

Transit in Mississauga – History and Achievements

The Beginning of Mississauga Transit:

In 1969, the “modern” Mississauga Transit system was launched on a six month trial basis under contracts with Charterways Transportation Limited and Georgetown Transportation Company. The former operated the “southern” system in the Town of Mississauga, while the latter operated one local route in the Malton area. Although both operated under the Mississauga Transit banner, the two systems did not connect and were independent of each other. The southern division consisted of just seven buses operating on three routes.

By the early 1970s, the Mississauga area was growing quickly and the need for an expanded public transit network was clear. The Province of Ontario had then recently launched a new subsidy program for municipal transit services in the province. Hence plans were put into place to form the municipal Mississauga Transit system.

In November 1973, the Town of Mississauga’s new municipal transit system was launched, taking over from the contractors on this date. The next year, the Town of Mississauga became the City of Mississauga.

Mississauga Transit’s double diamond logo, originally designed in the early 1970s, symbolizes the letter M reflected in Lake Ontario.

In November 1998, Mississauga Transit marked the 25th anniversary of providing transit service for the people of Mississauga.

When Mississauga’s BRT Project is operational in 2013, the transit system will celebrate its 40th anniversary.

Mississauga Transit	1974 (the first complete year of municipal operation)	1994	2008
Ridership	4,121,589	20,035,803	31,379,132
Revenue vehicle Km (Revenue Passenger Service)	1,820,490	16,462,638	24,756,571
Fare	\$0.35	\$2.00	\$3.00 (Cash fare, as of Jan. 26, 2009)

Employees	157	611	1111
Buses	66	276	410

Facts:

Mississauga Transit is the 4th largest transit system in Ontario following the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), OC Transpo and GO Transit.

Mississauga Transit serves a growing population of 726,000 (2008) and services an area of almost 178.63 square kilometres (about 70 square miles).

In 2008, Mississauga Transit ridership reached a record high, exceeding 31 million revenue trips (31,379,132) and 45 million passenger boardings (45,225,214).

In 2008, 15 more buses were added to the City's transit fleet for a milestone total of more than 400 buses of various types – plus an additional 87,000 (87,655) hours of annual service.

Mississauga Transit carried, on average, 158,705 riders on an average weekday in 2008.

Effective March 22, 2010, Mississauga Transit operates 66 regular routes (of which 5 are express routes), 1 seasonal route and an additional 21 school routes, in total 87 routes. (of which 35 are designated as fully accessible)

Achievements:

In 1982, Mississauga Transit was the first transit system in Ontario to utilize 60-foot articulated buses.

In 1987, Mississauga Transit was among the first transit systems to begin using electronic fare boxes.

In 1989, Mississauga Transit was the first transit system in Canada to introduce air conditioning on buses.

In 1994, responding to customer demand, Mississauga Transit introduced the first transferable weekly pass in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

In 2005, Mississauga Transit was the first transit system in the GTA to offer customers an online trip planning capability: Click 'n Ride.

In 2007, a Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass) was introduced for full-time University of Toronto Mississauga students, entitling them to unlimited travel on Mississauga Transit buses in the fall and winter academic terms.