



MM10.7.1

Toronto Youth Cabinet
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Dear Members of Toronto City Council,

We are writing to express our strong support for item MM10.7 “Exploring Options for Affordable Toronto Transit Commission Fares for Post-Secondary Students.”

The high cost of TTC fares is one of the most common concerns brought to the attention of the TYC and one of the issues of which we are most concerned. TTC fare increases have outpaced inflation and fares are too expensive for many residents of Toronto, especially youth. Post-secondary students who do not buy a monthly pass are currently paying full adult fare despite their limited incomes and significant education expenses.

At minimum, post-secondary students should be eligible for the TTC’s single-ride student discount. The post-secondary monthly pass does not pay for itself unless a post-secondary student takes a minimum of 40 rides per month. We would also support a study of lowering the post-secondary monthly pass price.

Given that declaring a climate emergency is on Council’s agenda this item should also be viewed as an important step to incentivizing public transit use and reducing emissions.

We urge you to adopt this item and begin the process of making life more affordable for post-secondary students who attend the eight public colleges and universities within the city.

Sincerely,

Eli Aaron
Budget Lead
The Toronto Youth Cabinet

Michael Manu
Executive Director
The Toronto Youth Cabinet

Created by City Council in 1998, the Toronto Youth Cabinet is a youth-led advocacy organization and the official youth advisory body of the City of Toronto. Through outreach, engagement and training, the TYC provides a critical gathering place for diverse young people interested in making change within a municipal governance context.