



February 5, 2007

Chair Bill Fisch
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1

Dear Chair Fisch:

Bill:

May or June

Congratulations on your re-election as Chair of The Regional Municipality of York.

The GTA/905 Healthcare Alliance looks forward to working with you and your office as we try to bring better hospital and health care close to home for residents of York Region.

The next eight months will be pivotal as we try to improve access to health care for residents in your community. Key to improving local and timely access to care is securing fair provincial funding for hospital and health care services in high growth regions and communities such as York Region.

The recent provision of some hospital growth funding for high growth communities across Ontario is a clear acknowledgement of the very real need for additional funding in high growth communities. However this acknowledgement only begins to address the historical under funding of high growth hospitals. Without a commitment to adequate and on-going growth funding for hospitals in high growth communities, residents in your community will continue to receive less and less provincial funding for local hospital care which will affect local and timely access to care and treatment.

In addition, as Ontario moves to a more regionalized health care system under "local health integration networks" (LHINs), it is essential for the health and well-being of residents in your community that the province allocate provincial resources to LHINs based on the relative population size, growth and population characteristics within LHINs, i.e, population-based funding. This will ensure that your community will have the resources to effectively support the range of health care services that are needed locally. For high growth LHINs such as yours, population-based funding will be essential for your LHIN to achieve its goals of a more integrated and more accessible local health care system.

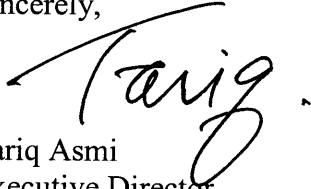
Provincial leaders are becoming more aware of under funding of hospital and health care services in high growth regions and the impact the growing funding gap is having on residents. We would like to work with you to have our provincial leaders translate this awareness into concrete action.

I would very much like to meet with you and your council to share Alliance information and to see how we can work together and truly bring better hospital care close to home for residents in your community.

Enclosed are a couple of reports about provincial under funding of human services in your community. I'd be happy to discuss these reports with you any time.

Again, congratulations on your re-election as Chair for the Region of York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tariq', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Tariq Asmi
Executive Director