TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We are a coalition of persons with disabilities throughout the GTA who are personally impacted by the shortage of accessible on-demand transportation in the city. Many of us also work for organizations that serve the broader disability community in Ontario, and over the last few years, we have been made acutely aware of the negative impact the lack of accessible on-demand transportation is having on those with disabilities.

A change.org petition was launched in recent months, collecting over <u>1500 signatures</u>, and we have been in communication with the City of Toronto through public consultations and other meetings to inform them of the dire situation at hand, as well as potential solutions.

It is our understanding that the recommendations made pertaining to accessibility have not yet been accepted or implemented. We need to bring this back to the table for discussion and implement a plan as soon as possible – people with disabilities are struggling to access on-demand transportation in the city they call home.

Moreover, with Toronto being the top destination for tourists from across the world, it is imperative that we are up to par with accessibility standards that meet everyone's needs.

For years, people with disabilities have been on the back burner when it comes to ondemand transportation, not having access to rides in a large, thriving metropolis like Toronto. People continue to be stranded without rides – this is unacceptable for AODA standards and sets the stage for ongoing accessibility barriers.

People with disabilities require the same sevices as their fellow citizens and need to be able to access on-demand transportation within a reasonable wait time that adheres to the industry standard. As such, this subject needs to be brought back to the city for a vote – a rapidly increasing disability population is depending on the City of Toronto to make a decision that is inclusive and considerate of all its residents and visitors.

Sincerely,