

From: [PF-Mailbox-01](#)
To: [Norio, Ann-Marie](#); [Trennum, Matthew](#)
Subject: FW: Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee or Regional Council
Date: Thursday, November 25, 2021 12:00:15 PM

From: Niagara Region Website
Sent: Thursday, 25 November 2021 11:59:49 (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: Clerks
Subject: Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee or Regional Council

Request to Speak at a Standing Committee or Regional Council

To reply, copy the email address from below and put into 'To'. (if resident entered their email address)

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Organization

Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre

standing committee

Regional Council

Presentation Topic

Niagara Regional Transit

Presentation includes slides

No

Previously presented topic

No

Presentation Details

Dear Regional Council, The Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre strongly supports the Linking Niagara Transit Committee proposed consolidated transit model. Linking the 12 municipalities would be of great benefit to immigrants and their ability to settle and thrive in the Niagara region. We know that reliable transportation is key for vulnerable members of our community so that they can access the services that improve their quality of life as it ultimately leads to better social determinants of health and well-being. We historically know that the lack of transportation has hindered the ability of immigrants to access settlement services, educational, employment, health and social services. As the population grows and job opportunities increase it is imperative that there is a strong transit infrastructure in place so that individuals can access these opportunities. As our economy recovers from COVID-19 we need to have public transportation that is equitable and accessible to all areas of the region and able to get workers to their places of employment during their operational hours. Transportation is an immediate need for newcomers and refugees, who are twice as likely as Canadian born workers to commute by public transit. (International Observatory of Mayors Living Together. 2018. "Welcomed in Halifax") We also know that there is a need for immigrants to help fill the local and regional employment gaps and that can only happen with a user friendly, regionally consolidated, accessible and affordable transit model. Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre urges you to approve the consolidated transit model presented by the Linking Niagara Transit Committee as it is crucial to improving the social determinants of health and their intersectionality in vulnerable members of our community and essential for the Niagara Region's economic recovery and development. Kind regards, Emily Kovacs PS Social Determinants of Health Definition Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. This includes Income and social protection Education Unemployment and job insecurity Working life conditions Food insecurity Housing, basic amenities and the environment Early childhood development Social inclusion and non-discrimination Structural conflict Access to affordable health services of decent quality.

Video Consent

Yes

