



June 13, 2025

Dear Executive Committee Members

Re: Executive Committee Meeting June 17, 2025 [Item EX24.8](#)

We write in support of the ALTO high speed rail proposal.

Toronto City Council has previously [expressed its support](#) for a high-speed train between Toronto, Ottawa and Montréal.

Council's 2023 decision followed similar motions passed by [Montreal](#) and [Oshawa](#) City Councils.

High speed rail, as contemplated by ALTO and the federal government would shift a considerable portion of the passenger traffic flying out of the Island Airport to it, eliminating much of the Island Airport's rationale for its existence: on June 11, 2025, about half of the flights from the Island Airport were to or from Montreal and Ottawa<sup>1</sup>.

This graph, prepared by Alstrom, formerly one of the proponents for this project, shows how sensitive passengers' travel decisions are to travel time – most chose train over air when travel time falls below three hours:

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<sup>1</sup> 47 of 96 flights. At one point, in Porter's heyday, there were 202 daily flights to and from the Island Airport. Its business has already fallen drastically.

