June 24, 2010

His Worship Fred Eisenberger
Mayor
City of Hamilton
Hamilton City Centre
77 James Street North
Hamilton, Ontario
L8R 2K3

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

Further to our letter of March 30, 2010, please be advised that a transfer of $8,736,478 has been made to the City of Hamilton’s account.

The Ministry of Transportation is pleased to be able to provide the above-noted funds for the purpose of replacing municipal transit buses.

As referenced in my earlier correspondence, please note the following reporting and accountability provisions that apply to this transfer:

Types of eligible expenditures:

- Funding provided in the amount of $4,402,867 by the Province is to be used for the replacement of municipal transit buses that are fully accessible and compliant with the Canadian Content Policy requirements.
- In addition, funding provided in the amount of $4,333,611 by the Province is related to the balance of OBRP funding committed through the 2008 and/or 2009 program years.

Requirement for future reporting:

- Provide a final summary report on how the funds were used, including the disbursement for 2008 and 2009 cost-deferral commitments, the number of buses procured, and an attestation that all buses procured with this funding are fully accessible and compliant with the Canadian Content Policy requirements. This report should be submitted to:

Ministry of Transportation
Controllership Office
301 St. Paul Street – 6th Floor
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2R 7R4
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Right to independent verification/audit:
- The Province reserves the right to verify or audit any information submitted for completeness and accuracy, and to ensure that funds were used on eligible expenditures and for the purpose intended.

Right to recover funds:
- The Province reserves the right to recover up to and including the amount of funds provided, if it is determined that the funds provided were not used, or will not be used, for the intended purpose(s).

Expectation of fair and transparent processes:
- The Province expects that transit bus replacement will be carried out in compliance with all federal and provincial laws and regulations, all municipal by-laws and any other orders, rules, and by-laws related to any aspect of the transit bus replacement and will be awarded in a transparent and fair process.

We look forward to receiving additional information on how the above grant was used, and the success of this municipal bus replacement funding. Should you have any questions, please call the ministry at (905) 704-2741.

Sincerely,

Bruce McCuaig
Deputy Minister

c: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation
Andrea Horwath, MPP, Hamilton Centre
The Honourable Sophia Aggelonitis, MPP, Hamilton Mountain
Paul Miller, MPP, Hamilton East-Stoney Creek
Ted McMeekin, MPP, Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Westdale