



October 13, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has just learned that the Provincial Government has given approval to Metrolinx for expansion of the GO Transit Georgetown South rail corridor and new rail service between Union Station and Pearson International Airport, as part of the Regional Transportation Plan for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).

The Georgetown South rail corridor expansion is part of the GO Transit Rail Improvement Program (GO TRIP), a \$1-billion expansion initiative funded by the federal and provincial governments and local municipalities through the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund.

To ensure the rail line expansions are operated in a way that protects human health, the Province states that Metrolinx will be required to:

- Conduct further studies regarding predicted human health risks from train traffic, develop mitigation measures for unacceptable risks that are identified, and implement those measures after they are approved by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE).
- Develop and implement an ambient air monitoring and reporting plan in consultation with the public. Metrolinx will be required to report the results to the MOE and make the data publicly available.

TCDSB first expressed concerns about the proposed expansion of rail service along this corridor in June 2005. The Board formally objected to the proposed expansion in August 2009 due to the potential health and safety impact on schools within close proximity to the rail lines. The additional traffic along the corridor and resulting impact on air quality, as well as increased noise levels, were identified as concerns for staff and students in the schools closest to the rail lines.

The attached backgrounder has further information about this project. Information is also available on the Board's website at [www.tcdsb.org](http://www.tcdsb.org).

Should you have any concerns or questions about the project, please feel free to contact your local Member of Provincial Parliament, the Toronto Medical Officer of Health at 416-338-7600 or [www.toronto.ca/health/](http://www.toronto.ca/health/) or Metrolinx at 1-866-658-9890 or [www.metrolinx.com/gsse](http://www.metrolinx.com/gsse).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Perron".

Ann Perron  
Director of Education

cc. Trustees  
Superintendents  
Principals

Att.