

Ministry of the Environment

Strategic Policy Branch
11th Floor,
77 Wellesley Street West
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto ON M7A 2T5

Ministère de l'Environnement

Direction des politiques
stratégiques
77, rue Wellesley Ouest
11^e étage, edifice Ferguson
Toronto ON M7A 2T5



From:
Debbie Ramsay
Director (Acting) – Strategic Policy Branch
Ferguson Block
11th Floor
77 Wellesley St. West
Toronto ON M7A2T5

August 3, 2010

Mr. Lawson Oates
Director, Toronto Environment Office
City Hall, 21st Floor, East Tower
100 Queen St. West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Greetings Mr. Oates,

As Director of the Strategic Policy Branch of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Co-Chair of the Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative (RAC) Coordinating Committee, I am writing on behalf of the organizations involved in the Ontario RAC to express our appreciation of Toronto's support of our initiative and to encourage the continuation of the City's involvement with this program.

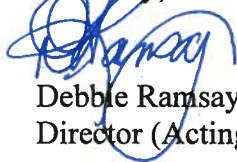
The Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative was implemented through a federal contribution agreement between Natural Resources Canada and the Ontario government. The Ministry of Environment is administering and coordinating this \$6.6 million program on behalf of Ontario's partners for the duration of the program (2009-2012).

From the early planning stages of the Ontario RAC, we have worked with City of Toronto Environment Office in an effort to recognize the work of one of Canada's leading jurisdictions in the field of climate change adaptation.

As part of its contribution to the Ontario RAC, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has held various meetings with your staff and wishes to work with the City of Toronto's Environmental Risk Assessment Process and Tool as a prototype, modifying the tool to assist a range of municipalities across Ontario in the development of adaptation strategies. We understand that in order to share the Process and Tool that your staff will need City Council Approval.

The initial work being undertaken by the City of Toronto's Environment office will provide a critical foundation to the municipal outreach and risk assessment training to be completed by the Ontario RAC. On behalf of the Province and all partners in the Ontario Regional Adaptation Collaborative, I would like to express our appreciation of the City of Toronto's cooperation and meaningful contribution to this important environmental initiative to date. We sincerely hope that the necessary approvals to share the Process and Tool are granted. Clearly, we anticipate that the City of Toronto will, in the long run, benefit if other Ontario municipalities are helped to develop a better understanding of their climate risks and take action to become more resilient, in particular to severe weather impacts associated with climate change.

Sincerely,



Debbie Ramsay
Director (Acting) – Strategic Policy Branch

c.c. Diana Jardine, Director, Municipal Programs and Education Branch