November 30, 2021

Mr. Donald Wright Chair, Board of Directors Metrolinx 97 Front Street West Toronto, ON M5J 1E6

## Re: Thank you to Metrolinx staff

We would like to take this opportunity to thank three Metrolinx staff members for being guest speakers at events our organizations held in the Fall of 2021.

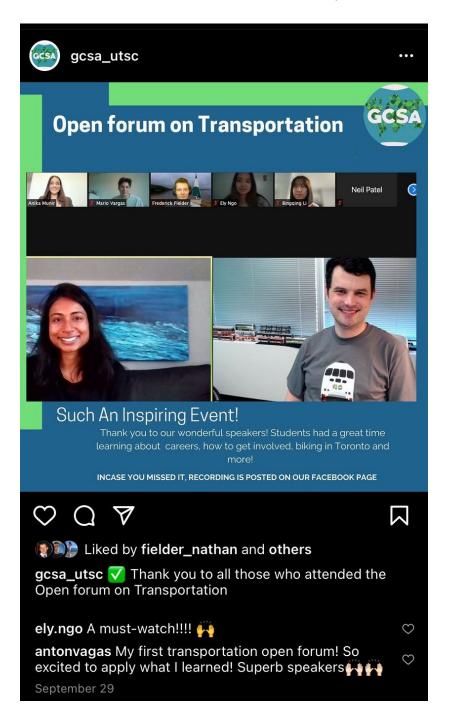
Our organizations include X University<sup>1</sup> Planning Alumni Association (XPAA), X University Planning Graduate Student Association (XPGSA), X University Association of Planning Students (XAPS), and the Geography and City Studies Student Association (GCSA) which is a Departmental Student Association at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

**September 25, 2021** – Thank you to **Daryl Gonsalves**, Community Relations & Issues Specialist – Ontario Line. On September 25<sup>th</sup> XPAA and XPGSA held its second annual bike tour for students, alumni, and people interested in planning and transit. Our third stop on the tour was at Underpass Park (relocated from Corktown Common due to the rain) where Daryl provided an overview of the Ontario Line, spoke about his transit career, and took questions from students. It was great to have Daryl as a guest speaker and that he joined us on a Saturday.



<sup>1</sup> Ryerson University is currently going through a name change process. Background information on the name change is available here: <a href="https://bit.ly/RyersonNameChangeUpdate26Aug21">https://bit.ly/RyersonNameChangeUpdate26Aug21</a>

**September 29, 2021** – Thank you to **Sivahami Vijenthira**, Community Relations & Issues Specialist. On September 29<sup>th</sup> Sivahami was the guest speaker at a virtual event organized by GCSA for students on transportation careers. Students were grateful for the opportunity to ask questions and learn of Sivahami's career and projects she has been involved with.



**Friday, November 26** – Thank you to **Trevor Anderson**, Program Sponsor, Union Station Enhancement (and X University alumnus). Trevor was the guest speaker for a walking tour hosted by XPAA, XPGSA, XPAA, and GCSA. Union Station was a fitting place given the

collaboration between our organizations. Trevor provided the history of Union Station and the changes to the railway lands, detailed recent upgrades and changes to Union Station, and provided updates on significant Metrolinx projects at Union Station including:

- The revitalized Bay Concourse and the new York Concourse;
- The service increases with GO Expansion and electrification; and
- Wider platforms and the new South Concourse.





Thank you as well to **Anne Marie Aikins**, Head, Media and Public Relations, Chief Spokesperson for her support for these events through her positive tweets for them.

These events were wonderful opportunities for students, alumni, and people interested in planning and transit to hear the latest updates for key Metrolinx projects, and ask questions and provide feedback.

We look forward to inviting Metrolinx staff as guest speakers for future events.

Sincerely,

Taylor Gascoigne and Ashley Paton, Co-Chairs XPAA

Lauren White, President XPGSA

Daniel Barkin, Co-President XAPS

Anika Munir and Frederick Fielder, Co-Presidents GCSA





September 25<sup>th</sup> 2nd annual bike tour crossing the new Garrison Common bridge over the GO Transit Lakeshore West line and near the future Ontario Line.