SCARBOROUGH REFERENCES OUT OF COMMISSION FOR AT LEAST 3 MORE WEEKS, FOLLOWING JULY 24 DERAILMENT

The Scarborough RT (SRT), also known as Line 3, remains closed for at least 3 more weeks, following its July 24 derailment that took place just south of Ellesmere Station.

Approximately around 6:45pm on Monday, the southbound SRT's rear car separated from the rest of the train, causing a derailment that saw 5 of its 45 passengers sustaining minor injuries. The TTC continues to investigate the exact cause of the derailment and has yet to make a final decision as to whether the train service will be reinstated.

In fact, Line 3 may be shut down altogether and permanently, seeing as it was already scheduled to be decommissioned in November of this year.

The decision to resume service will be made upon completion of the TTC's investigative review. Newly minted mayor Oliva Chow reiterated this in a July 27th news release by saying, "The safety of the public transit system is everyone's top concern and the SRT service can only return when we know it is safe to do so."

In the interim, shuttle busses have replaced train service on Line 3 from stations spanning Kennedy to McCowan. Starting operations in 1985, Line 3 is a 6.4-km rapid transit line with six stations whose trains are 13 years past their 25-year design shelf-life.

It's all the more a shame for the derailment and resulting injuries to have occurred since there was knowledge of the out-of-date trains.

Arguably, something could and should have been done long ago to ensure the trains were up to code with current standards. It is assumed that the impending investigation will shed more light on these concerns, as well as the future of the RT.

TTC CEO Rick Leary reassured the public in Thursday's news release that, "We are leaving no stone unturned." Indeed, that is the very least RT riders deserve.

Community builder and labour activist Thadsha Navaneethan commented on the incident and RT concerns on Twitter - now X - the day after the derailment. Swipe to see her thoughts!



Thadsha Navaneethan @Thadsha

Thankful to hear nobody was seriously injured in the SRT derailment yesterday.

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The poor state of repair of the Scarborough RT is nothing new to commuters here, and advocates have been sounding the alarm about the need for a reliable replacement service for years.