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April 27, 2023

## ~ FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ~

## Hub Transit Service Updates Starting May 1st

*Sioux Lookout, ON* – At a Special Council meeting on March 27, 2023, Council approved a number of changes to Hub Transit service in Sioux Lookout. These changes will all take effect on Monday, May 1, 2023.

Based on rider feedback, we are expanding the regular bus route to include a stop at the apartments on Millar Crescent, a southbound loop through downtown, as well as stops at the Travel Information Centre and the Hostel on Sturgeon River Road.

Hub Transit will also be adding a weekly Hudson charter service on Fridays. Riders will need to book in advance – either through the form on the Hub Transit website or by calling the Transit Coordinator at 738-5460 by noon on Thursdays.

The bus will leave the Lost Lake Drop-In Centre at 9:10 a.m. and return to Hudson at 1:30 p.m. each Friday. During the day, the bus will make stops at Home Hardware, the downtown core, Fresh Market Foods, and Giant Tiger. *A minimum of three riders will be required for the route to run each week.* The cost is \$60.00 round trip for adults, \$20.00 round trip for kids age 4 to 12, and children age 3 and under ride for free. <u>All children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.</u>

The Hudson charter service will be reviewed after 60 days to determine if the service levels are appropriate.

The current "on-demand" bus service will be transitioning to an "on-call" service. This change will require riders to call and book their trip *in advance*, by noon on the business day prior to the trip. Riders will be served on a first come, first served basis. To ensure your spot on the bus, please call the Transit Coordinator before noon the day before you need pick-up. Same-day calls for service may only be accepted in case of emergency and <u>only</u> if space is available at the time.

Hub Transit fares for On-Call service will also see a significant change, to encourage use of the route bus, move the service towards long-term sustainability, and focus on its intended purpose of serving people with disabilities.

For Hub Transit's route bus, fares will remain at their current rates:

- Adult: \$5.00 one-way
- Youth (Ages 4-12): \$2 one-way
- Children (Ages 3 and Under): FREE
- Support person for individuals with disabilities: FREE

For the urban Sioux Lookout On-Call bus, fares will be as follows:

- Adult: \$15.00 one-way
- Youth (ages 4-12): \$5 one-way
- Adult with Disability Card: \$5.00 one-way
- Youth with Disability Card: \$2 one-way
- Children (Ages 3 and Under): FREE
- Support person for individuals with disabilities: FREE

For all trips on Hub Transit buses, children 12 and under <u>must</u> be accompanied by an adult.

To qualify for disability rates with the On-Call bus, a form must be completed stating that you are disabled. A photo ID Disability Card will be issued and <u>must</u> be presented to the driver when boarding to get the reduced rate. For details, please see the Disability Card page at <u>https://www.hubtransit.org</u>. There is no cost to apply for or receive this card.

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## For more information, please contact: Brian P. MacKinnon, Manager of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk 807-738-2170 or <u>clerk@siouxlookout.ca</u>