Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

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## Dear Stakeholder:

As the new Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, I would like to extend a warm hello to you and the more than 1100 people who took time last summer and fall to attend our government's consultations for a long-term affordable housing strategy.

Your participation in those consultations was invaluable, and I appreciate the input and cooperation of everyone involved.

Our government believes that every family should have a safe, healthy and affordable place to call home. Affordable housing provides stability, security and dignity. An affordable-housing sector that is healthy and sustainable helps to build stronger communities. This winter, our government is moving forward on its plans to develop a long-term affordable housing strategy to improve access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing for all Ontarians.

As you know, we held a series of 13 consultations in communities all across Ontario. The communities in which we consulted reflect all areas of the province – north and south, urban and rural – ensuring that we could hear about housing issues and concerns, and to get equal representation from all Ontarians. We also received input from more than 300 people via phone, internet and mail.

Through these consultations, we heard a wealth of valuable ideas and suggestions. I want to assure you that we are carefully reviewing and considering all of the input and comments received through the consultation process. This information will be a key component in the development of Ontario's first Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy, a key component of the McGuinty government's Poverty Reduction Strategy. We know we can improve programs and service delivery to ensure that more Ontarians can access affordable housing.

I look forward to sharing our Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy with you later in spring 2010.

## Stakeholder

While we are developing the strategy, we are also busy building affordable housing and repairing social housing across Ontario.

Once again, thank you for your support and participation in this process. Please accept my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Bradley Minister