

Shuttle available for VIA Rail customers this Christmas season

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND - The RÉGIM and VIA Rail have reached an agreement for the third consecutive year in order to offer the shuttle service between Gaspé and Campbellton during the Christmas holidays between December 20 and January 5.

From the train station in-Campbellton, the RÉGIM's buses will stop in all the municipalities where VIA Rail had stations or made stops, east of Nouvelle until Gaspé and once again from Gaspé to Campbellton at night for the people taking the train towards Montreal.

"The success of the last shuttles encouraged us to continue this service once more this year for the Holidays. Synchronized with the train schedule, the shuttles allow for an additional transport service for Gaspesians and thus fill a need along that stretch," says Daniel Côté, president of the Régie intermunicipale de transport Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (RéGIM).

The passengers wanting to use the service are invited to make reservations for the shuttle and the train tickets



VIA Rail's shuttle service will be available between December 20 and January 5. Photo: G. Gagné

directly on VIA Rail's website, at www.viarail.ca. They can also dial the toll free number 1- 888 VIA RAIL, which is 1- 888-842-7245 or 1-800-268-9503 for people with hearing impairments.

"When buying a ticket, people can now select (intermediate) destinations like Montreal-New Carlisle or Bonaventure-Quebec City on VIA Rail's site. Like last year, the fares are proportional to the distance covered by the shuttle," explains Marie-Andrée Pichette, director general of RÉGIM.

The RÉGIM offers commuter services in the Gaspé Peninsula and the Magdalen Islands. It started its operations in 2010. The organization was created by the MRCs of the region. About 80,000 people use the service annually. Services are also provided to handicapped people and on special occasions or events.