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**Message from the Honourable Bob Chiarelli**

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Sent: November 4, 2011 4:30 PM

To: Kolb, Emil

Ministry of Infrastructure	Ministère de l'infrastructure
Ministry of Transportation	Ministère des Transports
Office of the Minister	Bureau du ministre
Ferguson Block, 3rd Floor 77 Wellesley St. West Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Z8 (416) 327-9200 <a href="http://www.ontario.ca/infrastructure">www.ontario.ca/infrastructure</a> <a href="http://www.mto.gov.on.ca">www.mto.gov.on.ca</a>	Édifice Ferguson 3e étage 77, rue Wellesley ouest Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1Z8 (416) 327-9200 <a href="http://www.ontario.ca/infrastructure">www.ontario.ca/infrastructure</a> <a href="http://www.mto.gov.on.ca">www.mto.gov.on.ca</a>

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November 4, 2011

Mr. Emil Kolb  
Chair  
Regional Municipality of Peel  
emil.kolb@peelregion.ca

REFERRAL TO \_\_\_\_\_  
RECOMMENDED \_\_\_\_\_  
DIRECTION REQUIRED \_\_\_\_\_  
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED  \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Chair Kolb:

I am honoured to have been asked by Premier Dalton McGuinty to assume responsibility for two ministries – Transportation and Infrastructure. While they will remain separate entities, I am excited about the potential synergies and dynamic partnerships of these two organizations.

Both ministries are cornerstones of building a strong, economically-competitive Ontario for the future. I am committed to building and maintaining a sustainable transportation network that moves people and goods safely, efficiently, and enhances our quality of life. Ontario now boasts the safest roads in North America and I am committed to making them even safer. We are investing record amounts to keep highways in good repair, reduce congestion, improve safety and promote the economy. This year we are investing \$2.5 billion to design, repair, and expand provincially-owned highways and bridges across Ontario. This includes \$1.36 billion in southern highway construction, \$618 million in northern highway construction and \$479 million for engineering, property and program support. These investments will create more than 17,000 jobs in Ontario.

Municipal roads and bridges are essential components of Ontario's transportation network. Since 2003, some 5,500 kilometres of Ontario highways and 739 bridges have been built and repaired. We are committed to working with our municipal partners to ensure that both levels of government can meet their responsibilities for roads and bridges in an accountable, affordable, and sustainable manner.

In terms of moving people safely and more efficiently, since 2003, the McGuinty government has demonstrated a commitment to getting people out of cars by investing more than \$10.8 billion in public transit. This includes investing approximately \$4.7 billion in GO Transit. In addition, this government has delivered on its commitment to provide two cents per litre of provincial gas tax revenues to municipalities as a source of long-term, sustainable funding for public transit. Since 2004, we have committed over \$1.6 billion in Gas Tax Funding to Ontario municipalities.

Metrolinx, an agency of the Ministry of Transportation, was created in 2006 to improve the coordination and integration of all modes of transportation in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. We are expanding the Georgetown South GO Transit corridor, which will include a rail link between Union Station and Pearson Airport – Canada's two busiest transportation hubs – in time for the 2015 Pan Am Games.

This past spring, our government launched Ontario's first 10-year long term infrastructure plan, *Building Together*. Through this plan, which I announced as Minister of Infrastructure, the province will continue to make significant investments in public infrastructure over the next decade. This includes more than \$35 billion over the next three years, including \$12.8

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billion in 2011-12. These investments are projected to create and preserve over 300,000 jobs. Building Together also focuses on better asset management planning and the expansion of Infrastructure Ontario to deliver more projects in collaboration with municipalities as well as the broader public sector.

*Building Together* aligns with other initiatives that are building a better quality of life for all Ontarians. This includes the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, a 25-year plan to manage growth in the region. I remain committed to ensuring that Ontarians enjoy healthy, sustainable and prosperous communities through good growth management and am pleased with the advances we have made. In July, the Ministry of Infrastructure marked the growth plan's five-year anniversary by releasing a progress report. While we are still in the plan's early years, many indicators show that its policies are having a positive effect. *Building Together* also aligns with the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, a 25-year plan released in March 2011. The plan will create a strong, sustainable Northern Ontario with communities that attract people and investments, support education and employment opportunities, and position the northern economy to compete on a global scale. The Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines are working together with other provincial ministries to ensure that Ontario's programs and investments align with the goals of the Growth Plan and support a strong Northern Ontario. As part of the Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, 2011, the Ministry of Transportation is developing a Northern Ontario Multi-modal Transportation Strategy to provide direction for transportation infrastructure in the North over the next 25 years. It will include all modes of transportation -- air, rail, road (including winter roads) and marine.

As Minister for both Transportation and Infrastructure, I am going to continue to rely on the advice and counsel of our partners in the construction, design, finance, and other sectors, including Ontario's trades, as well as the advocacy and planning perspective of Ontario communities and municipal partners. I foresee a dynamic partnership between these two ministries that will -- with your continued support and advice -- deliver the quality public infrastructure that all Ontarians deserve and expect.

Sincerely,

Minister

c: Mr. David Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer, Regional Municipality of Peel