From: Minister Ted McMeekin and Minister Bill Mauro [mailto:minister.mah@ontario.ca] Sent: March 2, 2015 3:36 PM To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Have your say: Growth Plan and Greenbelt Plans / Exprimez-vous : Plans de croissance et de la ceinture de verdure

On February 27, the Government of Ontario launched a co-ordinated review of the <u>Growth Plan for the</u> <u>Greater Golden Horseshoe</u>, the <u>Niagara Escarpment Plan</u>, the <u>Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan</u> and the <u>Greenbelt Plan</u>, as required under their respective legislation. These four provincial land use plans work together to manage growth, protect our agricultural lands and natural environment, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support economic development in Ontario's Greater Golden Horseshoe and Greenbelt.

We heard from many stakeholders and municipalities about the need to co-ordinate the reviews of the four plans to enable a more efficient and effective consultation process. To ensure this is a fully co-ordinated process, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the Niagara Escarpment Commission are also working closely with a number of other ministries.

The co-ordinated review has two rounds of consultation. The first seeks input to inform the development of amendments to the plans, and the second is to consult on proposed amendments, if any.

For the first round, we want to hear your ideas on how to make the plans stronger and work better together. We also want to know what parts of these plans you see as working well and should remain as they are. The document <u>Our Region, Our Community, Our Home</u> is intended to help inform and guide discussions. It describes the plans and their objectives, highlights important policy issues and sets out questions that we hope to address during the co-ordinated review.

You can submit comments and ideas by mail, <u>email</u>, through the <u>consultation website</u> or posting on the <u>Ontario Environmental Registry</u> (the Registry number is 012-3256). We will also be holding town hall meetings across the region where you can ask questions and speak directly with staff from a number of ministries, offer input and submit comments. Visit our website for <u>town hall meeting locations</u> and times as well as more information on the co-ordinated review and how to make your formal submission.

The deadline to submit comments in the first round of the co-ordinated review is May 27, 2015.

We look forward to receiving your ideas and suggestions for how we can improve the plans and continue to strengthen and support communities across the Greater Golden Horseshoe and Greenbelt.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Ted McMeekin Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing 17th Floor, 777 Bay Street Toronto, Ontario M5G 2E5 The Honourable Bill Mauro Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Suite 6630, 6th Floor, 99 Wellesley Street West Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3