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Mike Schreiner, MPP

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Donald Wright, Chair - Metrolinx 97 Front St. W. Toronto, ON. M5J 1E6

December 22, 2023

Dear Mr. Wright,

I am writing to you today to advocate on behalf of my constituents in Guelph for improvements to the Connect-to-GO program. I fully support expanding public transportation that makes sense for people, the planet and the economy, and I appreciate that the Connect-to-GO program aims to make public transportation more accessible to Ontario residents. However, the program still requires significant improvements to ensure accessibility for those choosing to travel by bus.

My office has received several complaints from constituents regarding the discrepancies between the program on GO buses and GO trains. While the current system allows travelers to ride Guelph City Transit for free if they are going to or from the GO train station, this is not the case if they are going to or from the GO bus station. Travelers must pay a separate fare to transfer from the GO bus to Guelph Transit.

Since options to ride GO trains to and from Guelph are already limited, many constituents choose to take the GO bus to travel within the Toronto-Waterloo corridor. I fully support Metrolinx's plans for expanded GO services; however, before hourly and two-way GO service is a reality, there is no reason we cannot fill the gaps with more enhanced systems such as a comprehensive Connect-to-GO program.

Therefore, I urge you to consider implementing the Connect-to-GO services to both buses and trains within the City of Guelph and across the province to facilitate accessible transportation options for all Ontarians.

Sincerely,

Mike Schreiner MPP, Guelph