



October 3, 2011

His worship Bob Bratina
Mayor of the city of Hamilton
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main St. West, Hamilton, ON
L8P 4Y5

Subject: Letter of gratitude for his hospitality and leadership on the Franco-Ontarian Flag Day

Dear Mayor Bratina,

The Board of Directors of l'ACFO/AFO Régionale Hamilton would like to thank you for opening the City Chambers to our community in order to celebrate the Franco-Ontarian Flag Day.

It is with gratitude that the French Canadian Association of Ontario (ACFO/AFO) Regionale Hamilton acknowledges your leadership in recognizing that Franco-Ontarians deserve to raise their flag at the Hamilton City Hall. As you know, since the Provincial government has promulgated Law 24 which recognizes Franco-Ontarian Day, the francophone community of Hamilton has manifested its desire to hold the official ceremony of raising their flag over the City, in order to pay homage to the outstanding contribution of its pioneers in Ontario. With your open mindedness and understanding of francophone issues, we were able to reach that objective in 2011. As a result, the Board of Directors joins the General Coordinator to thank you for your hospitality to the Francophone Community. It is our hope that the city chambers will remain open year after year and become the place where the Francophone community of Hamilton can gather to celebrate its Flag Day.

We would also like to thank you for delegating the Deputy Mayor, Councilor Brian McHattie, to bring and receive messages to and from the Francophone community. Mr. McHattie has delivered his message of understanding towards the francophone community with leadership and eloquence. We are hoping that he has already conveyed this to you, so that we can continue our dialog about the following request:

The ACFO/AFO Régionale Hamilton wishes to assist you in developing and implementing programs that include Francophones, so that under your leadership, Hamilton becomes a model of bilingualism for Canada -- the place where community development, business development and multiculturalism are a reality.

Moreover, in the past, the city of Hamilton had a French advisory Committee, which dissolved through time. In order to apprise you of our needs as a community, we are requesting, on behalf of the French community, the reinstatement of that French Committee at City Hall.

Please consider this request as the desire of the French community to better serve the City of Hamilton and to participate proactively in the growth of its economic development and the wellbeing of all Hamilton citizens.

Yours sincerely
Lise Lévesque
Secretary, Board of Directors of ACFO/AFO Régionale Hamilton.
c.c. Bernard Dubois, President

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