

## **Amalgamated Transit Union**

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Office of the International President

July 16, 2018

## Via Email, Fax and First-Class Mail International

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
CANADA
pm@pm.gc.ca (Email)
(613) 941-6900 (Fax)

Re: Stop Greyhound Service Cuts in Western Canada

## Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

I write with a great sense of urgency to seek your support for immediate action to forestall the drastic service cuts announced by Western Greyhound Canada, effectively ending by October 31, 2018 critical lifelines to health care providers, jobs, education centers, friends and families for tens of thousands of riders in Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

As the largest transit union (200,000 members) in North America, including 40,000 in nine provinces and through ATU Local 1374, over 400 employees of Western Greyhound, we join with Federal NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh, and provincial, municipal and First Nations leaders in calling for a joint federal/provincial funding plan to ensure the continuation of these essential bus services.

We agree that the absence of strong federal and provincial polices to support the intercity bus industry, competition from third-party package delivery, deregulation and other factors have affected the financial viability of many routes. Yet, we also know from experience that effective regulatory reforms, governmental subsidies, strategic planning and route rationalization can make a difference.

It makes no sense to speak of bringing communities together, insuring the safety, health and security of those in need, and providing real opportunity for good jobs and access to state-of-the-art health care, and yet stop short of providing the resources necessary to make these goals a reality.

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We strongly believe that together, we can do better. The ATU stands ready to work with you, the Ministers of Transport and others at the federal and provincial level to secure emergency funding to keep these crucial bus routes running and develop a sustainable long-term plan.

Your prompt consideration of this request would be greatly appreciated. I may be reached directly at (301) 431-7100 (x220) to discuss these issues further.

Sincerely,

nternational President

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c: Eric Carr, President/Business Agent, ATU Local 1374
Robin West, International Vice President, ATU
Manny Sforza, International Vice President, ATU
John Callahan, International Vice President, ATU
Paul Thorp, President, ATU Canada
All ATU Canadian Locals
(above via email)