



Office of the President and
Chief Executive Officer

Cabinet du président
et chef de la direction

October 20, 2011

Ms. Olivia Chow, M.P.
151 Sparks Street, Room 1260
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Ms. Chow:

I would like to thank you for your letter regarding your private members bill calling on the Federal Government to establish a National Public Transit Strategy.

Public transit is a vital service that contributes to economic growth. As you are aware, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce supports the development of a National Transit Strategy that fosters sustainable transit infrastructure across Canada and addresses the needs of Canada's urban centers and rural communities.

As you can imagine, timing and the form of new initiatives is an important issue, given the current fragile state of the economy. The Canadian Chamber of Commerce supports the government's efforts to eliminate the federal deficit and believes that the government must exercise considerable care with initiatives that would require major new incremental government spending until the deficit is eliminated. We also believe that an effective National Transit Strategy should encourage private investment in infrastructure projects, particularly through the use of public-private partnership.

I would like to thank you for your leadership on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Perrin Beatty

c.c.: The Honourable Denis Lebel, P.C., M.P.

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