

November 19, 2021

Regional Chair Bradley and Members of Regional Council

On behalf of the South Niagara Chambers of Commerce, which includes Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne-Wainfleet and Welland/Pelham, and representing close to 2000 member businesses, we strongly support the integration of transit in Niagara. We particularly like the current "On Demand" model and feel this is an excellent way to build up enough density to make a more permanent route financially viable. This is a sensible approach.

While a centrally operated regional transit makes sense in terms of the obvious: increase efficiency, increase negotiating power for purchases and bring the region together, there is a larger benefit to our members.

The South Niagara Chambers of Commerce represent a variety of employers across the Region of Niagara. Our members are currently facing challenges in recruiting and retaining a skilled workforce, and many would welcome the opportunity to have a reliable, accessible coordinated transit system to transport people from various parts of the region to jobs. Anything that we can do as a region to provide this type of accessibility in terms of transportation will assist an issue that will continue to be problematic and potentially devastating to many of our businesses.

We thank you kindly for your consideration of our input and would welcome the opportunity to further discuss this should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,



Jim Arnold  
Chair

Niagara Falls  
Chamber of Commerce



Jonathan George  
President

Fort Erie  
Chamber of Commerce



Neville Kidd  
President

Port Colborne/Wainfleet  
Chamber of Commerce



Stephen Canjar  
President

Welland/Pelham  
Chamber of Commerce