



Representing our members from coast to coast in solidarity.  
**One Voice. One Canada. One ATU!**

Executive Board June 29, 2020

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Vice-President

Travis Oberg - Local 987  
Secretary to the Board

Paul Churchill - Local 1462  
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Jack Jackson - Local 1572  
Executive Member Eastern Canada

Andrew Cleary - Local 1189  
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Denyse Mitchell - Local 1724  
Executive Member Western Canada

Darcy Pederson - Local 615  
Executive Member Western Canada

Amalgamated Transit Union Canada  
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Suite 210  
Etobicoke, Ontario  
M9W 6K4

Tel 416.679.8846  
Toll Free 1.800.263.0710

[www.atucanada.ca](http://www.atucanada.ca)



The Honourable Jason Kenney  
Premier of Alberta  
Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the Alberta Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

On June 5, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$14 billion support to the provinces for a range of provincial and municipal services including public transit. The Safe Restart Plan funding is predicated on cooperation with the provincial governments. The Federal Government has made clear that they are seeking, in your leadership, a partner to ensure that Canadian municipalities and communities can continue safely operating public transit.

As you are aware, municipalities have been pushed to the brink of a financial crisis by the pandemic. Public transit alone has lost billions of dollars in fare revenue, leaving transit agencies in Alberta struggling to provide safe, socially distanced, essential transit as the province opens up and ridership climbs. Many transit agencies have made major investments to improve transit in the last few years, but all those gains are now at risk without additional provincial support for public transit.

Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in Alberta. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.

Furthermore, public transit provides a high level of service to the most vulnerable in society. Students, the elderly, low-income, and new Canadians all use public transit at



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higher than average levels. If public transit does not receive additional provincial support, the most vulnerable in our society will face the brunt of those service reductions.

We also note that long term and strategic interests in environmental protection in Alberta argue in favour of maintaining a well-supported public transit system. Without sustained support, an enfeebled public transit system will force Canadians onto the roads at exactly the time when we should be encouraging greater use of public transit – to relieve strain on the roads and for the environmental benefits of doing so.

In addition to the challenge faced by transit agencies as a result of the pandemic plunge in ridership, transit agencies have also faced additional burdens related to maintaining service in the face of the pandemic, including the provision of masks to employees and the public, and the installation of barriers to ensure physical distance can be maintained on vehicles. Transit agencies require further financial support to maintain these new expenditures.

We have yet to see a comprehensive solution for the crisis in public transit funding from any layer of government. While other industries have seen specific, targeted plans for assistance, public transit remains waiting for a champion.

We ask that you help end this funding crisis by committing resources and working with the federal government to provide emergency relief funding, and further commit to sustainable transit funding to ensure the long-term operational viability of public transit in Canada. This crisis requires support from all levels of government to ensure that a vital public service is retained.

The Federal Government has stated its intention to work with the provinces – it's now time for Alberta to step up. We request that you respond, in writing, with your government's commitment.

I am keen to meet with you and discuss this matter further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
ATU Canada President  
416 938 0746  
[President@atucanada.ca](mailto:President@atucanada.ca)

c.c. The Honourable Ric Mclver  
Minister of Transportation

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The Honourable John Horgan  
Premier of British Columbia  
Provincial Government Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, British Columbia  
V8V 1X4

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the British Columbia Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

On June 5, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$14 billion support to the provinces for a range of provincial and municipal services including public transit. The Safe Restart Plan funding is predicated on cooperation with the provincial governments. The Federal Government has made clear that they are seeking, in your leadership, a partner to ensure that Canadian municipalities and communities can continue safely operating public transit.

As you are aware, municipalities have been pushed to the brink of a financial crisis by the pandemic. Public transit alone has lost billions of dollars in fare revenue, leaving transit agencies in British Columbia struggling to provide safe, socially distanced, essential transit as the province opens up and ridership climbs. Many transit agencies have made major investments to improve transit in the last few years, but all those gains are now at risk without additional provincial support for public transit.

Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in British Columbia. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.

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We also note that long term and strategic interests in environmental protection in British Columbia argue in favour of maintaining a well-supported public transit system. Without sustained support, an enfeebled public transit system will force Canadians onto the roads at exactly the time when we should be encouraging greater use of public transit – to relieve strain on the roads and for the environmental benefits of doing so.

