



**DRVR Hub Inc.**  
1457 McCowan Rd, Suite 213  
Scarborough, ON M1S 5K7

December 9, 2024

To the Members of Toronto City Council - Executive Committee,

**Re: Review of the Vehicle-for-Hire By-Law and Industry - Mandatory Annual VFH Driver License Renewal Course**

My name is Sana, and I am the co-founder of DRVRHub, a Scarborough-based driver training platform established in 2022 and one of six accredited City of Toronto Driver Training Providers. Alongside my co-founder, Dilanie, we have successfully trained over 35,000 drivers, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to navigate Toronto's complex transportation network safely and professionally. We are proud to be a 100% women-owned, tech-enabled local business contributing to the development of skilled drivers in our community.

I am writing regarding the proposed licensing cap on Private Transportation Company (PTC) drivers as outlined in the Vehicle-for-Hire By-Law review. While we understand and respect the Council's objectives to address traffic congestion, emissions, and public transit use, we urge the Council to consider the potential detrimental effects this cap could have on local businesses like ours.

**Impact on Local Businesses**

As a local provider of driver training, DRVRHub plays a critical role in ensuring the competency and safety of PTC drivers. A cap on licenses would directly limit the pool of new drivers requiring training, curtailing opportunities for small businesses like ours. Reduced demand could stifle growth and undermine the contributions we make to Toronto's economy, employment, and road safety standards.

**A Constructive Compromise: Mandating Annual Renewal Course**

While we acknowledge the rationale behind the proposed licensing cap, we believe its implementation could be aligned with a positive mandate: requiring all PTC drivers to complete an **annual refresher driver training course** upon license renewal to remain in good standing.

This approach has already proven successful in jurisdictions like New York City, where annual driver training is mandatory for license renewal. By adopting a similar requirement in Toronto, the Council can:

1. **Enhance Safety and Professionalism:** Continuous education ensures drivers stay updated on regulations, safety practices, and service standards.
2. **Support Local Training Providers:** Mandating refresher courses sustains demand for training services, allowing businesses like DRVRHub to thrive.
3. **Bolster Public Confidence:** Prioritizing driver training enhances public trust in the safety and reliability of Toronto's vehicle-for-hire industry.

## Commitment to Accessibility and Environmental Goals

We fully support exempting zero-emission and wheelchair-accessible vehicles from the proposed cap. This initiative aligns with shared goals for environmental sustainability and equitable access. As training providers, we are prepared to integrate updated modules into our curriculum to equip drivers with the skills to operate accessible and zero-emission vehicles, further supporting the City's objectives.

While we support the intent behind the licensing cap, we urge the Council to mitigate its impact on small local businesses by mandating **refresher courses** for all PTC drivers upon license renewal. This policy, modeled after successful practices in New York City, strikes a balance between addressing the City's goals and supporting the ecosystem of businesses that underpin the vehicle-for-hire industry.

Thank you for considering this proposal and for your commitment to a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation system in Toronto.

Respectfully,



Sana Srithas  
Co-Founder

