

Protecting York Region taxpayers



FACT: York Regional Council invests heavily in public transit, directing \$180 million to YRT/Viva in 2011. Regional Council wants an end to the YRT/Viva strike – but not at any cost.

FACT: York Regional Council will not intervene in the YRT/Viva strike by requesting back-to-work legislation or supporting binding arbitration. These options would cost taxpayers and riders significantly more money.

FACT: York Region is not the employer in this dispute. Changing that would cost more for everyone, would not prevent future strikes or make it possible to meet 20-per cent union wage demands. York Region will not reopen finalized contracts at the expense of taxpayers.

FACT: Taxes subsidize 63 per cent of YRT/Viva service at a cost of \$340 a year for the typical household. Only 37 per cent of costs are recovered through transit fares. Additional costs must be recovered from tax increases, fare increases or both.

FACT: A fair deal can and should be made at the bargaining table between the unions and YRT/Viva contracted operators.

FACT: York Region's potential costs if we were to intervene:

\$40 million

over the life of existing transit contracts at a cost of \$10 million annually

Cost to the taxpayer

\$26 /YEAR

Annual increase to property taxes for every typical York Region household

or

Cost to the transit rider

45¢ /RIDE

Fare increase in addition to the January 1, 2012 scheduled fare increase

Negotiations are bringing the contractors and unions closer. York Regional Council calls for ongoing, intensive bargaining. Restore service. End this dispute now in the best interest of bus operators, mechanics and commuters.

Current Contractor Offers	Union Counter-offer
MILLER TRANSIT (SOUTHEAST DIVISION) Phone: 905-475-1367 > Proposed five-year contract > Wage increase: Avg 2.6% per year, 13.1% total over five years	ATU LOCAL 1587 / Phone: 416-695-3896 > Wage increase: 16% in year one, 20% total over three years
YORK BRT SERVICES (VIVA) / Toll Free: 1-888-382-1149 > New proposed four-year contract > Wage increase: 3%, 2%, 2%, 3%, 10% total over four years > 75%-25% split employer-employee health benefit coverage	ATU LOCAL 113 / Phone: 416-398-5113 > New proposed three-year contract (to align with second Veolia southwest contract expiry) > Wage increase 2.6% in year one, 8.1% total over three years > 100% employer paid benefits (up from original ask of 75%-25% split)
FIRST CANADA (NORTH DIVISION) Toll Free: 1-866-244-6383 > Undisclosed wage and benefit offer	ATU LOCAL 1587 / Phone: 416-695-3896 > Counter-offer unknown

Where can I get more information on service options during the strike?

Call 1-866-MOVE YRT (668-3978), visit www.yrt.ca or www.york.ca

Facebook: @YorkRegionGovt or [facebook.com/YorkRegion](https://www.facebook.com/YorkRegion)

