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MAR 20 2014

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

Dear Mayor Bratina:

Thank you for your letter requesting my assistance in obtaining an exemption from coverage under the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund (PBGF), for the Hamilton Street Railway Pension Plan (1994) retroactive to January 1, 2009. As part of this request, you have advised that the City of Hamilton is also seeking a retroactive payment of assessments paid to the PBGF between 2009 and 2013, in the amount of \$657,584.00. I apologize for the delay in responding

I have asked ministry staff to review the city's request and submissions regarding an exemption from the PBGF. To assist in this review, I would appreciate being advised on whether pension plan beneficiaries have been informed of the city's request for an exemption from coverage under the PBGF, and if so, what views, if any, they have expressed in regards to this request. Please forward this information to:

Mr. Bruce Macnaughton
Director, Pension Policy Branch
Ministry of Finance
5th Floor, Frost Building South
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto, ON, M7A 1Y7

I encourage you to contact Mr. Macnaughton if you have any questions or concerns regarding this process.

.../cont'd

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Sousa', with a stylized, cursive script.

Charles Sousa
Minister

c: Bruce Macnaughton