



Sent by Email

April 4, 2023

Ministry of Transportation 5th Floor 777 Bay Street Toronto, ON M7A1Z8 Caroline.Mulroney@pc.ola.org

Dear Honourable Caroline Mulroney:

Re: Resumption of Ontario Northland Rail Service – Beaverton Station

On behalf of the Region of Durham and the Township of Brock, we are very pleased to see that planning work for the Ontario Northland's Northeastern Passenger Rail Service is well underway. The rail service will provide a new safe, reliable transportation option between northern Ontario and Toronto, and will cross through northern Durham Region.

The province's commitment in April 2022 to invest \$75 million to reinstate Northlander train service from Toronto to Cochrane, coupled with the announcement in December 2022 by Stan Cho, Associate Minister of Transportation, to purchase three new train sets to be built for 2026, is a significant investment to build a better transportation network, and is commended.

To build on this significant opportunity, the Region of Durham and Township of Brock would like a new station location to be identified in the community of Beaverton, in the Township of Brock. The revised Initial Business Case (IBC), prepared by Metrolinx on behalf of Ontario Northland in April 2022, did not include a station in Beaverton.

Providing a station in Beaverton would re-establish its role as a passenger rail hub (that ceased in 1990), support local tourism, ignite job creation, improve access to specialized services (medical, education, government) and improve business travel and commuting opportunities.

A Beaverton station would be well connected, with many communities in northern Durham Region, northern York Region and western Kawartha Lakes within a convenient half-hour drive. A Beaverton station would also be roughly halfway between the proposed Gormley and Washago stations, meaning that travel time along the route would not be affected by a Beaverton Station (see Figure 1).

The Region of Durham and Township of Brock respectfully request the province to support a new passenger rail station in Beaverton as part of the Northeastern Passenger Rail Service resumption and would welcome an opportunity to discuss this further.

Yours truly,

John Henry Regional Chair and CEO Region of Durham 605 Rossland Road East Whitby, Ontario <u>chair@durham.ca</u> Walter Schummer Mayor Township of Brock 1 Cameron Street East Cannington, Ontario walter.schummer@brock.ca

att.

cc: MPP Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy (Pickering-Uxbridge) <u>Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org</u> MPP Patrice Barnes (Ajax) <u>Patrice.Barnes@pc.ola.org</u> MPP Lorne Coe (Whitby) <u>Lorne.Coe@pc.ola.org</u> MPP Jennifer K. French (Oshawa) <u>JFrench-QP@ndp.on.ca</u> MPP Todd J. McCarthy (Durham) <u>Todd.McCarthy@pc.ola.org</u> Phil Verster (Metrolinx) <u>CEO@metrolinx.com</u>





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