In addition to the challenge faced by transit agencies as a result of the pandemic plunge in ridership, transit agencies have also faced additional burdens related to maintaining service in the face of the pandemic, including the provision of masks to employees and the public, and the installation of barriers to ensure physical distance can be maintained on vehicles. Transit agencies require further financial support to maintain these new expenditures.

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We ask that you help end this funding crisis by committing resources and working with the federal government to provide emergency relief funding, and further commit to sustainable transit funding to ensure the long-term operational viability of public transit in Canada. This crisis requires support from all levels of government to ensure that a vital public service is retained.

The Federal Government has stated its intention to work with the provinces – it's now time for British Columbia to step up. We request that you respond, in writing, with your government's commitment.

I am keen to meet with you and discuss this matter further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
ATU Canada President  
416 938 0746  
[President@atucanada.ca](mailto:President@atucanada.ca)

c.c. The Honourable Claire Trevena  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

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The Honourable Brian Pallister  
Premier of Manitoba  
204 Legislative Building 450  
Broadway Winnipeg MB  
R3C 0V8

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the Manitoba Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

On June 5, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$14 billion support to the provinces for a range of provincial and municipal services including public transit. The Safe Restart Plan funding is predicated on cooperation with the provincial governments. The Federal Government has made clear that they are seeking, in your leadership, a partner to ensure that Canadian municipalities and communities can continue safely operating public transit.

As you are aware, municipalities have been pushed to the brink of a financial crisis by the pandemic. Public transit alone has lost billions of dollars in fare revenue, leaving transit agencies in Manitoba struggling to provide safe, socially distanced, essential transit as the province opens up and ridership climbs. Many transit agencies have made major investments to improve transit in the last few years, but all those gains are now at risk without additional provincial support for public transit.

Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in Manitoba. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.



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Furthermore, public transit provides a high level of service to the most vulnerable in society. Students, the elderly, low-income, and new Canadians all use public transit at higher than average levels. If public transit does not receive additional provincial support, the most vulnerable in our society will face the brunt of those service reductions.

We also note that long term and strategic interests in environmental protection in Manitoba argue in favour of maintaining a well-supported public transit system. Without sustained support, an enfeebled public transit system will force Canadians onto the roads at exactly the time when we should be encouraging greater use of public transit – to relieve strain on the roads and for the environmental benefits of doing so.

In addition to the challenge faced by transit agencies as a result of the pandemic plunge in ridership, transit agencies have also faced additional burdens related to maintaining service in the face of the pandemic, including the provision of masks to employees and the public, and the installation of barriers to ensure physical distance can be maintained on vehicles. Transit agencies require further financial support to maintain these new expenditures.

We have yet to see a comprehensive solution for the crisis in public transit funding from any layer of government. While other industries have seen specific, targeted plans for assistance, public transit remains waiting for a champion.

We ask that you help end this funding crisis by committing resources and working with the federal government to provide emergency relief funding, and further commit to sustainable transit funding to ensure the long-term operational viability of public transit in Canada. This crisis requires support from all levels of government to ensure that a vital public service is retained.

The Federal Government has stated its intention to work with the provinces – it's now time for Manitoba to step up. We request that you respond, in writing, with your government's commitment.

I am keen to meet with you and discuss this matter further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
ATU Canada President  
416 938 0746  
[President@atucanada.ca](mailto:President@atucanada.ca)

c.c. The Honourable Ron Schuler  
Minister of Infrastructure

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The Honourable Blaine Higgs  
Premier of New Brunswick  
Centennial Building  
PO Box 6000  
Fredericton NB  
E3B 5H1

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the New Brunswick Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

On June 5, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$14 billion support to the provinces for a range of provincial and municipal services including public transit. The Safe Restart Plan funding is predicated on cooperation with the provincial governments. The Federal Government has made clear that they are seeking, in your leadership, a partner to ensure that Canadian municipalities and communities can continue safely operating public transit.

As you are aware, municipalities have been pushed to the brink of a financial crisis by the pandemic. Public transit alone has lost billions of dollars in fare revenue, leaving transit agencies in New Brunswick struggling to provide safe, socially distanced, essential transit as the province opens up and ridership climbs. Many transit agencies have made major investments to improve transit in the last few years, but all those gains are now at risk without additional provincial support for public transit.

Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in New Brunswick. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.



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We also note that long term and strategic interests in environmental protection in New Brunswick argue in favour of maintaining a well-supported public transit system. Without sustained support, an enfeebled public transit system will force Canadians onto the roads at exactly the time when we should be encouraging greater use of public transit – to relieve strain on the roads and for the environmental benefits of doing so.

