



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

September 18, 2007

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The Council of the Corporation of the City of Mississauga at its meeting held on September 12, 2007 passed the enclosed resolution strongly supporting the motion of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities which calls for the Federal Government to withdraw its appeal and pay its fair share of the local government taxes in communities where it owns property.

For years, the Federation and municipalities across the country who have federal buildings located in their municipality have been concerned about the fact that the Federal Government does not pay taxes as all other properties do, based on the assessment process in each province.

This has been a grave concern of the City of Mississauga with Canada's largest airport located in our city which has gone through a \$3-4 billion dollar expansion, which has impacted the services that the City of Mississauga and the Region of Peel provide to the airport.

It is unfortunate that both the Federal and Provincial Governments have chosen to give themselves an advantage over the private sector due to the fact that payments in lieu of taxes are less than these private sector properties would pay.

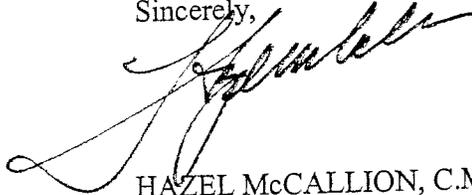
I hope that your government will withdraw its appeal as this is one way in which the Federal Government can provide funding to the municipalities that have federal properties in their city to assist with the infrastructure and servicing needs of the municipality.



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We look forward to your favourable response to the motion adopted by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, strongly supported by the City of Mississauga.

Sincerely,



HAZEL McCALLION, C.M.
MAYOR

cc: The Honourable L. Cannon, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities
The Honourable M. Fortier, Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada
The Honourable D. McGuinty, Premier of Ontario
Mr. John Tory, Leader, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Mr. Howard Hampton, Leader of the New Democratic Party of Ontario
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Big City Mayors' Caucus
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Mississauga MPs
Mississauga MPPs

Enc.



RESOLUTION 0233-2007
adopted by the Council of
The Corporation of the City of Mississauga
at its meeting on September 12, 2007

0233-2007

Moved by: N. Iannicca

Seconded by: E. Adams

Whereas on July 5, 2007 the Federal Court of Canada released three (3) decisions relating to an application for judicial review by the City of Montreal respecting the determination of payments-in-lieu-of-taxes owed to that City in respect of land occupied by two (2) Crown corporations, the Montreal Port Authority and Radio-Canada;

And Whereas the Court determined it had jurisdiction to consider this matter and the way in which the *Payments in Lieu of Taxes Act* ("PLTA") is applied by the Federal Government;

And Whereas the Court confirmed that federal officials cannot arbitrarily decide how much they will pay to municipalities in lieu of property tax, and that the federal government should assume and pay its fair share of the costs of local government in communities where it owns real property and instead make PILT payments with reference to the tax rates set by the City;

And Whereas the Federal Government has indicated an intention to appeal the court decisions;

And Whereas on September 6, 2007 the Federation of Canadian Municipalities urged the Federal Government to "do the right thing" and pay its fair share of local taxes, and withdraw its appeal;

Now be it resolved that:

1. The City of Mississauga support the motion of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities calling for the Federal Government to withdraw its appeal and to pay its fair share of the cost of the local government in communities where it owns real property;



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2. That given these recent court rulings supporting the Federal Government paying its fair share, the Province of Ontario be requested to rescind those portions of Ontario Regulation 282/98 establishing payments in lieu of taxes for airport authorities based on a per passenger formula set in 1998 and not adjusted, and return to assessing federal property on the same basis as all other property, market value assessment, and
3. That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Federal Minister of Transport, the Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada, the Premier of Ontario and Leaders of the Opposition Parties; local MPs and MPPs, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Big City Mayor's Caucus and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried

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