September 26, 2011

Dear Mayor Bratina and Members of Council:

Re: The Top Ten Aggregate Producing Municipalities of Ontario

As you may be aware, a group of Mayors representing the top ten aggregate producing communities in the province have come together to work with industry partners and provincial decision-makers in developing a sustainable plan for aggregate extraction in Ontario. Our provincial consumption of virgin aggregate resources helps fuel steady economic growth.

Aggregate products are being used faster than close-to-market suppliers can support and while the industry's efforts to responsibly manage production are vital in ensuring aggregate resources continue to be available to fuel Ontario's economic future, the top ten aggregate producing communities, as major stakeholders in this mix should be part of the long-term solution. The economic advantages for communities rich in aggregate resources are many including employment, lower taxes, and aggregate royalties to maintain transportation systems. However, the advantages can outweigh the costs if properly managed over the long term.

Local municipalities have an opportunity to lead and as a group representing aggregate rich communities, we want to develop a long-term, practical approach that will ultimately benefit all stakeholders - constructive, sustainable solutions.

The City of Hamilton is one of the province's top ten aggregate producing communities and we have invited your Mayor to participate directly in the work of this coalition of municipalities. We recognize Hamilton is a major urban municipality and the responsibilities of the Head of Council are onerous. However as a group, we feel strongly that your community must represented and contribute to the work of the coalition. We are respectfully requesting a representative of your City Council be appointed to sit on the top ten aggregate producing communities association.

We would be pleased to appear before your City Council to discuss the importance of the work we are doing and we look forward to welcoming a representative from the City of Hamilton to our committee.

Sincerely,

Mayor Marolyn Morrison
Town of Caledon

c.c. Clerk, City of Hamilton