

Tour bus service faces some cuts

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Municipal Affairs Minister Hugh Curtis hinted Thursday that non-essential services being provided by Pacific Stage Lines and Vancouver Island Coach Lines will be eliminated.

Curtis said out-of-province bus tours are one such service that B.C. taxpayers shouldn't be required to subsidize.

"Even if tours and sightseeing broke even, there is serious doubt in my mind as to whether they should be operated by this government or its agencies," he said.

Curtis made the comments in announcing that his ministry and B.C. Hydro have formed a joint committee to examine "possible cost savings through greater co-operation" between the two bus lines.

Pacific Stage Lines is operated by Hydro while Vancouver Island Coach Lines is run by the government-owned T.S. Holdings.