June 4, 2010

Honourable Mayor and Members of Council
City of Hamilton
77 James Street North, Suite 230
Hamilton ON L8R 2K3

RE: MEI / ORC CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ST. JOSEPH’S HEALTHCARE HAMILTON
WEST 5th CAMPUS REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Dear Honourable Mayor, Members of Council:

As you may know, on December 16, 2009, Infrastructure Ontario and St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton released a request for proposals asking developers to submit bids to design, build, finance and maintain a new, state-of-the-art hospital at the West 5th Street site.

An environmental assessment, undertaken by the Ontario Realty Corporation, is one component of this large redevelopment project to modernize mental healthcare in Hamilton and the surrounding region. I understand the Economic Development and Planning Committee passed a motion on June 1, 2010 supporting the Municipal Heritage Committee’s motion to request a Part 2 Order for the Class EA. I believe City Council is to consider this motion at its June 9 meeting.

The purpose of this letter is to respectfully request the matter be referred back to Committee so Infrastructure Ontario may meet with City staff, along with representatives from the Ontario Realty Corporation and St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton, with the goal of clarifying information presented to the Municipal Heritage Committee.

Infrastructure Ontario and its partners have enjoyed an excellent working relationship with City staff. By continuing to work with the City, we have been able to maintain forward momentum on the project and we expect to have shovels in the ground this winter. Once under construction, it is expected the project will create hundreds of construction jobs and beneficial economic spin-off affects in the City.

It is crucial to maintain the schedule Infrastructure Ontario proposed for the project as potential delays may result in cost escalation, reduce the competitive tension of tendering process and setback the opening of this much needed healthcare facility.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide my comments for your consideration and thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Derrick M. Toigo, P. Eng., PMP
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