

Interim Storefront Rental Proposal

To: United Way of York Region
Town of Georgina
York Region Transit, Region of York

From: Georgina Mobility Transit

Date: March 20, 2007

I am writing on behalf of the Georgina Mobility Transit Inc. Executive Committee to request the support of GMT funders in a matter of great importance to our organization.

As you know, Georgina Mobility Transit (GMT) is planning to expand its infrastructure via the creation of a storefront office in 2008-2009. Up until now, GMT has not yet been in a position to take this vital step due to the limitations of historical 'project-based' type of funding approvals. A storefront office would greatly increase the visibility of GMT in the community and make it easier for Riders to access Transit Georgina. In fact, a storefront office would offer a number of important advantages to Transit Georgina Riders and the community as a whole, as summarized below. As planned for some time now, GMT will submit a proposal to The Ontario Trillium Foundation to support this expansion in July 2007.

Recently a 'dream' storefront location has unexpectedly been made available to GMT. After a careful review of this offer, the Executive Committee has determined that this offer comprises exactly the kind of space and location GMT had hoped for, and that the rental cost is reasonable and within reach.

Therefore, Georgina Mobility Transit is seeking support from you, our current funders, to use current/newly renewed funds to 'bridge' finance the procurement of this storefront for six months, from May 1 to approximately November 1, 2007. GMT proposes to use \$200.00 per month from each funding source (i.e. United Way, Town of Georgina, York Region Transit), as well as \$200.00+ monthly from its own fundraising work to cover the above-mentioned costs.

Below are some additional details pertaining to the proposed storefront for your consideration:

Advantages of a Storefront Office:

- The provision of a community-based, centrally-located transportation hub, which will provide information materials to the public on a wide range of community programs and services.

- A Community Presence to support walk-in, face-to-face service in an area of Georgina which is not currently served by conventional transit (other than GO).
- Space for a volunteer work site for local secondary school students/social service agencies.
- Meeting space for routine GMT/Transit Georgina business, including Board meetings and Driver training sessions, as well as space to share with GMT's partner agencies for ongoing meetings, training, workshops, satellite 'desk space' for frontline workers from other areas of Georgina and the Region, etc.

Location: 112 High Street on the main street of Sutton in central Georgina. The storefront is in close proximity to the Sutton Seniors Centre (Club 55) and the North Street Apartments for Seniors, as well as Sutton District High School, and the Sutton Youth Multi-service Centre (youth shelter).

Facility: One large front office with two large display windows, two smaller office spaces (one can be for the administrator and the other for office/storage), plus washroom.

Anticipated Move-in Costs: \$2,000.00 for telephone installation, basic office equipment and furniture, and signage (to be further developed with Trillium funding). These costs may be reduced by in-kind contributions/equipment loans/volunteer work from GMT and its many community partners.

Rent: \$800.00 plus hydro (heat is included) per month.

Please advise, at your earliest convenience, whether this modification is deemed appropriate under current funding approval criteria.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Lewis
Past Chair
On behalf of
Georgina Mobility Transit
Executive Committee