28 SEP, 2005

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

His Worship Larry DiIanni
Mayor
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Sir:

On July 5, 2005, the Honourable Stéphane Dion, Minister of the Environment, provided me with a copy of your correspondence regarding waste management issues. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

I appreciate being kept informed about the issue of waste originating from commercial airlines at John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport. With regard to Hamilton City Council’s resolution that the federal government be requested to amend the current legislation to permit recycling programs on domestic and international flights, there is currently no legislation that prevents airlines from developing recycling programs; however, there is also no intent to mandate such programs by the federal government. Recycling programs are largely voluntary in nature and have been effective in most municipalities with residents and businesses. Transport Canada promotes environmental management and stewardship within the transportation sector and airlines should be encouraged to participate in local/regional recycling programs where feasible.

The department encourages the City of Hamilton to continue to work with the Hamilton Airport Authority and the airline companies to address this issue. Thank you for sharing your views with the federal government.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Hon. Jean-C. Lapierre, P.C., M.P.

[Signature]

C.C. The Honourable Stéphane Dion, P.C., M.P.