



# Fontbonne Ministries

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH, TORONTO

# EX10.1.18

Toronto City Council  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

November 13, 2019

**RE: Executive Committee Ex.10.1**

Dear Mayor Tory and members of the Executive Committee,

As Executive Director of Fontbonne Ministries, Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto, I am writing to ask you to approve EX 10.1. Our programs serve people who are marginalized, vulnerable and/or experience poverty.

I am pleased that the Poverty Reduction Strategy Action Plan recommends implementing the Fair Pass TTC discount program, and encourage you to support all of the transit equity recommendations on Lists A, B, and C. We know that the Fair Pass has positive impacts on people's lives and must be fully implemented as soon as possible. Please keep the following in mind as you move forward:

- The Fair Pass is not yet fully funded. And 27% of eligible Fair Pass users cannot afford the current cost of \$119.40 passes and \$2.05 fares.
- Other cities in Canada provide deeper discounts: Hamilton and Calgary are already providing a \$55 Low Income Pass. Toronto can do better.

I urge you to fully fund the Fair Pass immediately, and deepen the discount as soon as possible. We support free TTC for people who receive social assistance, and \$50 passes and \$1 fares for people earning low incomes.

As well, I am concerned that the TTC will stop selling tokens and seniors tickets as of November 30, 2019, without an adequate replacement and distribution network in place. We feel that the TTC should continue selling tokens and tickets until there is adequate access to PRESTO tickets and loading machines across the city, not only at Shoppers Drug Mart stores and subway stations (recommendation 6.2.1), and until there is a solution for agencies and community organizations (recommendation 6.2.3).

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Yours Truly,

Ben Vozzolo, Executive Director  
Fontbonne Ministries, Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto

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