and three new ferry routes: Mill Cove, Larry Uteck and Shannon Park. The Mill Cove route was officially announced in June 2021.
- In May 2020, Halifax Regional Council approved plans to purchase 210 electric buses.