

GCT Canada: Normalized Truck Reservations

29 March 2019

Pilot Program

Following consultation with our supply chain partners, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA), Transport Canada, the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and OBCCTCⁱ, GCT Canada introduced the [Normalized Truck Reservation Fee Pilot Program](#) on June 2018, ending on December 31, 2018. During this trial, the fee was normalized to \$35 for all appointments at GCT Deltaport and GCT Vanterm. In addition, a 10% rebate was provided to companies that had more than 100 transactions per month with 40% or more of those being double-ended container moves.

Pilot Goals

The goals of the program were to smooth transactions for truck drivers and increase productivity within a driver's operating hours. Moreover, the pilot also sought to provide increased operational autonomy to trucking companies and drivers, to improve capacity utilization, to increase efficiency, and as well to reduce road congestion through incentivizing double-ended moves.

Results

Throughout the program, monthly status reports were published on www.gctpilot.ca. When fees were normalized to \$35, the split of day and night reservations changed slightly, despite total number of transactions remaining consistent:

At the same time, terminal wait times remained unaffected and industry leading, resulting in no negative impact to truckers. While there was an initial uptick in double-ended moves at the start of the program, momentum had decreased by the end of the pilot.

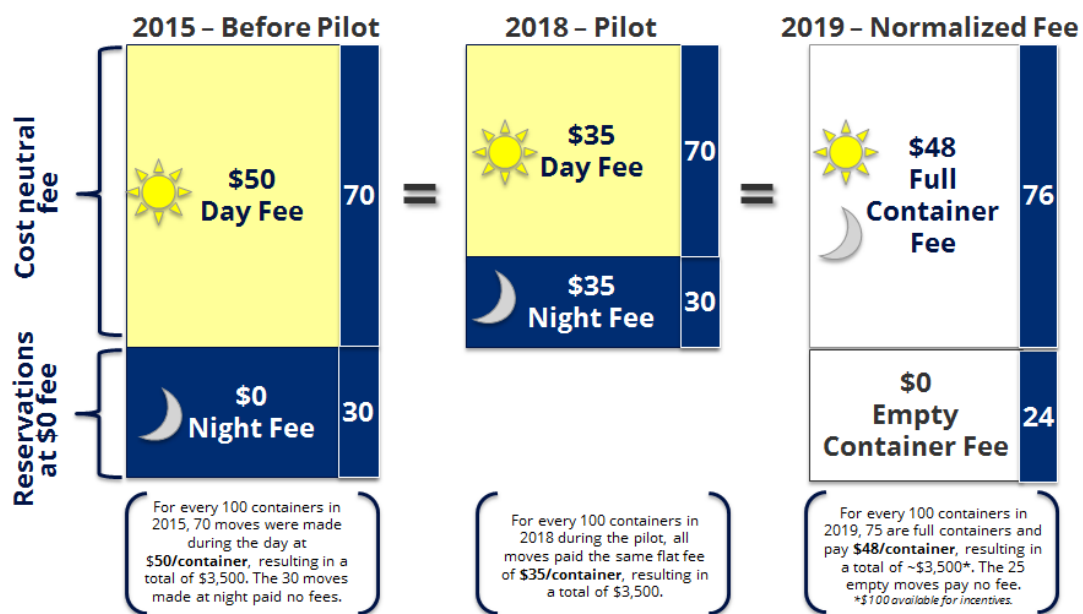
Conclusion

Once the pilot ended, GCT Canada returned to consult with our stakeholders and partners, and also reviewed data and comments received. Feedback suggested removal of the reservation fee for empty container transactions across all terminals in the Vancouver gateway.

As a result, following industry feedback on the pilot program, effective May 1, 2019, GCT Canada will:

1. Implement the normalized truck reservation fee of \$48 to all day and night appointments permanently. Starting in 2020, the fee will be indexed to account for labour cost increases.
2. Remove the reservation fee for all empty container transactions, and
3. Continue to incentivize double-ended moves with a 10% rebate, until an improved, more comprehensive approach is identified in collaboration with VFPA and OBCCTC.

Truck Reservation Fee Cost Comparison



While the reservation fee structure has evolved since its introduction in 2015, fees remain cost neutral. For every 100 containers, \$3,500 is paid in any of the 3 structures outlined.

While we continue to optimize our service in the gateway in cooperation with the VFPA and our supply chain partners, GCT Canada will continue to explore additional opportunities to increase gate productivity to benefit the drayage community and increase Vancouver's competitiveness.

Thank you for your feedback, cooperation, and patience throughout the pilot program. If you should have any questions, please contact [GCT Canada Customer Solutions](#).

ⁱ Office of the British Columbia Container Trucking Commissioner ("OBCCTC").