

THE PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN

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THUMBS DOWN

When her bus left without her, Evelyn Williams phoned Greyhound for help. She says the company suggested she hitchhike the Highway of Tears.

CITIZEN PHOTO BY BRENT BRAATEN

Evelyn Williams stands outside the Greyhound Depot in Prince George.

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Evelyn Williams was left stranded after taking a washroom break during her trip aboard a Greyhound bus from Prince Rupert to Prince George.

Thinking she had time to go across the street to use the grocery store washroom, which had running water the bus toilet did not offer, to her horror Williams came out just in time to see the bus leaving down the street with all her belongings.

But the real shocker for the 32-year-old from Prince George came when she spoke by cell phone to a Texas-based Greyhound's customer service agent named Dana, who Williams says suggested she hitchhike on a -13 C evening to the next stop in Fraser Lake, 82 kilo-

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 • Greyhound cleared to cut routes **PAGE 4**
 • Reduced bus service puts remote communities at risk: advocate **PAGE 4**

metres east of Burns Lake, along the notorious Highway of Tears.

"I asked if there was anything she could do to dispatch the driver and she said no and told me to phone the Fraser Lake bus depot and suggested they hold the bus while I go on the road and hitchhike," said Williams.

"I said, 'do you know how dangerous that is, let alone it's illegal,' and I said, 'do you know how many women go missing on these highways and people get murdered?' I was horrified and kind of frustrated and started crying after she said that. I told her I don't know anybody in Burns Lake and

I didn't have enough money for a room. I kept asking her if there was anything they could do and she kept saying no."

As a point of reference, hitchhiking is also illegal in Texas.

"I'm really bitter that she was trying to tell me to hitchhike on the Highway of Tears," Williams said. "She suggested I do something illegal and jeopardize my life on the highway."

According to Williams, the driver told passengers he was stopping for five or 10 minutes.

"Based on the time he gave me, I didn't think he would leave right away," she said. "I was quick about

what I was doing and I got out and the bus was already gone. I ran after it waving my hands hoping somebody would see me, but nobody did. When he stopped it was 5:25, and when the bus pulled off it was 5:31. I wasn't dressed for the weather at all. Nobody should be left out in the cold."

The incident took place on Jan. 4. Williams convinced a Prince George friend to cancel his plans and drive out to Burns Lake that night to pick her up, about a six-hour round trip. She phoned a friend to retrieve her luggage from the bus, which contained her work clothes for her job at Real Cana-

dian Superstore. The bus terminal was not open and she spent hours waiting in a Burns Lake store. Williams was unable to recover a cloth bag she left on the bus, which contained a Mickey Mouse blanket, a small pillow and her bus ticket.

"They said there was nothing there that matched the description," she said.

Williams went to the Prince George depot on Jan. 7 and spoke to area manager Lyn Potts, who encouraged her to file a written complaint, which she sent to Greyhound on Jan. 10.

Williams wrote down the employee number of the customer service agent and wants the company to fire her and the driver, whom she said were not following company procedures. She's also requesting the company reimburse her the \$90 in fuel it took for her friend to drive her back to Prince George.

— see WILLIAMS, page 4

COOK TRIAL

Accused revealed glimpses of what happened to dead teen: Mountie

“I can remember him talking about how that people in Oliver wanted to harm him, that he said specifically that he saw death in people's eyes and judgment through their eyes, that he thought he could see death coming.”

— Undercover RCMP member

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A man on trial for the death of his teenaged stepson displayed signs of paranoia and made comments that appeared to reflect what allegedly happened but fell short of telling an undercover police officer he committed the act during a year-long effort to extract a confession from him, the court heard Thursday.

Lloyd William Cook has pleaded not guilty to one count each of manslaughter, criminal negligence causing death, unlawful confinement and interference with a dead body in the January 2000 death of Adam Williams-Dudoward in Prince George.

Adam died after his hands and feet had been bound with rope and he was left in the bedroom

of a mobile home on Glenview Drive where he and his younger brother had been living with their mother Judy Elaina Williams and Cook, the court had heard in earlier testimony.

His body was found nearly four years later in a wooded area near Miworth after Williams went to the RCMP in Oliver with her story. She had been living with Cook and two others in a camper located at the back of a rural property outside the Okanagan town for most of that time. In April 2008, an undercover RCMP officer posing as a vehicle reposessor with ties to organized crime, began to develop a relationship with Cook who, by then, was living in a broken down bus converted into a camper in the back of a fruit orchard off Sawmill Road near Oliver.

— see COOK, page 3

\$500K ticket sold in P.G.

Citizen staff

Someone in Prince George could be a half million dollars richer.

According to the B.C. Lottery Corporation website, the winning ticket for Wednesday night's Extra draw on Lotto 6/49 game was sold in Prince George.

The grand prize of \$500,000 was won by someone with a ticket with the Extra numbers 01, 04, 28 and 29. In order to claim the big prize, the winner must either go to designated prize pay out locations in Kamloops or Vancouver or mail the winning ticket to the Kamloops office.

Oh, funk!
A&E 25



Today's Weather

Hi +3°
Low -6°

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