In addition to the challenge faced by transit agencies as a result of the pandemic plunge in ridership, transit agencies have also faced additional burdens related to maintaining service in the face of the pandemic, including the provision of masks to employees and the public, and the installation of barriers to ensure physical distance can be maintained on vehicles. Transit agencies require further financial support to maintain these new expenditures.

We have yet to see a comprehensive solution for the crisis in public transit funding from any layer of government. While other industries have seen specific, targeted plans for assistance, public transit remains waiting for a champion.

We ask that you help end this funding crisis by committing resources and working with the federal government to provide emergency relief funding, and further commit to sustainable transit funding to ensure the long-term operational viability of public transit in Canada. This crisis requires support from all levels of government to ensure that a vital public service is retained.

The Federal Government has stated its intention to work with the provinces – it's now time for New Brunswick to step up. We request that you respond, in writing, with your government's commitment.

I am keen to meet with you and discuss this matter further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
ATU Canada President  
416 938 0746  
[President@atucanada.ca](mailto:President@atucanada.ca)

c.c. The Honourable Bill Oliver  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

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The Honourable Dwight Ball  
Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Confederation Building, East Block  
PO Box 8700  
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the New Foundland and Labrador Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

On June 5, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$14 billion support to the provinces for a range of provincial and municipal services including public transit. The Safe Restart Plan funding is predicated on cooperation with the provincial governments. The Federal Government has made clear that they are seeking, in your leadership, a partner to ensure that Canadian municipalities and communities can continue safely operating public transit.

As you are aware, municipalities have been pushed to the brink of a financial crisis by the pandemic. Public transit alone has lost billions of dollars in fare revenue, leaving transit agencies in New Foundland and Labrador struggling to provide safe, socially distanced, essential transit as the province opens up and ridership climbs. Many transit agencies have made major investments to improve transit in the last few years, but all those gains are now at risk without additional provincial support for public transit.

Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in New Foundland and Labrador. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.

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We also note that long term and strategic interests in environmental protection in New Foundland and Labrador argue in favour of maintaining a well-supported public transit system. Without sustained support, an enfeebled public transit system will force Canadians onto the roads at exactly the time when we should be encouraging greater use of public transit – to relieve strain on the roads and for the environmental benefits of doing so.

In addition to the challenge faced by transit agencies as a result of the pandemic plunge in ridership, transit agencies have also faced additional burdens related to maintaining service in the face of the pandemic, including the provision of masks to employees and the public, and the installation of barriers to ensure physical distance can be maintained on vehicles. Transit agencies require further financial support to maintain these new expenditures.

We have yet to see a comprehensive solution for the crisis in public transit funding from any layer of government. While other industries have seen specific, targeted plans for assistance, public transit remains waiting for a champion.

We ask that you help end this funding crisis by committing resources and working with the federal government to provide emergency relief funding, and further commit to sustainable transit funding to ensure the long-term operational viability of public transit in Canada. This crisis requires support from all levels of government to ensure that a vital public service is retained.

The Federal Government has stated its intention to work with the provinces – it's now time for New Foundland and Labrador to step up. We request that you respond, in writing, with your government's commitment.

I am keen to meet with you and discuss this matter further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
ATU Canada President  
416 938 0746  
[President@atucanada.ca](mailto:President@atucanada.ca)

c.c. The Honourable Steve Crocker  
Minister of Transportation and Works

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The Honourable Stephen McNeil  
Premier of Nova Scotia  
Office of the Premier  
PO Box 726  
Halifax, NS B3J 2T3

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the Nova Scotia Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

On June 5, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$14 billion support to the provinces for a range of provincial and municipal services including public transit. The Safe Restart Plan funding is predicated on cooperation with the provincial governments. The Federal Government has made clear that they are seeking, in your leadership, a partner to ensure that Canadian municipalities and communities can continue safely operating public transit.

As you are aware, municipalities have been pushed to the brink of a financial crisis by the pandemic. Public transit alone has lost billions of dollars in fare revenue, leaving transit agencies in Nova Scotia struggling to provide safe, socially distanced, essential transit as the province opens up and ridership climbs. Many transit agencies have made major investments to improve transit in the last few years, but all those gains are now at risk without additional provincial support for public transit.

Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in Nova Scotia. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.



