



June 25, 2020

Jenna Peace
Executive Chairperson Durham College Student's Inc.
2000 Simcoe St. N.
Oshawa, ON, L1G 0C5

Dear Ms. Peace:

Re: Request for discounted post-secondary student pass

Thank you for your June 24 letter to Chair Henry. I first want to acknowledge that DRT recognizes the value and benefit of unlimited travel afforded to post-secondary students through the popular U-Pass program. We also agree that during the pre-vaccine period many students, both high school and post secondary students, will continue to work throughout the Region while studying from home, and will be an important part of the Region's economic recovery.

As you indicate courses will continue to be delivered on-line during the fall, and as a result Ontario Tech and Durham College have requested to pause the U-Pass for the summer and fall 2020 semesters. A report will be presented to the Transit Executive Committee (TEC) July 8 where the decision will be made to accept or deny the request to pause the U-Pass program.

As you are aware the 2020-2021 U-Pass rate is \$141.75 per student per semester and is charged to all full-time students. It's only through the participation of all students that DRT can offer the highly discounted U-Pass rate (\$35.44 per month). On a monthly basis the U-Pass rate is \$10 less than DRT's Access Pass and equivalent to 30 per cent of an adult monthly pass or 38 per cent of a youth monthly pass. Further, within the GTHA only the TTC offers a discounted post-secondary student fare (\$128.15 per month).

Should the U-Pass agreement be suspended for the fall 2020 semester, regular DRT fare will apply. DRT offer several existing fare incentives, including programs to support youth between the ages of 13 and 19. Post secondary students 19 years or younger qualify for the Y10 program, saving \$20 per month (\$73.95 instead of \$93.95) when purchasing consecutive monthly passes starting September. For July and August, the Youth 2 for 1 pass is available saving \$93.95.

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Holmes', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bill Holmes
General Manager
Durham Region Transit

Copy to: John Henry, Regional Chair
Elaine Baxter-Trahair, CAO, Region of Durham
Don Lovisa, President of Durham College
Tiffany Best, President of Ontario Tech Student Union
Rayna Porter, President of Trent Durham Student Association