



**Attention: Hamilton City Council**

Re: Support for Keeping LRT Operations Public and Saving ATU 107 Jobs

*[The following statement from the Hamilton and District Labour Council represents all of our affiliate locals as a whole, but also includes specific signatories from many HDLC and allied locals who wished to express their support specifically.]*

On behalf of the 50,000 affiliate members of the Hamilton and District Labour Council, we are writing to express our strong support for keeping the Light Rail Transit (LRT) project in Hamilton under public ownership for its operations and maintenance, rather than contracting it out to a private corporation.

Public ownership of the LRT is crucial for ensuring that the interests of the community and its workers are prioritized over profit-driven motives. When public services are operated by the government, there is greater accountability, transparency, and control over the quality of service provided to the residents of Hamilton.

Furthermore, we wish to extend our unwavering support to the hardworking members of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 107 who play an integral role in the operation and maintenance of public transit services in our city. These dedicated workers have shown their commitment to serving the community with professionalism, reliability, and dedication. It is essential that their rights, wages, and working conditions are protected and respected in any decisions regarding the future of the LRT project.

Contracting out the LRT operations and maintenance to a private corporation would jeopardize the jobs and livelihoods of these workers, lead to lower wages, reduced benefits, and diminished job security. Additionally, privatization often results in higher costs for taxpayers and inferior service quality due to the focus on maximizing profits rather than serving the public interest.

In summary, the Hamilton and District Labour Council and our affiliates support publicly owned, operated and maintained transit and are opposed to contracting out

the HSR jobs of the Amalgamated Transit Workers Local 107 to a private corporation for the purposes of operating and maintaining Metrolinx's Light Rail Transit project.

In Solidarity,

Anthony Marco  
President, Hamilton and District  
Labour Council

Tracey Langille  
President, CUPW 548  
Postal Workers

Leah McGrath Reynolds  
Acting President, CUPE 3906  
McMaster Education Workers

Susan Lau  
President, OPSEU Local 241  
Mohawk College Support Staff

Daryl Jerome  
District Chair, OSSTF 21  
HWDSB Teachers and Support Staff

Heather Giardine-Tuck  
President, OPSEU Local 240  
Mohawk College Instructors

Michelle Johnston  
President, IFPTE Local 160  
The Society of United Professionals

Barry Naidoo  
President, Hamilton-Wentworth  
Occasional Teachers Local

Larry Feudo  
President, AFM 293  
Hamilton Musicians Guild

Susan Lucek  
President, COPE 527  
HWDSB Education Workers

Karen Shimoda  
President, CUPE 1404-06  
Healthcare Workers

Jillian Watt  
President, CUPE 7800  
Hamilton Health Sciences

Jason Lucas  
Temporary President, CUPE 5167  
City of Hamilton Workers

Darren Green  
Chair, Hamilton Steelworkers Area  
Council

Kelly Tosato  
President, UFCW 175 & 633  
Food and Commercial Workers

Deanna Allain  
Chair, PSAC Hamilton Area  
Federally Regulated Workers

Emily Heikoop  
President, Unifor 5555  
McMaster University Support Staff

Ron Wells  
President, USW 1005  
Steelworkers at Stelco

Frank Crowder  
President, USW 7135  
Steelworkers at National Steel Car

Nancy Castelli  
Acting President, CUPE 3396  
HWCDSEB Education Workers

Betty Palmieri  
President, OPSEU 206  
Healthcare Workers

Tamara DuFour  
President, HWETL-DECE  
HWDSB Education Workers

Malcolm Buchanan  
Congress of Union Retirees of Canada  
Hamilton Chapter

Mark Ellerker  
Chair, Hamilton/Brantford  
Building Trades

Insulators Heat & Frost Local 95  
David Gardner, Business Manager

Bricklayers Local 1  
Dave Martin, Business Manager

Bricklayers Local 2  
Tristan Rawlings, Business Manager

Boilermakers Local 128  
Stirling Munn, Business Manager

Carpenters Local 18  
Garry Baverstock, Business Manager

Cement Masons Local 598  
Tony Mollica, Business Manager

Electricians Local 105  
James Bonnell, Business Manager

Elevator Constructors Local 90  
Brad Brave, Business Manager

Ironworkers Local 736  
Steve Pratt, Business Manager

Labourers Local 837  
Riccardo Persi, Business Manager

Millwrights Local 1007  
Dan Steel, Business Manager

Millwrights Local 1916  
Brad Brave, Business Manager

Painters Local 205 & Glaziers Local  
1795 – Painters & Allied Trades District  
Council 46

Plumbers Local 67  
Nathan Bergstrand, Business Manager

Refrigeration Local 787  
Andrew Tarr, Business Manager

Sheetmetal & Roofers Local 537  
Dave Harrison, Business Manager

Teamsters Local 879  
John McCann, Business Manager