



connectthe**corridor**

## **CONNECT THE CORRIDOR CALLS ON ALL PARTIES TO SUPPORT MPP LAURA MAE LINDO'S TRANSIT MOTION ON APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>.**

*Regional transit advocacy group supports call for government to outline plan, timeline and budget to deliver fast, frequent two-way all-day service along the Toronto-Waterloo innovation corridor.*

**KITCHENER – APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> 2019:** Today regional transit advocacy group, Connect The Corridor, expressed its support for Kitchener Centre MPP Laura Mae Lindo's upcoming motion which calls on the Ontario Government to provide a firm funding commitment and a clear timeline for the delivery of fast frequent, two-way, all-day, electrified GO rail service along the Toronto-Waterloo innovation corridor. The motion will be debated on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

"We hope the Legislature will make this a rare moment of unanimity," said Ian Mclean, chair of Connect the Corridor and president and CEO of the Greater KW Chamber of Commerce. "Congestion in Toronto is now ranked as the worst in North America and nowhere is this more evident than the daily, grinding, commute along the Gardiner, 427 and 401. We've settled too long for assurances and incremental increases -- it's time for a real plan to deliver fast, frequent two-way all-day service with the timeline and budget to back it up. Connecting the Toronto-Waterloo Innovation corridor, home to two of Canada's largest employment zones, is a job creator and economic multiplier -- we strongly urge members of all parties to support MPP Lindo's motion on April 4<sup>th</sup> and hope the government will deliver a plan."

### **QUICK FACTS:**

- [McKinsey estimates](#) that linking the Toronto-Waterloo Innovation Corridor through fast, frequent, rail service has the potential to deliver a **\$50 billion increase in direct equity value, \$17.5 billion in direct annual GDP**, and more than **170,000 high-quality jobs by 2025**.
- [A recent poll conducted by the Earncliffe Strategy Group](#) showed broad support for two-way all-day GO **across the province**: 80% of those surveyed said they support, fast, frequent, two-way all Day GO along the Toronto-Waterloo innovation corridor.
- [The Toronto Region Board of Trade estimates](#) that **congestion and delays along the Corridor costs Canadian businesses and consumers between \$500 and \$650 million per year** in higher prices for goods.

### **ABOUT CONNECT THE CORRIDOR:**

Founded earlier this year, Connect the Corridor is made up of the Toronto-Waterloo Innovation Corridor's top business leaders, innovators and job creators. Its members include; The City of Waterloo, The City of Kitchener, The City of Guelph and their Chambers of Commerce alongside leaders in the education, technology, financial services and advanced manufacturing sectors.

For more information: <http://connectthecorridor.ca>