



April 12, 2024

Members of the LRT Sub-committee,

On behalf of the Workers Arts & Heritage Centre, we are asking you to reject the city staff recommendation to privatize the operation of the Hamilton LRT. As Canada's only labour history museum and multidisciplinary art centre, we are endorsers of the Keep Transit Public campaign.

We believe that profit should not be prioritized over dignity of work and accessibility. We also believe that the LRT should be staffed by workers unionized by ATU Local 107.

The disadvantages of the privatization/P3 delivery of public transit are evidenced in examples across Canada, and around the world. The prioritization of profit over people will impact staffing, wages, maintenance, and the wellbeing of those who operate *and* use the service, along with service, safety, affordability and reliability.

Hamiltonians depend on transit. They should be able to trust it and know that it is being managed with safety and accessibility in mind.

WAHC's vision as an organization is to build a society where all labour matters. The short term benefits of privatizing a social good like transit will have negative impacts for generations of workers, and citizens at large. We want to see Hamilton flourish and to do that we need to Keep Transit Public.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tara Burse'.

Tara Burse  
Executive Director