

## **Chamber Applauds Minister of Transportation Yurek for Greenlighting Hamilton LRT**

March 28, 2019 - Hamilton, ON: Hamilton Chamber of Commerce applauds the Ford Government's decision to resume the RFP process and lift the freeze on land acquisition along the B-Line LRT line.

"I want to applaud the Ford Government for going forward with the Hamilton LRT project," said Keanin Loomis, President and CEO of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce. "This is a government that listens to business, and they've done an incredible job of thoroughly evaluating the business case for Hamilton LRT. They've concluded that this project will be transformative for Hamilton and produce jobs and economic development. We all believe the LRT's impact is going to positively impact the long term fiscal outlook of the Province."

For several years, the Chamber, empowered by its 1,000 members, has rallied the community, including Hamilton's Anchor Institutions (McMaster, Mohawk, HHS, St. Joe's and both school boards) and other business associations (Realtor's Association of Hamilton-Burlington, Hamilton Halton Construction Association, and Hamilton Halton Home Builders' Association) in support of a project that is integral to the future prosperity of Hamilton.

The Chamber has consistently championed the citywide benefits of the LRT. The Canadian Urban Institute estimates that, due to the hundreds of millions of dollars of develop that has and will be unlocked by the project, \$81.6 million in increased city revenue is expected over the next 15 years.

As a means of respecting taxpayer dollars (there has already been \$105 million spent over the last 11 years), addressing housing affordability, and unlocking citywide benefits, the Hamilton Chamber is pleased we are taking the next step towards completing the B-Line LRT.

"The Ford Government has clearly heard the calls from businesses to resume this project. Today's announcement provides both developers and businesses the positive signal they need to invest further in our community." Keanin Loomis, President and CEO of the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce.

The Hamilton Chamber of Commerce looks forward to learning more on the Province's upcoming budget on April 12, 2019, when we host Minister Bethlenfavl, President of The Treasury Board, to discuss his line by line review of provincial spending. Tickets to the event can be found at [hamiltonchamber.ca](http://hamiltonchamber.ca).

--30--

Media contact: Marie Nash, Director, Communications and New Media,  
[m.nash@hamiltonchamber.ca](mailto:m.nash@hamiltonchamber.ca) | 905-522-1151 ext. 245, C: 905-741-7164