

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

For Immediate Release

GTA Pooling

What is GTA Pooling?

GTA Pooling is money collected by the Province of Ontario from York Region, Peel Region and Halton Region to help pay for Social Assistance and Social Housing programs in the City of Toronto. The program began in 1998 to help offset the additional costs faced by Toronto resulting from Provincial service realignment and downloading.

In 2007, the Ontario Government pledged to phase out GTA pooling and cap contributions at 2004 levels, or in the case of York Region, \$79 million. Each subsequent year, costs will be reduced by one-sixth (or \$13.2 million) until the program is fully eliminated in 2013.

How much has York Region paid to date?

York Region has paid approximately \$944,900,000 million to date:

| | | | |
|------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 1998 | \$86,609,000 | 2004 | \$79,334,000 |
| 1999 | \$85,575,000 | 2005 | \$88,342,000 |
| 2000 | \$79,263,000 | 2006 | \$90,436,000 |
| 2001 | \$83,207,000 | 2007 | \$79,334,000 |
| 2002 | \$75,280,000 | 2008 | \$66,112,000 |
| 2003 | \$78,519,000 | <u>2009</u> | <u>\$52,889,000</u> |
| | | Total | \$944,900,000 |

How much has York Region left to pay?

Until the full elimination of GTA Pooling in 2013, York Region will pay an additional \$79.3 million to the Province of Ontario in GTA Pooling payments:

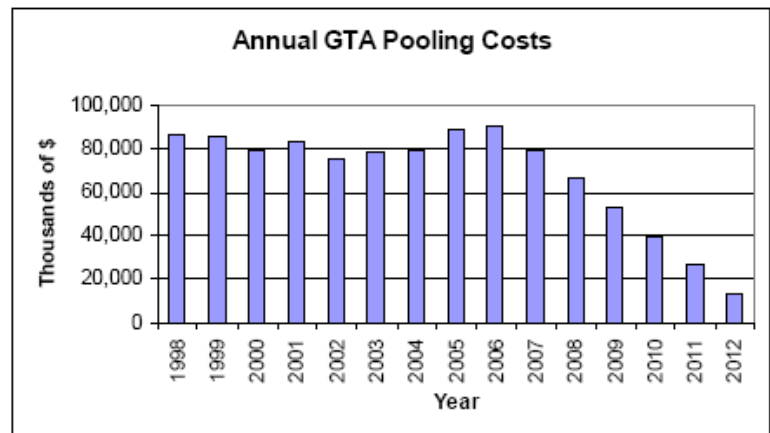
| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 2010 | \$39,667,000 |
| 2011 | \$26,445,000 |
| <u>2012</u> | <u>\$13,222,000</u> |
| Total | \$79,334,000 |

How much will York Region pay in total?

By the time the program is completely phased out in 2013, York Region will have paid more than \$1 billion in GTA Pooling payments.

Allocation of savings from GTA Pooling:

- In 2007, York Region allocated the \$6.5 million in GTA Pooling savings towards debt reduction
- In 2008 and 2009, York Region directed \$26.4 million total in GTA Pooling savings back to residents, reducing the tax levy increase
- In 2010, York Regional Council is also directing \$13.2 million in GTA Pooling savings back to residents



For more information on the 2010 Business Plan and Budget, click on the Budget Banner at www.york.ca