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All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer

June 26, 2020

Dear Member of Parliament,

Toronto's public transit system is facing an existential crisis right now due to a lack of proper funding. Service cuts and layoffs have begun – and Toronto Mayor John Tory has warned that deeper, more disruptive cuts seem imminent without financial assistance from senior levels of government. It's a bad situation on the verge of getting much worse.

You and your fellow federal Liberal Members of Parliament in Toronto are receiving this letter because you have the power to do something about it. You can help fix the problem.

For months, Torontonians have been calling on the federal government to step up and provide emergency financial support for the TTC. That call has so far gone unanswered.

Now, just as we begin to reopen the economy, the TTC is stuck because it doesn't have the money to run enough vehicles to keep this city moving safely. We're asking too much of a system that doesn't have any more to give.

We're already seeing overcrowding on many TTC routes. Now picture deeper service cuts forcing even more people to cram into an even smaller number of busses, streetcars and subways. Physical distancing will become more challenging.

This situation risks the health and safety of TTC riders and workers alike. Throughout the pandemic, TTC workers have provided a critical public service getting health care workers to hospitals, clerks to grocery stores and first responders to stations. They are among the heroes of this crisis and deserve to feel safe at work as more riders return to the system.

You can help your constituents today by working with your Liberal caucus to call on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to provide emergency funding for the TTC. It's the only way to keep the TTC moving as Toronto's economy re-opens.

You've already answered the cry for help from many of our country's most critical industries. Now it's time you did the same for the essential public transit service that keeps Canada's biggest city moving safely.

I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Carlos Santos
President, ATU Local 113

Proudly representing 12,000 TTC workers