Ministry of Finance Office of the Minister Ministère des Finances Bureau du ministre



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His Worship Fred Eisenberger Mayor City of Hamilton <u>mayor@hamilton.ca</u>

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

Thank you for your letter regarding the City of Hamilton's request for the authority to impose a tax on vacant residential units, under Part IX.1 of the *Municipal Act*, also referred to as a Vacant Home Tax.

I understand that officials from my Ministry and from the City met last week to discuss the City's proposal in more detail and to discuss potential next steps.

The government is supportive of municipal efforts to use tools such as municipal Vacant Home Taxes to address housing supply and we will continue to work with our municipal partners to tackle this important issue.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Peter Bethlenfalvy Minister of Finance

c: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing