



August 13th, 2018

The Honourable Marc Garneau
Minister of Transport
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0N5

Dear Minister,

I am writing to introduce myself as the new President and Chief Executive Officer of the [Canadian Urban Transit Association](#) (CUTA), and request that our organization be consulted by your department in its ongoing efforts to find a solution to the issue of rural inter-city bus services in Western Canada.

As you are already aware, CUTA is the collective and influential voice of public transportation in Canada. Our membership includes the vast majority of Canadian transit systems, private transport operators and transit thought-leaders from coast to coast. CUTA is uniquely positioned to work with the federal government to provide expert industry insight on key transport policy issues with a single, unified voice.

Transit builds and empowers Canadian communities of all sizes from coast to coast. Rural inter-city bus services connect Canadians across the country to each other and to basic social services, like healthcare and education. Connected communities help to foster social equity and inclusion, and give rise to economic opportunities for Canadians. In a country as vast as our own, rural inter-city bus services provide a lifeline that may be difficult to quantify, though invaluable to those who rely on it.

CUTA and its members are closely following the impact of the recent announcement by a commercial operator to end rural inter-city bus services in Western Canada. As municipal and provincial authorities are scrambling to find alternative services before route closures take place on October 31, CUTA is pleased to see that you are working hard to find a solution to this growing concern. I trust that my organization's expertise in public transport and our collective industry voice would add value to Transport Canada's consultations to find an effective solution to this issue.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter and to meeting you soon in my new role as President and CEO of CUTA.

Best regards,

Marco D'Angelo
President and CEO