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We also note that long term and strategic interests in environmental protection in Nova Scotia argue in favour of maintaining a well-supported public transit system. Without sustained support, an enfeebled public transit system will force Canadians onto the roads at exactly the time when we should be encouraging greater use of public transit – to relieve strain on the roads and for the environmental benefits of doing so.

In addition to the challenge faced by transit agencies as a result of the pandemic plunge in ridership, transit agencies have also faced additional burdens related to maintaining service in the face of the pandemic, including the provision of masks to employees and the public, and the installation of barriers to ensure physical distance can be maintained on vehicles. Transit agencies require further financial support to maintain these new expenditures.

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The Federal Government has stated its intention to work with the provinces – it's now time for Nova Scotia to step up. We request that you respond, in writing, with your government's commitment.

I am keen to meet with you and discuss this matter further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
ATU Canada President  
416 938 0746  
[President@atucanada.ca](mailto:President@atucanada.ca)

c.c. The Honourable Lloyd Hines  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

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The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the Ontario Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

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Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in Ontario. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.

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Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
ATU Canada President  
416 938 0746  
[President@atucanada.ca](mailto:President@atucanada.ca)

c.c. The Honourable Caroline Mulroney  
Minister of Transportation

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Executive Member Western Canada

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The Honourable Scott Moe  
Premier of Saskatchewan  
226 Legislative Building  
Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 0B3

Dear Premier:

**Re: Call for Provincial Commitment to Fund Public Transit**

ATU Canada is calling for the Saskatchewan Government to provide a financial commitment in addition to announced federal support, to compensate transit agencies for all operating losses due to the pandemic.

On June 5, 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced \$14 billion support to the provinces for a range of provincial and municipal services including public transit. The Safe Restart Plan funding is predicated on cooperation with the provincial governments. The Federal Government has made clear that they are seeking, in your leadership, a partner to ensure that Canadian municipalities and communities can continue safely operating public transit.

As you are aware, municipalities have been pushed to the brink of a financial crisis by the pandemic. Public transit alone has lost billions of dollars in fare revenue, leaving transit agencies in Saskatchewan struggling to provide safe, socially distanced, essential transit as the province opens up and ridership climbs. Many transit agencies have made major investments to improve transit in the last few years, but all those gains are now at risk without additional provincial support for public transit.

Public transit will play a crucial role in the restart of the economy in Saskatchewan. Without a fully functioning transit system, key frontline workers are unable to commute to work. Indeed, pressures on road systems limiting economic growth before the pandemic were a driver of the increase in public transit funding in recent years. However, without additional funding, public transit will be unable to provide the service required in a reopened economy.

Furthermore, public transit provides a high level of service to the most vulnerable in society. Students, the elderly, low-income, and new Canadians all use public transit at



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higher than average levels. If public transit does not receive additional provincial support, the most vulnerable in our society will face the brunt of those service reductions.

We also note that long term and strategic interests in environmental protection in Saskatchewan argue in favour of maintaining a well-supported public transit system. Without sustained support, an enfeebled public transit system will force Canadians onto the roads at exactly the time when we should be encouraging greater use of public transit – to relieve strain on the roads and for the environmental benefits of doing so.

In addition to the challenge faced by transit agencies as a result of the pandemic plunge in ridership, transit agencies have also faced additional burdens related to maintaining service in the face of the pandemic, including the provision of masks to employees and the public, and the installation of barriers to ensure physical distance can be maintained on vehicles. Transit agencies require further financial support to maintain these new expenditures.

We have yet to see a comprehensive solution for the crisis in public transit funding from any layer of government. While other industries have seen specific, targeted plans for assistance, public transit remains waiting for a champion.

We ask that you help end this funding crisis by committing resources and working with the federal government to provide emergency relief funding, and further commit to sustainable transit funding to ensure the long-term operational viability of public transit in Canada. This crisis requires support from all levels of government to ensure that a vital public service is retained.

The Federal Government has stated its intention to work with the provinces – it's now time for Saskatchewan to step up. We request that you respond, in writing, with your government's commitment.

I am keen to meet with you and discuss this matter further. Please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

John Di Nino  
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c.c. The Honourable Greg Ottenbreit  
Minister of Highways and Infrastructure

*ATU Canada represents 34,000 transit professionals in the motor coach, public transit, private contractors, vehicle operations and maintenance work across Canada. ATU Canada is part of ATU International, which has over 200,000 union members across North America.*