



AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION LOCAL 113

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ATU LOCAL 113 ENDORSES OLIVIA CHOW FOR TORONTO MAYOR

May 26, 2023, (TORONTO) – The Executive Board of the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 113, which represents nearly 12,000 public transit workers, is calling on its members and all Torontonians to support Olivia Chow [as the next Mayor of Toronto](#).

Under former Mayor John Tory and Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) CEO Rick Leary's leadership, public transit has been in steady decline. Service cuts, fare increases, contracting out, and giving routes to outside operators are crippling ridership and risk destroying the transit system.

This election is a once-in-a-generation chance to change course and restore the TTC. ATU Local 113 is endorsing Olivia Chow because she is the only candidate who has the proven history of success in defending public services. Both as a Toronto city councillor and a Member of Parliament she has always been a reliable friend to transit riders and transit workers. As an MP, Olivia introduced legislation for and championed a national public transit strategy.

"ATU Local 113 is riding with Olivia," said Marvin Alfred, President of ATU Local 113. "A decade of underfunding, mismanagement, and cuts is destroying the TTC. The Board and Management are trying to break it apart and sell off the pieces. The TTC belongs to all of us. The people of Toronto paid to build it. Riders pay most of the cost of running it. Our members operate and maintain it. Together we can save it – but we need new leadership."

"I'm proud to have the support of the transit workers who keep our TTC running and well-maintained for everyone in our city. ATU Local 113 members are on the front lines of our public transit system, they make sure we can get around our city quickly and safely," said Olivia Chow. "We need to reverse the cuts to the TTC, improve service levels and make sure it stays affordable for people to ride. ATU Local 113 and I are aligned on our vision of well-funded, reliable, convenient and safe public transit system for everyone in our city."

Over the next few weeks, ATU Local 113's Political Action Committee and members will be speaking with Torontonians, knocking on doors, and making phone calls to support Olivia's vision for a better Toronto.

ATU Local 113 urges public transit workers and Torontonians to get involved in the campaign and vote to make Olivia Chow the next Mayor of Toronto. Together we can elect someone who will fight for transit service and transit workers, and make sure the TTC puts riders first.

The mayoral by-election is on Monday, June 26 and advance polls are open June 8 to June 13.

For media inquiries, please contact media@atu113.net.
