

Ministry of Infrastructure

Ministry of Transportation

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MOI1825MC-2011-528

November 18, 2011

His Worship Bob Bratina
Mayor
City of Hamilton
Hamilton City Hall
2nd Floor, 71 Main Street West
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Re: Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program in Ontario, Project # R1154
Infrastructure Stimulus Fund – Municipal Intake (ISF), Project # 2380
Infrastructure Stimulus Fund – Municipal Intake (ISF), Project # 2296

Dear Mayor Bratina:

Over the past two-and-a-half years, Ontario has worked with you to implement a range of economic stimulus programs. These programs have helped to boost our economy and create jobs, while also investing in the critical infrastructure that our communities need.

Nearly 11,000 stimulus projects were approved and funded in Ontario in partnership with the federal government, municipalities, First Nations, and not-for-profit organizations. Of these approved projects, 831 received an extension last winter so that they could have one more construction season to finish. The extension was very successful, and 99.8 per cent of all projects are now either complete or have fully used their approved provincial funding.

Across Ontario, proponents like you have worked very hard to complete stimulus projects as quickly and effectively as possible. However, based upon our current information, we understand that there are a very small number of projects that received an extension to October 31, 2011 but that remain unfinished and have not been able to use their full allocation of provincial funding. These projects faced delays that we understand to have been, in many cases, beyond your control. We also understand that finishing these projects alone may place unreasonable financial hardship on proponents.

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As such, this letter is to advise you that Ontario will reimburse the provincial share of costs incurred between November 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012 for the following projects:

- Installation of Lighting and Accessible Washrooms at the Turner Park Sports Field, funded under the Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program in Ontario;
- Westmount Recreation Centre, funded under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, and;
- Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre – Phase One, funded under the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.

Given the challenging economic and fiscal environment faced by our government, Ontario does not take this action lightly. However, our government is committed to finishing the work we have started with the stimulus programs, and to supporting our municipal and other partners who have been creating jobs and supporting local economies across Ontario.

Please note that at this time, the October 31, 2011 deadline continues to apply to the federal share of costs. Ontario will not be providing any additional funding above and beyond the existing approved provincial commitment. No provincial funding will be provided for costs incurred after March 31, 2012. Proponents are responsible for all remaining costs, including 100 per cent of costs incurred after March 31, 2012.

To facilitate the reimbursement of the provincial share of project costs incurred between November 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012, Ontario will work with you to amend your project Contribution Agreement. Your provincial project analyst will be in contact with you shortly to answer any questions you may have and to start the process of amending your existing Contribution Agreement.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in the implementation of our infrastructure stimulus programs. Ontario values your partnership in delivering critical community infrastructure projects and supports your efforts to see these projects through to completion.

Sincerely,



Bob Chiarelli
Minister of Infrastructure
Minister of Transportation



Ted McMeekin
Minister of Agriculture, Food
and Rural Affairs