June 19, 2009

His Worship Fred Eisenberger
Mayor
The City of Hamilton
77 James Street N., Suite 400
Hamilton, Ontario
L8R 2K3

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

I am pleased to advise you of the rollout for the 2009 Ontario Bus Replacement Program (OBRP). This multi-year capital funding program supports the replacement of municipal transit buses.

Under the program, municipalities are allocated funding for 2009 based on their Request for an Allocation of Bus Replacement Program Funding, previously submitted to the Ministry of Transportation.

Our government believes that investing in public transit is essential to reducing congestion, improving the environment, and supporting economic growth. That is why, even in these difficult economic times, we are pleased to inform you that we will maintain our funding share to up to 33.3% for municipal replacement bus purchases in 2009. OBRP funding for conventional bus replacements for your municipality will continue to be provided over the economic life of the vehicle - 12 years. The Ministry will provide annual payments equal to 1/12th of the approved amount as annual program requirements are met and up to 33.3% of the approved amount for specialized bus replacements.

It is intended that buses funded through OBRP will be kept in municipal transit service for a minimum of 12 years and that the City of Hamilton will maintain ownership for the term of the agreement, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Ministry. As such, the City of Hamilton 2009 OBRP funding allocation is $5,382,279.00. An annual payment to your municipality will be made in 2009 and each of the following 11 years subject to annual program expectations being met. Future year payments will also include an amount for applicable interest.

.../2
The attached OBRP package includes the Letter of Agreement and the 2009 Guidelines and Requirements, including the Canadian Content for Transit Vehicle Procurement Policy. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rebecca Ramsarran, Manager of the Provincial Transit Policy Office, at 416-585-7360.

Through our transit programs, the Province is promoting more sustainable transit systems across Ontario. Thank you for your commitment to improving public transit services within your municipality.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Bradley
Minister

c: Transit Contact
Andrea Horwath, MPP, Hamilton Centre
Sophia Aggelonis, MPP, Hamilton Mountain
The Honourable Ted McMeekin, MPP, Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Westdale
Paul Miller, MPP, Hamilton East-Stoney Creek