October 11, 2013

Rose Caterini
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Rose Caterini,

Re: Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ (FCM) National Municipal Rail Safety “Working Group Communique”

Richmond Hill Town Council, at its meeting on September 23, 2013 approved the following resolution:

"Whereas the Town of Richmond Hill has a long history of rail systems coexisting with our commercial, residential, agricultural and industrial communities; and

Whereas it is the belief of Richmond Hill Town Council that our first responders should have all available information about rail cargo to provide for their own safety and that of the communities they serve; and

Whereas rail safety is a matter for all communities across Canada; and

Whereas the Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ (FCM) National Municipal Rail Safety Working Group has produced communique endorsing three key principals of rail safety, including the following areas:

1. Equip and support municipal first responders to rail emergencies;
2. Ensure federal and industry policies and regulations address the rail safety concerns of municipalities;
3. Prevent downloading of rail safety and emergency response costs to local taxpayers.

(continued)
Therefore be it resolved that the Town of Richmond Hill endorse the FCM National Municipal Rail Safety “Working Group communiqué”, and support the FCM’s call on the Federal Government to provide municipalities with adequate information on the dangerous goods that are being transported through their communities and further instruct the Clerk to communicate this resolution to FCM and to the Councils of all GTHA municipalities so that they may do the same; and

Further, the Clerk communicate the endorsement of the FCM National Municipal Rail Safety Working Group communique and support for FCM’s call on the Federal Government to provide municipalities with adequate information on the Transport of the dangerous goods through their communities, to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Federal Minister of Transport and Members of Parliament representing Richmond Hill and Oak Ridges-Markham.”

In accordance with Council’s directive, the above Council resolution has been forwarded to your attention.

If you require further information, please contact my office at (905) 771-2529.

Sincerely,

Donna L. McLarty
Town Clerk