



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

OCT 12 2011

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

Dear Mayor Bratina:

I am writing in response to your correspondence of June 21, 2011 addressed to the Prime Minister, requesting that the Federal and Provincial funding commitment be fully cash flowed by October 31, 2011, for the Westmount Recreation Centre and Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre projects.

The Government of Canada is taking action and is making strategic investments in infrastructure that contribute to our economy, job creation, a cleaner environment, and strong and prosperous communities. In Budget 2007, we announced the \$33-billion Building Canada plan (Building Canada), which represents the largest ever federal commitment to public infrastructure.

In Budget 2009, we committed, as part of Canada's Economic Action Plan, to streamline approvals and accelerate investments under the Building Canada plan, and announced significant new infrastructure investments.

The Infrastructure Stimulus Fund was an important part of the Government of Canada's Economic Action Plan providing a timely, targeted and temporary stimulus to the Canadian economy. The program was designed so that the Federal and Provincial governments would match contributions from recipients towards eligible projects on an equal basis and that payments would also be made based on the cost sharing approach.

As you may already be aware, the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund's funding deadline is October 31, 2011, and the City's agreement to not only complete projects but to fund the remaining costs themselves were clear conditions for extension from the original deadline of March 31, 2011. The Prime Minister has been very clear that federal funding for all Infrastructure Stimulus Fund projects will end on October 31, 2011.

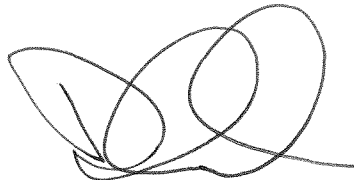
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On January 12, 2011, the City of Hamilton's council passed a by-law acknowledging that the extension of the Project completion and funding deadline from March 31, 2011 to October 31, 2011, was a one-time extension.

Furthermore, the by-law acknowledged the City's agreement to complete the Projects at its own expense should they fail to be completed by the October 31, 2011 deadline. Projects are deemed to be substantially complete when the improvement being made under the contract is ready for use or is being used for the purposes intended. Therefore, if neither of these conditions is met, we are unable to accommodate your request that the federal and provincial funding commitment be fully cash flowed by October 31, 2011 for the Westmount Recreation Centre and Lower Stoney Creek Recreation Centre projects.

The government of Canada remains committed to building a modern public infrastructure for Canada.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Denis Lebel, P.C., M.P.