



Joyce Frustaglio
Regional Councillor

September 30, 2004

The Honourable George Smitherman
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Smitherman:

Re: No-Smoking Legislation

On behalf of the Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee of The Regional Municipality of York, I would like to express our gratitude for the \$65,000 100% provincial funding supporting smoke-free by-laws in Ontario.

We are very supportive and eager to receive province-wide legislation for no-smoking in Ontario. As your government and ministry move forward with introducing this legislation, The Regional Municipality of York would like to offer any opportunity to share our experiences implementing and enforcing no-smoking legislation.

We are hopeful that this largely anticipated province-wide legislation will not lessen the comprehensive and successful regional by-laws currently in place throughout Ontario, but will create a consistent approach to smoking across the province, in particular with respect to designated smoking rooms, private clubs, casinos, legions, alternative community living residences, etc.

As you know, The Regional Municipality of York passed a by-law regulating the smoking of tobacco in public places and workplaces in York Region on October 26, 2000. This by-law has been implemented over the past four years using a phased-in approach. During the past four years, we have gained valuable knowledge and expertise in the development, implementation and enforcement of no-smoking by-law legislation which we feel would be beneficial to share with your ministry. This expertise includes how to execute successful no-smoking education campaigns, the implementation and enforcement of designated smoking rooms, and enforcing and defending no-smoking legislation, including constitutional challenges.

In this regard, The Regional Municipality of York will be pleased to participate in public consultations offered by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as this legislation is

being developed. It is our intent to share our experiences with your knowledgeable staff and, in turn, assist the province in developing comprehensive, effective and meaningful legislation for the health of generations to come.

Sincerely,



Joyce Frustaglio
Regional Councillor and
Chair, Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee

JF:jc

- c. G. Sorbara, M.P.P. – Minister of Finance
- M.G. Racco, M.P.P.
- T. Wong, M.P.P.
- J. Munro, M.P.P.
- F. Klees, M.P.P.

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