

**Ministry of Health
Promotion**
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JAN 05 2006

Mr. Bill Fisch
Chair, Board of Health
York Region Board of Health
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Fisch:

The McGuinty government is continuing its aggressive strategy to prevent and control tobacco use, which is the number one preventable cause of death and illness in Ontario. Our Smoke-Free Ontario initiative is the most comprehensive of its kind in North America and puts our province at the leading edge of tobacco control. As you know, *The Smoke-Free Ontario Act* will make all enclosed workplaces and enclosed public spaces smoke-free by May 31, 2006.

In the budget, we committed \$50 million for the Smoke-Free Ontario campaign in 2005-06, a significant portion of which will be used to support Public Health agencies in their efforts to combat smoking.

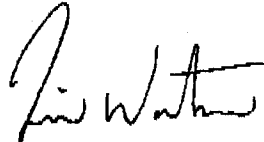
I am pleased to inform you that \$480,117.00 is provided to you for January 1, 2006 to March 31, 2006 for tobacco control strategies in your community. This funding is subject to the Board of Health entering into a grant funding agreement with the Ministry.

You will receive further correspondence from Dr. Sheela Basrur, Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister with further details on your funding and accountability requirements. Your allocation may be adjusted at that time to reflect the performance contracts you have negotiated with Ministry staff.

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By working together, we will make Ontario a leader in tobacco control and prevention. I want to recognize the enormous strides public health units have made in the reduction of tobacco use and improving the health of their communities. Thank you for your continued commitment to improve the health of all Ontarians.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Watson", written in a cursive style.

Jim Watson, MPP
Minister

c: Dr. Helena Jaczek, Medical Officer of Health
Ms. Julia Munro, MPP, York North