



AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION LOCAL 113

812 WILSON AVENUE, DOWNSVIEW, ONTARIO M3K 1E5 • TEL.: (416) 398-5113 FAX: (416) 398-4978



CARLOS SANTOS
President/Business Agent

RICHARD FOX
Executive Vice-President

FRANK MALTA
Assistant Business Agent
Transportation

SCOTT GORDON
Assistant Business Agent
Maintenance

KEVIN MORTON
Secretary-Treasurer

All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer

January 29, 2021

Hon. Doug Ford, M.P.P.
Premier of Ontario
Premier's Office - Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

VIA E-mail Only

Dear Premier Ford:

On January 25th, your government announced an expanded list of frontline workers who will be entitled to free emergency childcare services – and public transit workers were excluded once again. On behalf of 12,000 Toronto transit workers, I am asking you to provide them with the free childcare many desperately need.

The workers on the list are certainly deserving of emergency childcare and ATU Local 113 is very grateful for their service during the pandemic. However, the Ontario government must recognize the critical service public transit workers are providing municipalities including Toronto.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put a spotlight on the vital importance of public services, including transit. It's the reason that public transit workers, many of whom are parents, need help supporting their families during this incredibly difficult time.

Your emergency childcare expansion policy states that eligibility is for those “performing critical roles in their communities and are required to report to work in person.” Transit workers provide a critical service that requires them to be physically present each day; this also extends to working on weekends and holidays.

Making personal sacrifices to guarantee that the TTC continues running safely is something public transit workers do every day. Long hours and split shifts make it hard for public transit workers to ensure childcare is taken care of. With increased restrictions, workers may not have access to the personal network they would normally have and for some, this means facing the prospect of not being able to attend work to instead, care for their children.

Public transit workers, including the 12,000 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113 members I am proud to represent, work tirelessly and put their health and safety at risk to keep our communities moving. As of January 28, 457 TTC employees have tested positive for COVID-19.

We call on your government to do the right thing and expand emergency childcare to public transit workers, whose safety and well-being like all Ontarians, should be one of your government's top priorities.

I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carlos Santos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carlos Santos
President/Business Agent

CS:mb

C.C. Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation