



## **Transit Employee Appreciation Day**

Today, as we commemorate National Transit Employee Appreciation Day, I reflect with pride on my role as a transit employee and as your elected President at Ottawa ATU Local 279. It is both an honour and a privilege to work alongside the incredible Brothers and Sisters who make up our team, dedicated to serving the public with professionalism and resilience.

Our industry has faced remarkable changes and growing challenges. Despite these, I witness the exceptional work our members perform, often under demanding conditions that display their unwavering commitment to excellence.

Our operators navigate impossible schedules with remarkable skill, while our dispatchers triage coverage in remarkable numbers. Our mechanics and garage teams perform wonders to maintain the safety, cleanliness, and functionality of our aging fleet. Our fare inspectors add to securing our transit system. Our building services members ensure shelters and platforms remain welcoming and clean, and the dedicated staff at Alstom uphold the light rail conditions despite high-pressure situations. The dedicated men and women of Para Transpo continue to serve a vital clientele, often with limited resources and extended hours. Each of these roles contributes significantly and deserves heartfelt acknowledgment. We appreciate the several other departments assisting to keep our system active.

With 2,600 strong members at ATU Local 279, I am profoundly proud to be part of such a dedicated and exemplary group. In a world where environment control is scarce, and demands continue to rise, core values and a shared mission unite our team to provide the people of Ottawa with the best public transit system possible.

Your dedication has made you the backbone of this remarkable city. Thank you for your commitment and service.

Be safe in all that you do—we ride together!

**ATU LOCAL 279 – EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Noah Vineberg

President/ Business Agent - Ottawa ATU Local 279

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