



Greater Victoria Harbour Authority unveils first fully electric double-decker bus in North America

Oct. 13, 2016, Victoria, BC – The Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA) has unveiled North America’s first purpose built, fully electric double-decker bus.

As a pilot project to evaluate electric bus transportation for the cruise tourism industry, GVHA has worked with CVS Cruise Victoria Ltd. (CVS Tours) and GreenPower Motor Company Inc. (GreenPower), to launch the bus in Victoria, serving the Ogden Point terminal through the 2017 season.

“We’re excited to unveil this fully electric double-decker bus and get it into service,” says Ian Robertson, CEO of the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority. “We’re committed to testing and evaluating new technologies and new ideas in ground transportation, and this will be an excellent pilot, helping us to plan into the future.

Both GVHA and CVS Tours entered into a lease agreement with GreenPower to pilot the fully electric EV550 double-decker bus for one year. The bus is currently going through road trials and will be evaluated throughout the next year.

“This new bus represents a commitment on the part of CVS and its partners to the environment, community and the future,” says Dave Roberts, acting general manager of CVS Tours. “We are hopeful that this pilot deployment project proves to be a success and will help to lead the industry. This technology has never been implemented in Victoria before and we are very keen to put it through a test year.”

The pilot program will evaluate the feasibility of electric bus transportation, with a focus on cost of operations, emissions reduction, noise reduction and charging station requirements.

Quick Facts – EV550 all-electric double decker bus:

- The 45-foot-long bus is the first purpose-built, fully electric double decker bus in North America.
- Capacity: 99 seats including 65 on the upper floor, plus standees.
- USB charging ports at each seat.
- Fully accessible with low-floor design, kneeling capabilities, wheelchair lift and configuration with two spots for wheelchairs or mobility aids.
- 450kWh of batteries with a range of up to 400 kilometres on a single charge depending on the requirements and operating criteria.

About Greater Victoria Harbour Authority

Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (GVHA) is a not-for-profit organization governed by a local Board of Directors. It owns and operates deep water, marina and upland holdings throughout Victoria's harbour including the large vessel Ogden Point port facility where a dynamic cruise tourism industry contributes over \$100 million annually to the regional economy; Victoria's renowned Fisherman's Wharf float home community and small business hub; and the Inner Harbour's luxury yacht and marine tourism facility at Ship Point. GVHA's vision is a harbour where people live, learn, work and play; a spectacular gateway into Victoria's past and into its future, monumental in look and feel, linking communities and all people together. www.gvha.ca

About CVS Tours

CVS Tours is a CVS Cruise Victoria company. CVS Tours is a medium sized motor coach company operating in Victoria, BC Canada. CVS Tours operates a fleet of Prevost motor coaches and Alexander Dennis modern English Double Decker buses and operates Victoria's Best Sightseeing and motor coach operations. At the start of 2015 CVS Tours has a team of over 35 staff members who are dedicated to ensuring their guests have the finest experiences possible while in their care. www.cvstours.com

About GreenPower Motor Company Inc.

GreenPower Motor Company Inc. develops electric powered vehicles for commercial markets. GreenPower offers a range of electric powered buses deploying electric drive and battery technologies with a lightweight chassis and low floor or high floor body. GreenPower's bus is based on a flexible clean sheet design and utilizes a custom battery management system and a proprietary Flex Power system for the drive motors. GreenPower integrates global suppliers for key components such as Siemens for the two drive motors, Knorr for the brakes, ZF for the axles and Parker for the dash and control systems. This OEM platform allows GreenPower to meet the specifications of various operators while providing standard parts for ease of maintenance and accessibility for warranty requirements. www.greenpowerbus.com

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Note to editors: High resolution images are available here:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/hydkz656jytx9xb/AABgv2ByEA8-up1_8_fwYQsYa?dl=0

Media contacts:

Jill Sawyer, GVHA: 250-383-8300 ext. 251, 250-882-7360 jsawyer@GVHA.ca

Brian Cant, Tartan Group: 250-592-3838, 250-888-8729 brian@tartangroup.ca