His Worship Fred Eisenberger  
Mayor, City of Hamilton  
City Hall  
71 Main Street West  
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5  

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

At the Places to Grow summit on November 5, 2008, I presented my vision for a greener, more competitive and prosperous future for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. I was also pleased to announce this government’s interest in investing in public infrastructure and working together with those municipalities that share this vision to implement the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

The Places to Grow Act, 2005 requires a council or municipal planning authority to amend its official plan to conform to the policies in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe within three years of it coming into effect. The deadline for this work is June 16, 2009.

Your municipality is required to meet the June 2009 deadline. This includes planning for the growth forecasts in Schedule 3 of the Growth Plan or the disaggregated forecasts supported by the ministry, if applicable, as well as application of the intensification target and the designated greenfield target, and developing a land budget that uses the Growth Plan policy framework.

In carrying out this Growth Plan conformity work, I strongly encourage you to engage those Aboriginal communities who have an interest in land use planning in your community, to ensure they have an opportunity to participate in this process.

If you have any questions regarding my announcement or the process and expectations for conforming to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, please feel free to contact Brad Graham, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Ontario Growth Secretariat, at 416-325-5803 or 1-866-479-9781.

Sincerely,

Fred

George Smitherman  
Deputy Premier, Minister