

May 23, 2019

Standing Committee on General Government
99 Wellesley Street West
Room 1405, Whitney Block
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

Re: Amendment Requests to Bill 107 – Get Ontario Moving Act

Dear Members of the Standing Committee on General Government,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak at your Standing Committee about Bill 107 – Get Ontario Moving Act this week. I am writing on behalf of Spinal Cord Injury Ontario (SCIO) to provide written submission outlining our request for amendments to Bill 107 with two very important recommendations:

- 1. Expansion of the definition of Vulnerable Road User under the Highway Traffic Act (HTA).**
- 2. Ensure provisions within Bill 107 to include an accessibility plan and mandatory community engagement with people with disabilities.**

The economic burden of catastrophic injury in Ontario is a \$2.7 Billion problem. Every day in Ontario, someone will experience a neurotrauma. Protecting vulnerable road users and ensuring our public transportation systems in Ontario are inclusive to everyone is an expectation for Ontario. We trust that this government will do the right thing and get Ontario moving again in the most responsible fashion.

SCIO supports the proposed legislation within Bill 107 for the expansion on the definition of a “Vulnerable Road User” to include a person working on a highway. We further propose an amendment upon this definition within Bill 107 to include more meaningful penalties for motorists convicted of any of the 45 sections under HTA which results in the injury or death of a Vulnerable Road User. These penalties would include:

- Community service
- Mandatory driver safety course,
- License suspension until completed unless otherwise directed by court, and
- All convicted drivers of the offence must appear in court to hear Victim Impact Statement of family

We direct you to review the past Private Member's Bills 158, 37 and presently 62 for the draft legislation which clearly outlines these requested amendments. We implore our government to adopt this draft legislation and amend Bill 107 accordingly to provide justice and protection for all forms of road and transit users. Everyone, no matter how they get around, is a vulnerable road user at some point in their day.

Regarding Accessibility for a fully inclusive Ontario, not one provision of accessibility within a bill aimed at public transportation is inappropriate. All public transportation systems must be safe and available to all.

We hope this government ensures a cross cutting expectation of accessibility within all its bills and demonstrates a strong commitment towards a fully inclusive Ontario by 2025 as outlined in the Accessible Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

On behalf of SCIO and the Coalition for Vulnerable Road Users, we thank you for your consideration and time.

Yours truly,



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Director, Advocacy
Spinal Cord Injury Ontario

Cc:

Dave Smith, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Peterborough—Kawartha
Natalia Kusendova, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Mississauga Centre
Jessica Bell, New Democratic Party of Ontario
University—Rosedale
Chris Glover, New Democratic Party of Ontario
Spadina—Fort York
Christine Hogarth, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Etobicoke—Lakeshore
Logan Kanapathi, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Markham—Thornhill
Daryl Kramp, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Hastings—Lennox and Addington
Amarjot Sandhu, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Brampton West
Mike Schreiner, Green Party of Ontario
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Jennifer (Jennie) Stevens, New Democratic Party of Ontario
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Daisy Wai, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Richmond Hill