

## TTC News: New Tokens and "Driverless" Subway Trains?

November 21, 2006

TORONTO: Howard Moscoe, the TTC Chair introduced a new two-toned coin at a news conference at City Hall. "We want to get the counterfeit tokens out of the system," he said.

The tokens look like a smaller version of the \$2 coin, with the colours reversed. They have an aluminum alloy centre surrounded by a gold-coloured, grooved, patented metal alloy, along with indented edges and a trademark symbol. The TTC purchased 20 million of them from a U.S. manufacturer for \$1.7-million, or 8.5 cents each.

Mr. Moscoe was also, earlier in the week, musing about the possibility of driverless subway trains. He says automated train control could allow more trains to run on the track, meaning less congestion.

Moscoe says the price tag to implement such a system would be about \$750-million. He equates that to the cost of building three kilometres of subway with three stations. Moscoe says it would increase rider capacity on the Yonge St. subway line by 40 per cent.

However, Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113 president Bob Kinnear is skeptical about the idea's prospects given current funding problems in Toronto's transit system.