November 10, 2008

Mayor Fred Eisenberger
Chair, Board of Health
City of Hamilton
250 Main Street East, 4th Floor
Hamilton ON L8N 1H6

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

The McGuinty government is continuing its ambitious reform of health care in Ontario. Over the past four years, this government has made unprecedented investments in primary care, long-term care homes, home care and in mental health.

The government's investments in the health care sector have increased from $29.4 billion in 2003-04 to a planned $40.4 billion in 2008-09.

I am pleased to confirm that our government is approving additional allocations in HIV/AIDS program funding to ensure that Ontarians have access to community-based HIV-related services. In 2008-09 the allocation will increase to $33.7 million.

This new funding will provide an increase to assist organizations with program growth and additional funding to specific organizations to support enhanced regional capacity. For 2008-09 your organization’s funding will be $144,676. This has been prorated to $139,676 due to the timing in the fiscal year, and includes:

- $3,500, which is a funding increase to support program growth, and
- $5,000, which is a funding increase to support enhanced regional capacity.

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Mary Clarks

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Mayor Fred Eisenberger

In the coming weeks, you will receive a letter from the ministry's AIDS Bureau outlining the details of this funding, including any accountability requirements and sign-back agreements for your allocation.

Community-based HIV/AIDS services are a vital component of Ontario’s response to the HIV epidemic. With strong roots in the community, your agency is ensuring the delivery of appropriate prevention strategies, and is providing essential support services to assist people living with HIV/AIDS to maximize their health.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my sincere appreciation for the considerable contributions that members of your organization have made to ensure that people in Ontario affected by HIV/AIDS continue to receive the necessary services that they require to maintain healthy, productive lives.

Yours sincerely,

David Caplan
Minister

c: Andrea Horwath, MPP, Hamilton Centre
Juanita Gledhill, Chair, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Information Network
Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health