



BACKGROUNDER



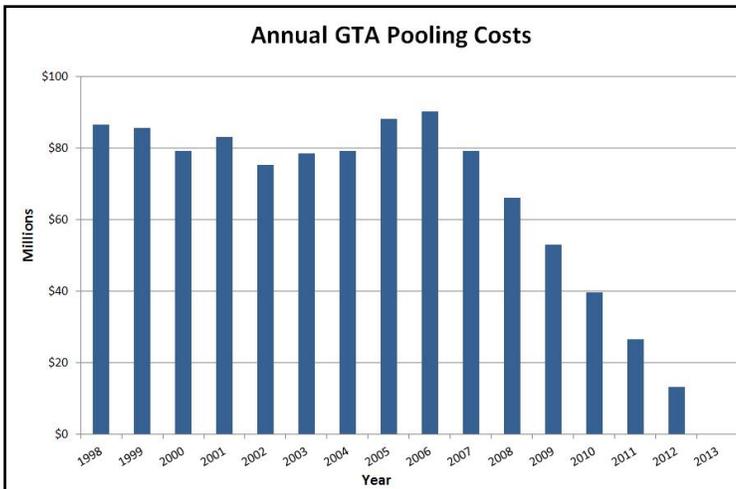
Thursday, January 26, 2012

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.



Allocation of savings from GTA Pooling:

- In 2007, York Region allocated the \$6.5 million in GTA Pooling savings towards debt reduction
- From 2008 to 2011, York Region directed \$52.8 million total in GTA Pooling savings towards reducing the tax levy in each year
- In 2012, York Regional Council is again directing \$13.2 million in GTA Pooling savings towards reducing the tax levy increase while meeting the service expectations of our community

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 \$1billion in GTA Pooling payments.

How much has York Region paid to date?

York Region has paid approximately \$1billion to date:

1998	\$86,609,000	2005	\$88,342,000
1999	\$85,575,000	2006	\$90,436,000
2000	\$79,263,000	2007	\$79,334,000
2001	\$83,207,000	2008	\$66,112,000
2002	\$75,280,000	2009	\$52,889,000
2003	\$78,519,000	2010	\$39,667,000
2004	\$79,334,000	<u>2011</u>	<u>\$26,445,000</u>
		Total	1,011,012,000

How much has York Region left to pay?

Until the full elimination of GTA Pooling in 2013, York Region will pay an additional \$13.2 million to the Province of Ontario in GTA Pooling payments:

<u>2012</u>	<u>\$13,222,000</u>
Total	\$13,222,000

- 30 -

Media Contact:

Ken Turriff, Corporate Communications, York Region
1-877-464-9675, ext. 1226 • Cell: 905-251-6415 • ken.turriff@york.ca

Founded in 1971, The Regional Municipality of York is made up of nine municipalities and provides services to more than one million residents, 29,000 businesses and 495,000 employees.