



## RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

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PETITION No.: **421-01381**

BY: **MR. AYOUB (THÉRÈSE-DE BLAINVILLE)**

DATE: **MAY 29, 2017**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **THE HONOURABLE AMARJEET SOHI**

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Response by the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

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SUBJECT

**Road transportation**

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**ORIGINAL TEXT**

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**REPLY**

The Government of Canada is pleased to respond to this petition.

The Government recognizes the importance of investing in infrastructure, as it is the foundation of sustainable communities – it removes barriers, brings people together, and creates more inclusive communities. The Government also recognizes that gridlock and congestion have serious negative consequences on Canada's economy, as well as on many aspects of the lives of Canadians and the environment. This is why public transit is a critical part of the Government of Canada's historic plan to invest more than \$180 billion in infrastructure over 12 years.

These investments include the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund, announced in Budget 2016, which is providing up to \$3.4 billion to support investments that meet immediate public priorities, including projects that improve the state of good repair of public transit, support system optimization for efficiency, increase asset management capacity, and focus on design and planning for future expansion of public transit systems.

As part of the longer-term phase of the *Investing in Canada Plan*, the Government has also committed \$25.3 billion to build public transit networks and service extensions that will transform the way Canadians live, move and work. This will include investments from the new Canada Infrastructure Bank, which will be responsible for investments of at least

\$5 billion to support public transit systems. This will also include investments of \$20.1 billion to be delivered through negotiated bilateral agreements, which will allow provinces and territories to prioritize projects.

The Government of Canada works closely with provincial, territorial and municipal partners to fund infrastructure projects. These orders of government are responsible for the planning, prioritization, design, financing and operation of their infrastructure assets. The Government has noted the importance of the two projects (i.e., the completion of Highway 19 with public transit lanes and the construction of reserved lanes on Highway 15) for the Greater Montreal region. Going forward, the Government will continue to work with the Government of Quebec, and, as required, with municipalities and other partners, to advance the Government of Canada's Infrastructure Plan which will enable priority infrastructure projects that will support economic, social and environmental objectives in the interest of residents of the Greater Montreal Region, Quebecers and Canadians.