



**Town of Milton**

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September 25, 2012

**Premier of Ontario**

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

[dmcguinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:dmcguinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Dear Mr. Premier:

RE: Horse Racing Industry

Please be advised that Milton Council, at their meeting held on September 24, 2012, considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**WHEREAS Nassagaweya, Rural Milton and Rural Halton have already been significantly impacted and timely decisions are critical;**

**WHEREAS many families in Rural Halton are directly connected to the Horse Industry, including breeders, trainers, veterinarians, farriers, feed dealers, farmers, and employees at Mohawk Racetrack;**

**WHEREAS a healthy Horse Industry is critical to the survival of independent businesses in Campbellville, Nassagaweya and all of Rural Milton;**

**WHEREAS Halton Horse breeding operations are recognized world-wide and this expertise is a significant international export;**



**WHEREAS** our local Horse Industry includes many facets beyond the racetrack including therapeutic riding centres, children’s camps, pleasure horses, equestrian centres, boarding and training centres;

**WHEREAS** the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee’s Annual Tour highlighted the critical aspects & risks to “Horsepower in Halton”;

**WHEREAS** Nassagaweya is identified within the Greenbelt, and the Horse Industry and its related farming activities are appropriate land uses within the Greenbelt;

**WHEREAS** Mohawk Racetrack is recognized as a premiere harness racetrack in Ontario’s world class racing industry, and whereas Mohawk Racetrack and Woodbine Entertainment are major economic anchors and contributors to our local economy;

**WHEREAS** Horse Racing and the Horse Industry are critical components of the world renowned Equine Program and Research at the University of Guelph;

**WHEREAS** the collapse of the Horse Industry would significantly impact the tax base and social fabric of Milton, Halton and Ontario;

**WHEREAS** The Horse Racing Industry Transition Panel Interim Report of August 17, 2012 identifies the Horse Industry as a major economic force and recommends a new partnership between the Horse Racing Industry and the Government; and further that the Panel “is confident that the right level of public investment with the right conditions would have a positive impact on employment, the economy, government finances and the industry’s future.”

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Milton endorses those findings of the Transition Panel’s Interim Report that identify the benefits of a strong



equine sector & horseracing industry and the urgency to make decisions to prevent the collapse of these industries, and that the Town of Milton requests the Province of Ontario to urgently work with horse people & organizations within the Horse Industry to seek every opportunity to ensure the long-term viability of horse racing and breeding, as well as the wider Equine Industry as they are all vital to the economic and social well-being of our communities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Premier, Minister of Finance, Minister of Agriculture & Rural Affairs, Halton area MPPs, the Region of Halton, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Racetrack Municipalities and the Greater Toronto Countryside Mayor's Alliance.

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this report for your information and consideration.

Yours very truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Stein'.

Brett Stein  
Legislative Administrator  
Executive Services Department

/bs

cc. **Ministry of Finance**  
The Honourable Dwight Duncan  
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**Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs**  
The Honourable Ted McMeekin  
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Region of Halton  
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Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
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### **Race Track Communities**

