



October 5, 2021

Mr. Jim Bradley, Regional Chair  
Niagara Region  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way  
Thorold, ON  
L2V 4T7

Dear Regional Chair Bradley,

Brock University has welcomed back thousands of students and the Niagara Region is filled with students from Niagara and beyond. With record enrolment for 2021, will be surpassing 20,000 students in the coming years, meaning more students will be travelling to and from campus every day. As the University continues to grow, we remain dedicated to remaining accessible to students from all backgrounds and support improved transit options that provide greater choice and flexibility, reduce costs for our students, and reduce our footprint on the environment.

Brock University supports improved inter-municipal transit service for our students. Better service provides greater options, flexibility, and choice for students to travel to campus and around the Niagara region. This expands the options for students for where they can live, work, and play in the Niagara region rather than be confined to the immediate campus vicinity. It also helps students who commute to Brock from outside the GTA by providing them greater means to get around once they arrive in the region.

Coming to campus is just one part of student life. Many students live, work, and are involved in activities all throughout different parts of Niagara region. For instance, students undertake co-op placements or other extracurricular activities such as volunteering in local community organizations. Getting to places beyond campus requires reliable transit options that can get them to where they need to be. Better inter-municipal transit options reduces barriers that students may face when considering opportunities and ensures Brock's students are able to fully engage and contribute to the broader Niagara community

In recent years, Brock has taken increased steps to enhance our equity, diversity, and inclusion measures and we are working hard to ensure that our campus is accessible to all students, regardless of background and socioeconomic status. This includes making sure that our campus is physically accessible to all students throughout Niagara and beyond. Outside St. Catharines and Thorold, our institution still has a limited number of trips coming to Brock from across the broader Niagara region. With improved intermunicipal transit that is reliable

and fulfills individual needs, students will have a more affordable option to get to campus and around Niagara compared to the cost of car ownership, gasoline, and parking. This supports greater equity and inclusion by reducing cost barriers for students to attend Brock.

Our institution is committed to environmental sustainability and in the past have taken steps to reduce our own footprint. Improved transit options that allow students to commute by public transit rather than drive reduces demand on our roads and vehicle emissions. With fuel prices rising, reliable intermunicipal transit helps provides students an alternative and affordable choice with more stable costs to get around the region. Better intermunicipal transit is a triple win for our students, the Niagara region, and the environment.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to us. You may contact Jayne Crawley, Government Relations Advisor at [jcrawley@brocku.ca](mailto:jcrawley@brocku.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lynn Wells', with a stylized, flowing script.

Lynn Wells, PhD  
Interim President and Vice-Chancellor  
Provost and Vice-President, Academic  
Brock University

CC Walter Sendzik, Mayor, St. Catharines