c/o Wheel-Trans, 580 Commissioners Street, Toronto, Ontario M4M 1A7 Fax: (416) 338-0139 E-Mail: acat@ttc.ca

November 14, 2013

TTC Board Members
Toronto Transit Commission
1900 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M4S 1Z2

Dear Board Members:

Re: TTC Fare Policy - Requests for Fare Discounts - October 23, 2013 Board Report

Thank you for granting the request of the TTC Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit (ACAT) to table this report to the November Board meeting to give ACAT the opportunity to review the report and provide feedback to the Board for consideration.

ACAT has long been recommending that the Board consider having a reduced fare for people with disabilities who have limited incomes. Most recently, this item was on the Board agenda last fall, at which time Penny Lamy made a deputation on behalf of ACAT. The item was then referred to TTC Staff and Staff submitted a report to the October 23, 2013 Board meeting.

At the October 31, 2013 ACAT General Meeting, ACAT members discussed this report and unanimously recommended the TTC Board seek funding in order to cover the offset costs for Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) recipients to have reduced fares equivalent to senior/student rates.

Eligibility to receive ODSP is determined by disability and financial status. The disability portion of the application is completed by physicians (Health Status Report) and Health Care or Social Work professionals (Activities of Daily Living form). Financial eligibility is determined by mandatory submission of personal identification and financial information including bank accounts and annual Notice of Assessment from Canada Revenue Agency. An update application is processed on a scheduled basis to determine continuing eligibility.

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THE COMMISSION

Using the TTC staff report estimate of sixty thousand ODSP recipients in the City of Toronto, the calculated cost of the fare reduction as \$0.3893 per trip, the average per capita annual transit trips in Toronto = 196, the annual revenue impact if ridership is 50% to 100% of Toronto average is \$2.3M to \$4.6M to fund reduced fares for Torontonians receiving ODSP.

On behalf of these Torontonians with disabilities who are recipients of ODSP, ACAT requests the TTC Board investigate funding sources to cover the reduced fare that is equivalent to Seniors and students.

Sincerely,

Angela Marley ACAT Chair

Copy: Andy Byford

Vince Rodo Chris Upfold Orest Kobylansky Kirsten Watson

Estimated City of Toronto recipients:

☐ ODSP = 60K

○ OWP = 105K

Adult average fare (2012) = \$2.0818 Senior/Student average fare (2012) = \$1.6925 Average discount per trip:

3 \$2.0818 **-** \$1.6925 **=** \$0.3893

Average per capita annual transit trips for Toronto = 196 Annual revenue impact if annual ridership is 50% to 100% of Toronto average:

- ☐ 165K x 97.5 annual trips x (\$0.3893) = (\$6.3M)
- ☐ 165K x 195 annual trips x (\$0.3893) = (\$12.5M)