

Minister of Transport



Ministre des Transports

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

The Honourable Ron Schuler, M.L.A.
Minister of Infrastructure
Government of Manitoba
450 Broadway Avenue
Room 203, Legislative Building
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

JAN 28 2019

Dear Minister:

I am writing to you following up on ongoing engagement regarding the reductions in Greyhound Canada's intercity bus services that came into effect on October 31, 2018.

As indicated in my letter to you on July 19, 2018, I recognize the importance and value of intercity mobility options. Greyhound's withdrawal was considerable both in its extent and in its impacts on the affected communities in your province.

Access to affordable, publicly available transportation options is necessary in a country as vast as Canada, and is particularly vital for our rural communities such as those in your province. These communities are an important part of the rural fabric of Canada. Greyhound's decision has had a significant impact on the lives of many Manitobans, particularly on vulnerable groups, such as seniors and Indigenous women and girls, who may lack access to other means of transportation for safety concerns or to access healthcare services.

This is why, on October 31 2018, the Government of Canada extended to you a public offer of funding, on a cost-shared and transitional basis, to address each route abandoned by Greyhound.

It has always been our hope that any service gaps would be filled by other private sector operators. Conversations with these operators and your officials have been taking place for the last few months. As you have likely been advised by your officials—and as was discussed at the January 21, 2019 meeting of the Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highway Safety—there remains a gap within your province. This concerns me greatly. Without joint support from both the federal and provincial governments, this service gap will remain.

This is why I would like to restate the Government of Canada's offer to support your province in addressing the service gaps left by Greyhound Canada's October 31, 2018 withdrawal from Western Canada through cost sharing. Our government has put up to \$10,000,000 on the table for eligible provinces, and to restore service all we ask is for 50:50 cost sharing from your province.

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Now more than ever we need to fix this problem together. Restoring this service is more important than partisan politics, and I look forward to an expedited reply on cost sharing with the federal government.

We believe that this decision will help you to address the immediate intercity bus needs of any remaining vulnerable groups in Western Canada while still encouraging private sector growth, and will ensure that Canadians have safe, sustainable, and efficient transportation options that enhance their quality of life.

I believe that this is an urgent matter, and therefore I ask that we arrange a time for us to speak on this issue in the next few days.

Thank you again, and I look forward to a quick reply.

Yours sincerely,



The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Transport

cc: The Honourable Dominic Leblanc, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade

The Honourable Seamus O'Regan, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Indigenous Services