June 24, 2008

Mayor Fred Eisenberger
Hamilton City Centre
77 James Street North, Suite 230
Hamilton, ON L8R 2K3

Dear Mayor Eisenberger,

On behalf of the staff at John C Munro Hamilton International Airport, our board of directors and the airport community, we would like to take the opportunity to pass on our congratulations to the Mayor and City Council.

Brownfield’s, the downtown core and the airport economic growth district (AEGD) are all pieces to Hamilton’s future. Service sector businesses will migrate to the downtown core, industrial producers will take advantage of the Brownfield’s and business needing larger plots of land, as well as access to air and highway will locate in the AEGD. Examples of this can be found by looking at the lands south of Pearson. It is the fastest growing industrial park in Canada and at the same time Mississauga has had a revitalization of its waterfront and downtown.

But success breeds success, development of each of these areas will attract businesses to the others. It will also increase the need for hotels and restaurants throughout the City. This all results in growth of the non-residential tax base. Presently 70% of the taxes are generated by residents and only 30% by corporate taxes, this ratio must be reversed as it was in the past. The addition of new and expanding businesses will also create more jobs to combat our challenges with poverty and more corporate funding to support the arts.

Congratulations on approving the next phase of the secondary zoning process and the development of the land budget. This combined with your efforts to finalize an agreement on The Lister Block showcases Councils commitment to moving Hamilton forward. Both of these issues were viewed as keys to our success at Hamilton’s first economic summit. Also, the $7M for Lister Block and the announcement by the Province to provide $386,000 in funding for economic development show the Province is in full support of the Cities initiatives.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Richard Koroscil
President & CEO

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