



December 17, 2019

Aldershot Youth Crew supports motion to extend free busing to youth in the City of Burlington

The Aldershot Youth Crew is a dynamic group of teens and adults who enjoy making the world around them a better place. We are mainly comprised on humble youth residing in Aldershot who want to see our neighbourhood thrive. We are concerned about the environment and the health of the planet, physical health of young people, and the Aldershot community in general.

We believe that youth should have free bus passes because transportation is a vital piece of public services. This includes young people under 18 who are not enrolled in school who likely face a number of barriers and challenges in their lives. Public transportation helps reduce traffic congestion, CO2 emissions, and allows youth to safely be more connected to their community. We believe that more families would be encouraged to take the bus if all youth under 18 were free, allowing them to make memories together and explore without the ecological impact. We believe that free bus passes would help youth get connected to employment and volunteer opportunities – which will positively impact their financial and mental health.

We saw in the City of Burlington Strategic Plan that Focus Area 2 is “increasing integrated city mobility” which includes a target goal of increasing ridership by 1%. Aldershot youth often feel separated from Burlington proper due to the highways and transit mobility. Free bus passes would expand our horizons.

Examples of places we would go include: Burlington mall, go out to eat, go to the movies. Some may use it to go school and participate in after school activities. Other may visit the bowling alley, the YMCA Underground, and we would go to local parks and trails.

“Free bus passes would make transportation easier. It would open up more opportunities for us to connect with friends and family. It would save our family money from driving us around which can be reinvested into our education and recreation.” Isha T., age 13

Sincerely Yours,

The Aldershot Youth Crew

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Our Kids Network is a Halton-wide partnership of organizations and agencies serving children and youth.

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