March 24, 2010

Carolyn Biggs, Legislative Assistant
Public Works Committee
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Ms. Biggs:

The Developmental Service Sector Transportation Committee is requesting Delegation Status. The members of our Committee wish to speak to the Councillors regarding Accessible Transportation, and in particular, the Eligibility and Registration Policy Revision for Accessible Transportation Services. We understand the staff report outlining recommendations will be brought forward to the April 19th Committee of the Whole meeting for consideration.

You may be aware that the Developmental Service Sector Transportation Committee was developed to address, and to seek recommendations for, disparities in transportation options for persons’ with Developmental and Cognitive Disabilities. Accessible Transportation Services in Hamilton includes D.A.R.T.S., Taxi Scrip and accessible conventional transit. The committee is comprised of service providers, caregivers and advocates of people with developmental disabilities who have faced obstacles in accessing affordable and safe transportation.

The City of Hamilton has recently taken a number of positive steps towards meeting our Committee’s goal of attaining an Accessible, Safe, and Affordable Plan (ASAP) for the transportation needs of people with Developmental and Cognitive Disabilities. We seek continued further dialogue with the Councillors to adequately address the community needs, issues, concerns and the barriers to accessible transportation in Hamilton. A collaborative community wide system approach to transportation from all the stakeholders, especially the consumers of accessible transportation is a must in ensuring fair and equitable services for all the citizens of this community.

We hope that you will bring this request to the attention of the Committee of the Whole for their earliest consideration.

Sincerely
Lisa Schumph

Lisa Schumph
On behalf of the
Developmental Service Sector Transportation Committee