Ministry of Transportation

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April 14, 2000

Mr. Dale Wilson Past President Transport 2000 Ontario 158 Adie Street Sudbury, Ontario P3C 2P8

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the brief presented by Transport 2000 to the ONTC Passenger Services Review Committee concerning the Ontario Northlander rail service.

I appreciate hearing your concerns and I am sure you have written directly to the Honourable Tim Hudak, Minister of Northern Development and Mines, who has responsibility for Ontario Northland Transportation Commission (ONTC). It is the ONTC that operates the Ontario Northland rail service.

You will also know that Minister Hudak announced on March 8, 2000, that the Northlander train will continue to operate while the ONTC Board considers options for improving passenger train service and all other ONTC operations. The Minister said "I believe the Northlander can and should be improved, and I will not be satisfied until every possible avenue for providing better service for the people of Northeastern Ontario has been explored."

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,

David Turnbull Minister

c.c Honourable Tim Hudak, Minister of Northern Development and Mines