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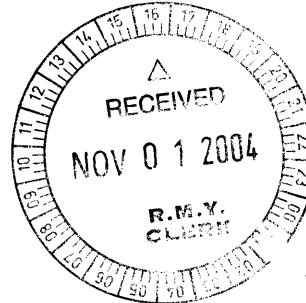
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October 26, 2004

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



**REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE**

FILE No. - 107

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Thank you for your letter of September 28, 2004, in which you convey the Regional Municipality of York's comments on the Greenbelt Task Force's final advice and recommendations to the provincial government.

The government is taking the next step toward our goal of enhancing quality of life by containing sprawl and encouraging growth management in the Golden Horseshoe with permanent greenbelt protection.

On August 20, the Greenbelt Task Force provided me with its final advice and recommendations for permanent greenbelt protection in the Golden Horseshoe. The recommendations are based on input received during the greenbelt consultations hosted by the Task Force earlier this year. Your municipality's input during the consultations is appreciated and proved valuable as the Task Force formalized its final recommendations. The Task Force's recommendations will now form the basis of the government's plan for permanent greenbelt protection in the Golden Horseshoe.

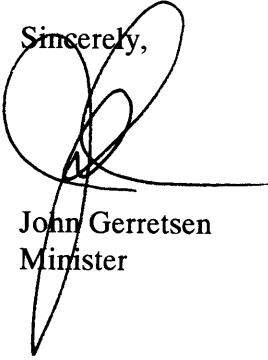
I understand that provincial government staff have had discussions with planning staff from York Region on potential greenbelt protection policies. The information provided during these discussions will be fully considered as we develop our proposal. I would like to thank York Region staff for their interest and for their contribution to this important initiative.

Very soon, we expect to be consulting on the details of a draft proposal with municipalities, stakeholders, and the public. I would welcome the Regional Municipality of York's participation in this process. My staff and I would like to continue working with staff of the Region to ensure a successful public consultation event in the region.

Mr. Dennis Kelly

Thank you, again, for sharing the Regional Municipality of York's comments with me. I look forward to your continued participation in the greenbelt protection initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Gerretsen', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

John Gerretsen
Minister