Dear Mayor-elect Bratina:

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

I am pleased to confirm that our government is approving additional base funding of $2,900 effective April 1, 2010, to the City of Hamilton, Public Health Services, to ensure that Ontarians have access to asthma education and services.

Successful asthma management requires the daily commitment of the person with asthma to self-manage through a balance of lifestyle and medication. Asthma Plan of Action initiatives play a critical role in helping children and adults with asthma learn the necessary skills to effectively self-manage their disease, prevent asthma complications and improve their quality of life.

Under separate cover, Susan Fitzpatrick, Assistant Deputy Minister, Negotiations and Accountability Management Division, will provide Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, City of Hamilton Public Health Services, with the accountability and administrative details of this 2010/11 funding approval.
Mayor-elect Bob Bratina

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 asthma continue to receive the necessary health care services that they require to maintain healthy, productive lives.

Sincerely,

Deb Matthews
Minister

cc: Andrea Horwath, MPP, Hamilton Centre
Juanita Gledhill, Board Chair, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)
Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, City of Hamilton Public Health Services