



## Bus Association Victoria Inc.

Bus Association Victoria Inc. (BusVic) is the voluntary professional association for bus and coach operators and industry suppliers in Victoria. BusVic's primary role is to encourage increased use of Public Transport as part of the development of more sustainable transport systems.

### Membership Information

For the information of new and prospective members the following is a summary of some of the products and services offered by BusVic.

### Association Rules

The Association's Rules (or Constitution) are available from BusVic's website. Membership of BusVic is available to bus operators accredited or exempt from accreditation under the Bus Safety Act 2009.

BusVic works through four Groups which form part of an Operators Committee: the Country Group, the Metropolitan/Urban Group, the Charter, Tour and Express Group, and the Community Transport Group. Each group aims to raise the level of professional and ethical behaviour of each sector and deal with matters unique to that sector. Each Group Committee is represented on the Board which ratifies the overall strategy and direction of BusVic as developed and delivered via its Executive.

### Vision

To ensure the perpetual resilience and relevance of Victoria's bus and coach operators.

### Mission

- To represent our members' best interests to Government in forging the world's best public transport culture.
- Work in partnership with Government and stakeholders for the increased use of buses and Public Transport as part of the development of more sustainable transport systems.
- Advocate the cost effectiveness and demand responsive capability of buses and how this capability benefits social inclusion, public health, energy conservation and urban congestion.

### Services to Members

The following services, facilities and concessions are available to members:

- Develop and execute government contract renewal strategies.
- BusVic's staff will act on behalf of members in all dealings with the Department of Transport, the Department of Education, the Department of Environment, Water, Land & Planning (DEWLP), V/Line, VicRoads, Transport Safety Victoria, Commercial Passenger Vehicles Victoria, Victoria Police, and other agencies and Government departments as required to

# Membership Benefits

deliver new contracts to the market and comply with existing contracts. This includes:

- the submission to DOT and DET of claims for increases in contract rates due to replacement of vehicles, additional mileage, fluctuations in operating cost, etc.
  - assisting members with the interpretation of Government/bus operator contracts.
  - working with DOT and operators to enable accurate fare, patronage and fare compliance recording and reporting, and providing input to DOT on marketing strategies to improve patronage and revenue growth.
  - assisting members with school bus centre reviews.
  - reviewing and responding to strategic transport and land use planning and policy initiatives.
  - liaising with State, Local and Federal Government regulatory authorities in relation to development proposals potentially impacting on the operation of a member's services.
  - advocating for improved operating conditions and access specifically for Tour, Charter and Express operations with: Parks Victoria; Tourism Victoria; local governments; Melbourne Airport and destinations of interest for bus and coach passengers.
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- Information is sent regularly to members associated with the employment of staff in the transport industry, including changes to wages and amendments to the Passenger Vehicle Transportation Award 2020.
  - Information and initial assistance with industrial relations matters, and access to Australian Passenger Transport Industrial Association for more detailed matters.
  - The development of industry Enterprise Agreement templates.
  - A monthly Members Bulletin is issued containing items of importance and interest to members. This is the major communication between BusVic and members. Between Bulletins, regular updates and news bulletins are also emailed to operators as required.
  - BusVic runs a Maintenance Conference and Trade Show annually and a Bus Expo every four years. The conference covers developments in maintenance, safety, policy and technological developments. The Expo is the largest gathering of bus and coach owners and their staff in Australia.
  - Annual branch meetings are held in regional areas throughout the State to allow country members the opportunity to participate in the Association's affairs, network with other members and to engage with our supplier Partners.
  - Full use of the Association's administrative offices and staff is open to members to utilise on their behalf in negotiations with various public authorities, unions, and other organisations with which they normally come in contact.
  - The Association has arranged a special insurance package for private bus operators who are members. This is an extremely attractive arrangement through **SURA Bus & Coach Australia**.

PO Box 125  
Port Melbourne  
VIC 3207

Tel: (03) 9645 3300  
Fax: (03) 9645 4455  
buses@busvic.asn.au  
www.busvic.asn.au

# Association History

- Finance for new vehicles has been arranged at very attractive interest rates, particularly for smaller operators. **BAV Finance** has developed a secure relationship with financiers which will give you some protection if things go wrong during any stage of the lease or hire purchase term.
- **Bus Parts Plus** is owned by BAV, but operated on BAV's behalf by CMV Truck and Bus. CMV carries a large range of consumable spare parts and in addition handles a variety of other parts and accessories, particulars of which are set out in catalogues and price lists issued from time to time. Through bulk buying, CMV is able to purchase at special rates, the benefits from which are passed on to members.
- Efficient, cost effective annual bus inspections by **Road Safety Inspections Pty Ltd.** The Company employs only experienced bus testers with an average of 15 years involvement in this type of work. State of the art equipment and technology assists the inspectors in carrying out the most professional inspections of your vehicles throughout the State.
- The **Bus Foundation** aims to: acknowledge and recognise an operator's involvement with their industry representative body and their contribution to the industry; raise awareness of significant bus industry social issues; create a lasting asset for the operator community; make it easy for operators to contribute and see the results of their donations; and provide an opportunity for the industry to plan for its own needs and aspirations. The overriding objective of the Foundation is to provide financial assistance to BusVic's members and past members who may be in need of assistance due to a variety of reasons.
- Auto You is an Association owned wholesale car care products business that bulk buys both imported and local internal and external products, decants it into finished bottles and sells them to car dealers, who in turn sell the products to consumers.
- PBA Transit Planning is a transport scheduling consultancy which is 51% owned by an entity of Bus Association Victoria and 49% by an international public transport operator.

## Association History

Victoria's private bus operators have long understood the need to work together to improve industry conditions and the level of service provide to their passengers.

The Bus Association Victoria Inc. began as part of a combined goods and passenger organisation formed in 1944 as a result of a merger of the Master Carriers' Association of Victoria and the Commercial Motor Users' Association.

The new organisation called the Victorian Road Transport Association comprised three passenger operator divisions: the Road Passenger Service Operators (long distance and country operators), Omnibus Operators (metropolitan and suburban) and Motor Coach Services (charter and tours).

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Within three years however the Road Passenger Service Operators division believed that the needs of passenger operators were “so entirely different from those of the vast majority of the members of the VRTA...that separate action became necessary”. Separate action meant the creation of a new association and an umbrella body, which ultimately led, in 1953 to the Road Passenger Service Operators Association becoming the sole representative body for bus owners throughout Victoria.

In 1969 the name of the association was changed to the Bus Proprietors’ Association (Vic) (BPA) and changed again in 1996 to Bus Association Victoria Inc.

The abbreviated name BusVic was adopted in 2007.

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