

November 25, 2005

Our Ref.: **CFSC 17-2005, November 16, 2004
E.06.0009**

To All Ontario Municipalities:

Minimum Capital Program Funding

The Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara, at its meeting of November 24, 2005, approved the following resolution of the Corporate and Financial Services Committee respecting the Minimum Capital Program Funding.

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities face a \$3.2 billion funding gap between the cost of programs and services the province requires municipalities to deliver and the amount the province ends up paying for those services; and

WHEREAS THE Regional Municipality of Niagara's share of that gap amounts to \$98 million; and

WHEREAS Niagara's \$98 million net expenditure represents 39% of the Regional property taxes; and

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of Niagara has considered a resolution from the Township of North Frontenac in respect to minimum capital funding; and

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of Niagara supports the request from the Township of North Frontenac that the Government of the Province of Ontario remove the obligation of funding the many social programs through the municipal property tax base; and

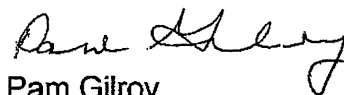
WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario has a mechanism for dealing with the Provincial Municipal Fiscal Relationship.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of the Province of Ontario remove the obligation of funding the many social programs through the municipal property tax base; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the resolution be referred to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for consideration and support.

The Regional Municipality of Niagara is requesting consideration of our resolution by all Ontario Municipalities through the passing of similar resolutions.

Yours truly,



Pam Gilroy
Regional Clerk