

**Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Minister Responsible for Seniors

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tel. (416) 585-7000
Fax (416) 585-6470
www.mah.gov.on.ca

**Ministre des Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Ministre délégué aux Affaires des personnes âgées

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tél. (416) 585-7000
Téléc. (416) 585-6470
www.mah.gov.on.ca



**REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE**

FILE No. - P07

→ planning



December 16, 2004

Mr. Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Thank you for your letter of October 22, 2004, and for the copy of York Region's report on the Greenbelt Task Force's recommendations and the protection of river systems.

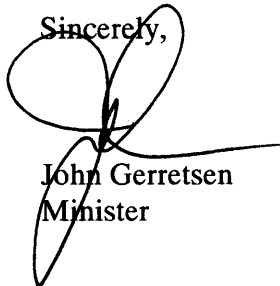
The proposed greenbelt would curb unplanned urban sprawl, improve our quality of life today and preserve Ontario's natural heritage for future generations.

On October 28, 2004, I introduced Bill 135, the proposed Greenbelt Act, 2004. Bill 135 sets out broad objectives for the proposed greenbelt. If passed by the Legislature, it would give the government the authority to establish a Greenbelt Plan that would set out the types of land uses that would be permitted and prohibited in the Greenbelt Area.

I appreciate hearing from municipalities, stakeholders and members of the public on the proposed plan for permanent greenbelt protection. As you know, stakeholder workshops and public information sessions were held at locations across the Golden Horseshoe throughout the month of November. The input provided at these consultation sessions will be valuable as we finalize our approach to permanent greenbelt protection. The Regional Municipality of York's participation at the November 8 consultation session is both valued and appreciated.

I would like to thank the Regional Municipality of York for your interest and contributions as we move forward with this important initiative. I look forward to your continued participation in this process.

Sincerely,



John Gerretsen
Minister