

Ministry of Community Safety
and Correctional Services

Ministère de la Sécurité communautaire et
des Services correctionnels

ES-4

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Office of the Deputy Minister
Emergency Planning and Management

Bureau du sous-ministre
Planification et gestion des situations d'urgence

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EMO08-00023

February 12, 2008

His Worship Fred Eisenberger
Mayor
City of Hamilton
PO Box 2040
City Centre, 77 James St. N., Suite 220
Hamilton, ON L8R 2K3

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

As Ontario's Deputy Minister for Emergency Planning and Management, I am writing at this time to acknowledge that in 2007 your municipality fulfilled the municipal requirements of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, and Ontario Regulation 380/04. I would also like to take this opportunity to commend you, your council, and your staff for the efforts and leadership that has led to this worthy achievement. Building disaster-resilient communities, as you are doing, is among my highest priorities.

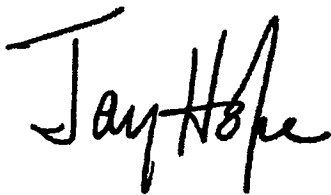
Experience has taught us that no community is immune to the effects of serious emergencies and disasters. While we will continue to confront known and existing hazards, Ontario will also face the impacts of new hazards, such as the consequential effects of climate change, urban growth, and other hazards that have yet to be identified.

All levels of government need to be prepared to respond to emergencies, however, I believe that our biggest preparedness gap is the lack of individual/family preparedness. In May 2007, an EKOS poll suggested that only 12% of Canadians have a survival kit and only 11% have a family emergency plan. Emergency Preparedness Week is May 4th to 11th and I would ask that emphasis on personal preparedness be a priority in your community.

In our shared commitment to community safety, the Province and its municipalities are working together to implement coordinated and integrated emergency management programs that will meet the needs of Ontarians whenever disaster strikes. Your community has demonstrated its commitment to that partnership through the successful completion of the municipal emergency management program and for that I am grateful.

In closing, my staff and I look forward to continuing to work with your community to achieve our mutual goal: a safe and resilient Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Hope". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jay C. Hope
Deputy Minister
Emergency Planning and Management

cc: CEMC