



Highway 16 from Prince Rupert to Prince George stretches nearly 800 kilometres in BC’s northern region. Where transportation options are available, residents need to find that information quickly and easily .

This document includes information on transit, medical transportation, inter-city bus, rail, and community-based services. It provides a single source of information on these and other related services, such as driver training programs and business licensing information for starting up a new service.



## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

### Transit

- The BC Transit website provides everything you need to know about using public transit services in Smithers. Visit [www.bctransit.com/regions/smi/](http://www.bctransit.com/regions/smi/) or call **250-847-4993**.
- Refer to the “BE SAFE” guide ([www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/crimeprevention/shareddocs/pubs/safe-community-besafe-guide.pdf](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/crimeprevention/shareddocs/pubs/safe-community-besafe-guide.pdf)) for personal safety tips for when you are walking or using public transportation.

### Medical Transportation

- In the event of an emergency, dial **9-1-1** if you require an ambulance to transport you to a hospital.
- Northern Health Connections is a travel service program for patients needing to travel for out-of-town medical appointments in Northern BC. Call **1-888-647-4997**.
- The First Nations Health Authority Health Benefits Program helps provide coverage for health services to support BC First Nations, including access to medical transportation benefits through their home community’s health service office. For more information, call **1-855-550-5454**.

### Inter-City Bus

- Greyhound Canada is the largest provider of inter-city bus transportation in Canada. Visit [www.greyhound.ca](http://www.greyhound.ca) or call **1-800-661-8747**.

### Rail

- VIA Rail Canada operates a regional service between Jasper, AB and Prince Rupert, BC. Visit [www.viarail.ca](http://www.viarail.ca) or call **1-888-VIA-Rail (842-7245)**.

### Community-Based Services

- The Smithers and Area Community Directory contains helpful information on local transportation services ([www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/category/transportation](http://www.smitherscommunitydirectory.com/directory/category/transportation)).

## LICENSING SERVICES

### Driver Licensing

- Approved driver training courses are designed to help you attain the driving skills, knowledge and attitudes you need to become a safe driver. You can also reduce your novice stage by six months and get two grade 11 credits. Visit [www.dtcbc.com/resources/locations/glp-schools.asp](http://www.dtcbc.com/resources/locations/glp-schools.asp) for ICBC Approved Driver Training Course Locations.
- Information is also available on all driver training school locations licensed or registered by ICBC. See the Driver Training Industry of British Columbia website ([www.th.gov.bc.ca/rpt/licence\\_new](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/rpt/licence_new)) or call **1-866-339-0363**.
- If you are unsure of the type of driver’s licence you need to operate a specific type of vehicle or passenger service, ICBC has information on Driver’s Licence Classes and Types. Contact ICBC to determine qualifications to

operate shuttle services (**1-800-950-1498**). A commercial driver’s licence requires a safe driving record.

- Should you wish to apply for a licence to start up your own driver training school, or to teach a driver training course, see the Driver Training Industry of BC website ([www.dtcbc.com/driving-schools](http://www.dtcbc.com/driving-schools)) or call **1-866-339-0363**.

### Business Licensing

- To operate a business in Smithers, you need a business licence issued by the Town of Smithers. See Smithers Business Licensing ([www.smithers.ca/businesses/licenses-permits-signage/business-licensing](http://www.smithers.ca/businesses/licenses-permits-signage/business-licensing)) or call **250-847-1600**.
- Visit the Passenger Transportation Branch website ([www.th.gov.bc.ca/rpt/licence\\_new.htm](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/rpt/licence_new.htm)) for information on the types of licences issued to operate various transportation services. In some cases, no provincial licence is required. Contact the Passenger Transportation Branch (**1-800-663-7867**) for more information.
- Speak to an Autoplan Broker about vehicle and liability insurance needed to operate a passenger transportation service. For the location nearest you, see the ICBC website ([www.icbc.com](http://www.icbc.com)) or call **1-800-663-3051**.