Mr. Larry Di Ianni  
Chair, Board of Health  
City of Hamilton Board of Health  
City Hall, 71 Main Street West  
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y6  

Dear Mr. Di Ianni:  

The McGuinty government is continuing its aggressive strategy to prevent and control tobacco use, which is the number one preventable cause of death and illness in Ontario. Our Smoke-Free Ontario initiative is among the most comprehensive of its kind in North America, and puts our province at the leading edge of tobacco control. As you know, on May 31, 2006, The Smoke-Free Ontario Act made all enclosed workplaces and enclosed public spaces smoke-free.  

In the budget, we committed $60 million for the Smoke-Free Ontario campaign in 2006-07, a significant portion of which will be used to support Public Health agencies in their efforts to combat smoking.  

I am pleased to inform you that $253,720 is provided to you for January 1, 2007 to March 31, 2007 for tobacco control strategies in your community. This funding is subject to the Board of Health entering into a grant funding agreement with the Ministry.  

You will receive further correspondence from Peggan Walsh, Director, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, with further details on your funding and accountability requirements. Your allocation may be adjusted at that time to reflect the performance contracts you have negotiated with Ministry staff.
By working together, we will make Ontario a leader in tobacco control and prevention. I want to recognize the enormous strides public health units have made in the reduction of tobacco use and improving the health of their communities. Thank you for your continued commitment to improve the health of all Ontarians.

Yours truly,

Jim Watson, MPP
Minister

c: Ms. Judy Marsales, MPP, Hamilton West