tourism hamilton

July 5, 2012

Mayor Robert Bratina and Members of City Council City of Hamilton 71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Re: Tourism Hamilton Inc.

Dear Mayor Bratina and Members of City Council:

In my capacity as Chair, I am writing this letter on behalf of the Board of Directors for Tourism Hamilton Inc.

On May 24, 2012 the Board of Directors unanimously passed a motion to dissolve Tourism Hamilton Inc. The Board of Directors has carefully reviewed their current service agreement with the City and determined that the interests of the tourism and hospitality industry in the city would be better served through the formation of a Tourism Advisory Committee.

An Advisory Committee of Council would enable members of the committee to provide stronger representation to the tourism industry via its direct reporting relationship with the City of Hamilton and Members of City Council through the General Issues Committee. As in the past, all accountability for finances and staffing would remain with the City of Hamilton through the Planning and Economic Development Department. Representatives from the Tourism Hamilton Board have initiated an Ad Hoc transition group in collaboration with Tourism and Culture staff to explore the formation of a Tourism Advisory Committee.

At this time we would ask that this letter be received acknowledging the dissolution of Tourism Hamilton Inc., and that Council support a request to move towards an Advisory Committee. The Tourism and Hospitality industry remain very committed to the City of Hamilton, Tourism and Culture staff, their mandate, and the significant contribution that this sector brings to Hamilton's economic well-being and quality of life for its residents and visitors.

On behalf of the Tourism Hamilton Board of Directors, I would like to sincerely thank all Members of Council and City of Hamilton staff for their direction and support to Tourism Hamilton Inc. We look forward to continuing this relationship in a new and excited capacity as we move forward towards an advisory role.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Goulding,

Chair, Tourism Hamilton Board of Directors

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