



July 3, 2025

City of Woodstock
500 Dundas Street
Woodstock, ON N4S 0A7

Mayor Acchione and Members of Council,

Re: Request for Letter of Support for Inter-Community Transit Funding Application

On behalf of South Central Ontario Region Economic Development Corporation (SCOR EDC) I am writing to respectfully request a letter of support for our application to the Ontario Transit Investment Fund (OTIF) for coordinated inter-community transit.

This proposed initiative builds on our work in the development of the Southwest Community Transit (SCT) which is a member-based collaboration between municipalities across southwestern Ontario. This proposed initiative aims to improve regional connectivity by enhancing transit service providers across the South Central Ontario Region including Oxford County.

In 2019 SCOR EDC created the Southwest Community Transit (SCT) as a means to support and coordinated rural transit services across the region. As the lead advocate to the Province for the initial transit funding, we saw the need to establish and develop a means for transit providers to coordinate and collaborate. We now find ourselves at a critical junction where we believe rural transit needs to evolve into a more integrated and sustainable model that meets the needs of our growing communities. We have been working closely with MTO and they are also supportive of the SCT model. To support this, we are seeing funding from the province to increase coordination among rural transit providers, enhance connectivity with larger urban systems (such as Woodstock) and establish a more direct and representative governance structure to guide the next phase of development.

The project aligns closely with several shared regional priorities, as outlined in recent planning documents from the City of Woodstock and Oxford County:

- City of Woodstock Strategic Plan which identifies “improved transportation and mobility” as key priorities to enhance quality of life and economic growth.
- Oxford County Transportation Master Plan which identifies the “need for inter-community transit and multi-modal solutions”

We believe that strengthened inter-community transit will benefit the region including the City of Woodstock. A centralized cohesive governance and service model will increase access to employment, education and essential services as well as reduce barriers for underserved populations and contribute to overall climate goals.

South Central Ontario Region Economic Development Corporation (SCOR EDC)

4 Elm Street, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 0C4

do@scorregion.com | 519-842-6333 | www.scorregion.com



We would be grateful if you would consider providing a letter of support for our funding application. A formal expression from the City of Woodstock would underscore regional collaboration and strategic alignment, both of which will carry significant weight with the province.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ed Ketchabaw'.

Ed Ketchabaw
SCOR EDC Chair

