December 16, 2009

TO: All municipalities in Ontario with a population over 50,000

Dear Sirs:

RE: MOTION (6) – EXEMPTION OF ELECTRICITY SALES FROM PROVINCIAL PORTION OF HARMONIZED SALES TAX – DECEMBER 15, 2009

I would confirm that at the December 15, 2009 meeting of Kingston City Council, the following Motion (6) was approved:

(6) Moved by Councillor Hutchison
     Seconded by Councillor Garrison

WHEREAS Ontario's 2009 budget has proposed to harmonize sales taxes, the implementation of which will apply to electricity rates starting July 1, 2010, having the effect of increasing electricity rates by 8% across the Province; and,

WHEREAS this increase in taxation on electricity bills will provide undue hardship to the residents and businesses of Ontario, particularly middle and low income families who are being hard pressed during the current economic recession due to reduced incomes and job losses and small businesses that are struggling to stay financially viable;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to exempt electricity sales from the provincial portion of the single harmonized sales tax;

- and further -

THAT this resolution be forwarded to all Ontario municipalities with a population over 50,000 for their support;

- and further -

THAT this Resolution be forwarded to the Premier, Deputy Premier/Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, Minister of Finance, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the AMO.

Yours truly,

Carolyn Downs
City Clerk

/k/i
Cc: Councillor R. Hutchison
File No.