



TRANSPORT ACTION ONTARIO

Advocating for Rail-Based Public Transportation

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<http://ontario.transportaction.ca>

Premier Doug Ford, Queens Park, email: premier@ontario.ca

October 6, 2018

Dear Premier Ford:

Public Release of Mandate letters

Transport Action Ontario (TAO) would like to congratulate you and your team on your election victory. It is clear that the people of Ontario wanted change. We are a long-standing Ontario-wide non-government organization that advocates for public transportation, particularly rail-based. We were pleased to see the strong emphasis on public transportation in the "Plan for the People" platform.

However, we were disappointed that you have decided to not publically release the mandate letters that you have written to the various ministries. This practise is becoming increasingly popular across Canada by governments across the full political spectrum. It is a commitment to open and transparent government. It leads to increased government accountability and greater public trust.

The mandate letters are also helpful for the public and groups like ours to follow issues that cross different ministries. For example, transportation infrastructure can be managed by both/either the Ministry of Transportation or the Ministry of Infrastructure. Similarly, transportation in Northern Ontario falls under either the Ministry of Transportation or the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines.

We urge you to follow the lead of other Canadian governments and release the mandate letters to the public.

More importantly, we look forward to seeing your government enact the promises made in the "Plan for the People" and will be watching closely as these important public transportation projects move forward.

Yours truly,

Peter Miasek

President, Transport Action Ontario