



# BILL WALKER, MPP

Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

Room 410, Queen's Park  
Main Legislative Building  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

416-325-6243  
bill.walker@pc.ola.org  
www.billwalkermpp.com



Ontario

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

My name is Bill Walker and I am writing to seek your support of my resolution for a Rural and Northern Transportation Committee. My resolution will be debated at Queen's Park on **Thursday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>**.

As the MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound, I see and hear first-hand from my constituents how the lack of access to transportation negatively impacts the quality of life in rural and Northern Ontario. From senior citizens who struggle to find transportation to their doctor's appointment and to the hospital for tests to single parents who struggle to find transportation for her children's medical treatment. There are hundreds of thousands of individuals and families in small communities across rural and Northern Ontario who struggle every day to get around whether it's for medical appointment, work or to simply pick up some groceries.

All of you who live and work in small communities will appreciate their stories. **You know that presently in rural and Northern Ontario public transportation is essentially nonexistent.**

You will also know that the province continues to shortchange rural and Northern residents by not allocating a fair portion of the gas tax to our communities.

With the recent closure of routes by private carriers, namely Greyhound and Via Rail, the challenge is even more exacerbated.

We need to act now.

I believe the Government should take a more active role in supporting our communities' transit needs.

Implementing a reliable and effective transportation system can increase the quality of life for our residents, so they can travel to their medical appointments, to work, to shop or just to be able to visit family and friends. It would be sensible if all three parties at Queen's Park agreed to study the demand, obstacles and feasibility for rural and Northern transit.

For this reason, on Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> I will be bringing forward a motion before the House to call on the government to immediately strike an all-party committee to study transportation needs in rural and Northern Ontario.

I am asking for your support in advance of my asking the Legislatures' support of my resolution.

Please contact me at [bill.walker@pc.ola.org](mailto:bill.walker@pc.ola.org) or call me at 416-325-6242 if you have any questions.

I thank you for your anticipated support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Walker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "B" and "W".

Bill Walker  
MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound  
PC Critic for Children and Youth Services