



April 26, 2017

Andy Byford
Chief Executive Officer
Toronto Transit Commission
1900 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4S 1Z2

Dear Mr. Byford:

The health and safety of the hardworking women and men who move Toronto is our Union's top priority. Every person who wears the TTC uniform has the right to work in a safe and healthy environment. And the millions of passengers who ride the TTC each day deserve peace of mind knowing that waiting on a subway platform or riding the train is not making them sick.

With the health and safety of our members in mind, we are requesting a meeting with you as soon as possible to discuss our serious concerns that employees are being exposed to potentially hazardous pollution in the TTC Subway system.

The Executive Board of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113 was alarmed to learn through media reports on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 that an independent study by Health Canada, the University of Toronto and McGill University shows the high concentration of fine particular matter, including iron, are approximately 10 times the level found outside TTC stations. To know these results from the TTC Subway system are similar to an average day in Beijing - a city that struggles to control its extraordinarily high levels of air pollution - is shocking to our members. Our union is concerned the kind of particulate matter that was measured in the study, known as PM2.5, has been associated with lung problems. Health Canada guidelines advise that indoor concentrations of PM2.5 "should be kept as low as possible."

Toronto's subway workers deserve answers. They want to know why the TTC has failed to conduct an air quality test in 22 years despite repeated requests from our Union. They want to know when the TTC first knew about the high concentration of pollutants in the air they breathe underground - sometimes up to 10 hours a day. And subway workers want to know how the TTC can assure they will not get sick by simply putting in an honest day's work.

Please let us know when we can meet to discuss the health and safety of our members.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Morton
Secretary-Treasurer
KM:rc



cc: The Hon. Kevin Flynn, Ontario Minister of Labour
The Hon. Steven Del Duca, Ontario Ministry of Transportation
The Hon. Dr. Eric Hoskins, Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
The Hon. Glen Murray, Ontario Minister of Environment and Climate Change
The Hon. Jane Philpott, Minister of Health
Thomas Teahen, President and Chief Executive Officer, WSIB
ATU Local 113 Executive Board
ATU Local 113 Shop Stewards
Andrew Falotico, Health and Safety Representative, ATU Local 113
Alanna Mihalj, In House Counsel, ATU Local 113
Ian Fellows, UPFH