Town of Ajax, Mayor Steve Parish, [steve.parish@ajax.ca](mailto:steve.parish@ajax.ca)  
City of Brantford, Mayor Chris Friel, [cfriel@brantford.ca](mailto:cfriel@brantford.ca)  
Village of Point Edward, Mayor Dick Kirkland, [dkirkland@villageofpointedward.com](mailto:dkirkland@villageofpointedward.com)  
City of Sault Ste. Marie, Mayor Debbie Amaroso, [mayor.amaroso@cityssm.on.ca](mailto:mayor.amaroso@cityssm.on.ca)  
Town of Gananoque, Mayor Erika Dechuk, [mayor@gananoque.ca](mailto:mayor@gananoque.ca)  
City of Thunder Bay, Mayor Keith Hobbs, [khobbs@thunderbay.ca](mailto:khobbs@thunderbay.ca)  
Township of Scugog, Mayor Chuck Mercier, [mayormercier@scugog.ca](mailto:mayormercier@scugog.ca)  
Municipality of Central Huron, Reeve Jim Ginn, [jginn@centralhuron.com](mailto:jginn@centralhuron.com)  
Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Mayor Randy Hope, [CKmayor@chatham-kent.ca](mailto:CKmayor@chatham-kent.ca)  
City of Hamilton, Mayor Bob Bratina, [mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)  
Town of Fort Erie, Mayor Doug Martin, [mayor@forterie.on.ca](mailto:mayor@forterie.on.ca)  
Town of Innisfil, Mayor Barb Baguley, [bbaguley@innisfil.ca](mailto:bbaguley@innisfil.ca)  
Township of Centre Wellington, Mayor Joanne Ross-Zuj, [jrosszuj@centrewellington.ca](mailto:jrosszuj@centrewellington.ca)  
Town of Hanover, Mayor Kathi Maskell, [kmaskell@hanover.ca](mailto:kmaskell@hanover.ca)  
City of Sarnia, Mayor Mike Bradley, [mike.bradley@sarnia.ca](mailto:mike.bradley@sarnia.ca)  
Township of Cavan-Monaghan, Mayor John Fallis, [jfallis@cavanmonaghan.net](mailto:jfallis@cavanmonaghan.net)  
City of Ottawa, Mayor Jim Watson, [Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca](mailto:Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca)  
City of Greater Sudbury, Mayor Marianne Matichuk, [mayor@greatersudbury.ca](mailto:mayor@greatersudbury.ca)  
City of London, Mayor Joe Fontana, [jfontana@london.ca](mailto:jfontana@london.ca)  
City of Windsor, Mayor Eddie Francis, [mayor@city.windsor.on.ca](mailto:mayor@city.windsor.on.ca)  
City of Toronto, Mayor Rob Ford, [mayor\\_ford@toronto.ca](mailto:mayor_ford@toronto.ca)  
City of Woodstock, Mayor Pat Sobeski, [psobeski@city.woodstock.on.ca](mailto:psobeski@city.woodstock.on.ca)  
City of Kawartha Lakes, Mayor Ric McGee, [rmcgee@city.kawarthalakes.on.ca](mailto:rmcgee@city.kawarthalakes.on.ca)



### **The Greater Toronto Countryside Mayor's Alliance**

Town of Halton Hills - Mayor Rick Bonnette, [Mayor@haltonhills.ca](mailto:Mayor@haltonhills.ca)

Town of Milton - Mayor G.A. Krantz, [executiveservices@milton.ca](mailto:executiveservices@milton.ca)

Town of Caledon - Att: Karen Landry, [karen.landry@caledon.ca](mailto:karen.landry@caledon.ca)

Township of King – Mayor Steve Pellegrini, [spellegrini@king.ca](mailto:spellegrini@king.ca)

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville – Mayor Wayne Emmerson, [mayor.emmerson@townofws.ca](mailto:mayor.emmerson@townofws.ca)

Town of East Gwillimbury – Mayor Virginia Hackson, [vhackson@eastgwillimbury.ca](mailto:vhackson@eastgwillimbury.ca)

Town of Georgina - Mayor Robert Grossi, [rgrossi@georgina.ca](mailto:rgrossi@georgina.ca)

City of Pickering – Mayor Dave Ryan, [mayor@pickering.ca](mailto:mayor@pickering.ca)

Municipality of Clarington - Mayor Adrian Foster, [mayor@clarington.net](mailto:mayor@clarington.net)

Township of Scugog - Mayor Chuck Mercier [mayormercier@scugog.ca](mailto:mayormercier@scugog.ca)

Township of Uxbridge – Mayor Gerri Lynn O'Connor [gloconnor@town.uxbridge.on.ca](mailto:gloconnor@town.uxbridge.on.ca)

Township of Brock – Mayor W. Terry Clayton, [tclayton@townshipofbrock.ca](mailto:tclayton@townshipofbrock.ca)