



Ministry of
Transportation

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Recent Events



Minister Sterling opens Sheppard subway

TORONTO – On November 22, 2002, Transportation Minister Norm Sterling joined Kevin Brown, TTC Train Operator, on the inaugural Sheppard subway train ride. Brown's father drove the first subway train on the Yonge line in 1954, the University line in 1963 and the Bloor line in 1966.

The province invested \$571 million in the Sheppard subway line, more than 60 per cent of the cost.

Eves government opens new four-laning on Highway 11

NORTH BAY - To improve road safety and access between northern and southern Ontario, the Ernie Eves government officially opened a new four-lane section of Highway 11 in October.

The new section of freeway, a \$60 million project known as the Trout Creek Bypass, was opened by Transportation Minister Norm Sterling and Nipissing MPP Al McDonald nearly a full year ahead of schedule.



- News Release and Backgrounder: [Eves government opens new four-laning on Highway 11](#)

Draft 4

Amanda Cain

Speaking Notes for Minister Sterling - Sheppard Subway opening, November 22, 2002

Check against delivery

Good morning and thank you for being here today.

For a city like Toronto, commuter mobility is the key to a high quality of life.

Millions rely on transit to get into the city, and millions rely on transit to get around town.

Our government recognizes this.

That's why we have made such a strong commitment to improving transit in Toronto.

Today, we take another step forward as we open the new Sheppard Subway line.

The project is over 6 kilometres long and includes five new stations.

It's an investment of \$933 million shared between the federal, provincial and municipal governments.

The Ontario government invested over \$560 million towards the cost of this project.

It's an investment that underscores this government's leadership in supporting urban transit across the province.

It's a project that will help ease congestion in this part of the city by giving commuters a choice.

As I look at the new facilities here, I am impressed by the imaginatively decorated stations, bright tunnels and the advanced technology.

[PAUSE]

That's why Ontario has provided \$1.8 billion in support to the TTC since 1996, including \$126 million in 2002.

The province is building on a previous commitment to the Sheppard Subway through our Transit Investment Plan.

It's a plan to create a seamlessly-integrated transportation network throughout the province. And transit is a vital component.

We are dedicating \$3.25 billion to renew and expand transit throughout the province over the next 10 years.

Part of this plan saw the Ontario government take back control of GO Transit earlier this year. This saved the city of Toronto \$50 million. That's \$50 million that can be reinvested in the TTC.

Another part of our commitment involves our Ontario Transit Renewal Program. We're providing funding every year to renew transit fleets throughout the province, including the TTC.

We have also committed \$1.25 billion through GTIP to expand and improve inter-regional transit within the Golden Horseshoe – and \$250 million outside the Golden Horseshoe area.

We look to the federal and municipal governments to continue to invest in a vital part of our economic prosperity.

Investments like the Sheppard Subway extension will mean a better quality of life for the people of Toronto, and for all of those who use it.

Thank you.

I would like to hand it over to my colleague XXXXXXXX to say a few words.

Word count 394

Event Outline

Date of Event: November 22, 2002

Event Description:

Official opening of the TTC Sheppard Subway Line

Time:

10:15	Arrive
10:35	Guests are led to lead car of train – pose for pictures
10:47	Train departs for Don Mills Station
10:57	Train arrives at Don Mills Station and upstairs for ceremony
11:00	Official Opening Ceremony
11:05	Singing of O Canada
11:10	Opening remarks by TTC Chair Betty
11:15	Anthony Kouneski speaks
11:20	David Collenette speaks
11:25	Mayor Lastman speaks
11:30	Norm Sterling speaks
11:35	Chair Disero asks Norm and Mel to join her with the unveiling of the plaque, commemorating the opening of the subway
11:40	Chair Disero recognizes the union's contributions
11:45	Chair Disero thanks Claude Watson Choir and Band, and invites special guests to join her in the cake cutting
11:50	Cake cutting photo op
	Refreshments are served. Everyone is invited to visit each station
2:00	Trains stop running – event conclusion

Location:

Sheppard/Yonge station – Drop off location Sheppard/Yonge Station entrance on Yonge Street at the northeast corner of Sheppard Avenue and Yonge Street. Enter doors and turn left to Subway entrance doors

Dress:

Business Suit

Minister's Involvement:

Minister to give speech on support provided by the province for the creation of the Sheppard Subway and general TTC operations. Minister should also be available to media for pictures and comments.

Microphone: yes

Podium: yes

Invited Media:

Ontario media - print, radio & T.V.

TTC Sheppard Subway Opening cont...

Participants:

TTC commissioners, Mayor, Transport Canada, Attorney General, American Public Transportation Association, TTC Chair, media and union representatives.

Speakers:

Betty Disero, TTC Chair
Anthony Kouneski, VP of APTA
David Collette, Transport Canada
Mel Lastman, Mayor
Norm Sterling, MTO

Ministry and organization site contacts: (with cell numbers):

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Who does Minister look for on arrival:

Marilyn Bolton