



Dear ,

With only around 60 days left of 2018, Transport Action Canada, as well as all its regional affiliates, has been gearing up more than ever to end this year on a strong note. I wanted to take this letter to you today to keep you in the loop as to what has been going on in the organization.

1. **Website Makeover:** Transport Action Canada website got a makeover once again. We're particularly excited about the fact that the website is much faster than before. As well, we're excited to have a very short (and fun) quiz that will more clearly explain how to get involved in the organization. You can check it out [by clicking the link here](#).



2. **Our Ontario region (Transport Action Ontario):** October was exceptionally a busy month for TAO. In addition to a website revamp, here are some of their highlights of the month. [For further details, see the TAO website.](#)

1. **[Meeting with VIA rail's senior planning staff:](#)** TAO has met with VIA rail's senior planning staff to discuss VIA's High Frequency Rail (HFR) proposal. The proposal envisions a dedicated northern trackage between Toronto-Ottawa (using partially abandoned Havelock line), Montreal-Quebec (using North shore trackage), while improving the schedule on existing Lakeshore and South shore routes. We endorse the HFR objective and look forward to a fulsome public review of the details. We urge the federal government to move promptly and commit to boosting passenger rail frequencies, speed and on-time performance in this corridor and the rest of the Windsor-Quebec corridor.
2. **[Toronto subway:](#)** One of Premier Ford's signature campaign promises was to upload responsibility for existing and new subway

infrastructure from the City of Toronto. The province has now taken the first step and appointed an advisor to determine "the best approach for the upload". Transport Action will follow this analysis very closely, to ensure the best approach is selected for the citizens of Ontario and for transit riders.

3. **Release of Mandate Letters:** Public release of mandate letters is a gesture of a commitment- a commitment to open and transparent government. We sent a letter to Premier Ford expressing disappointment that he did not release the public mandate letters that was written for various ministries. We urge release of these public mandate letters as we truly believe that it leads to increased government accountability (as in, they will follow through on the electoral promises) and greater public trust.

3. **Our Atlantic Region (Transport Action Atlantic):** TAA has been reviewing VIA's 2017-2021 corporate plan in depth to best understand how it will impact Atlantic Canada. [You can read their full review by clicking here .](#) They are also working on a lot of projects behind the scenes so make sure to keep an eye out on our emails.

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To end this letter, we also wanted to share with you some other exciting news and articles related to transportation, accessibility etc.

- **Churchill Port and Railway:** The heads of two major companies who now own the Hudson Bay Railway and Port of Churchill received a warm welcome from locals at a meet-and-greet in Churchill regarding their rail development plans. [Click here to read more.](#)
- **Train Service Between Vermont and Montreal?:** Canada's Parliament has approved legislation that helps efforts to re-establish train service between Vermont and Montreal. According to Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy, this bill will expedite travel as it'll be possible for passengers to pre-clear American Customs and Border Protection in Canada before they depart for the U.S.. This also means faster Airport Services (less wait times for one). [Click here to read more.](#)
- **Greyhound's exit from BC, and new bus routes:** When all remaining Greyhound bus service in B.C. comes to an end on October 31st, the transportation minister says buses will still roll down 83 per cent of the routes. [Click here to read more.](#)

We'd love to hear from you! Simply click the reply button and let us know what you think.

*Bruce Budd*

Bruce Budd, President  
Transport Action Canada

**P.S:** Transport Action relies entirely on membership dues and donations to

fund its advocacy work on sustainable public transportation. Please assist us with a donation.

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