

I am a single, visually impaired woman with no dependents. With my vision loss, I am trying to maintain a part time job. I am constantly struggling with employment challenges every day. I am an older woman dealing with health concerns therefore, I have many trips to medical appointments. Transportation has always been an issue. Many of you can jump in a car to go to the grocery store. I am unable to drive. It takes me more time and effort to do these things on my own. I have no one to help me with these tasks. I depend heavily on the LTC buses to get me to my job, errands, shopping and doctor's appointments. I have been taking Para Transit to work and I am pleased with the door to door service. It's very busy and ridership is increasing. Although, I have to depend on co-workers, taxi drivers to get me home after midnight and early mornings from work. I sometimes feel that I am a burden to my fellow co-workers. I have walked after midnight in the cold and icy streets alone just to get home. I would prefer not to do that anymore.

I have discussed this matter years ago at City Council. I would be there again tonight but I am working the afternoon shift. If an increase in the CNIB transit pass is necessary, please have a reasonable rate per year. The \$10 fee a year is nothing. I don't know where this came from. It's my opinion that a reasonable amount per year would be \$40 to \$50. My time is very valuable to me. I and many other visually impaired, blind Londoner's don't have time to stand in line for a subsidy bus pass. Understand that many visually impaired riders have canes and guide dogs. Are they expected to stand in line every month for a \$40 subsidy bus pass? It's too much for me and others with visual impairments. The LTC bus and Para Transit services are my only means to get around independently in the city I live in. I have a job to keep and make an income to live on too. Please don't make this a financial burden.

Thank you.

Karen MacLennan.