

**City of Owen Sound**

808 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue East

Owen Sound ON N4K 2H4

Phone: 519-376-1440/Fax: 519-371-0511

E-Mail: ghenry@e-owensound.com

March 10, 2006

Premier Dalton McGuinty  
Room 281, Main Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
TORONTO ON M7A 1A4

Dear Premier McGuinty:

**Re: MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL CRISIS**

City Council, at its meeting held on March 2, 2006 considered the above noted matter and the following resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has recognized that a \$3 billion Provincial/Municipal fiscal gap currently exists, in terms of a shortfall, for municipalities; and

WHEREAS one-third of municipal spending goes to Provincial health and social services programs; and

WHEREAS Ontario is the only Province in Canada where municipal property taxes are used to subsidize Provincial health and social service programs; and

WHEREAS municipalities continue to place increased financial pressure on the property taxpayers to meet these financial demands;

NOW THEREFORE The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound urges the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Provincial Government to develop a plan to begin to address this municipal financial crisis, by contributing to municipalities, beginning in 2006, a Provincial commitment to Ontario's municipalities, of \$600 million per year for the next five years, this commitment will begin to address the serious financial crisis facing municipalities in Ontario, and further

THAT we urge the Government of Ontario to come to the AMO Conference with an announcement confirming this commitment and a process to unroll this funding to municipalities, and further

THAT this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario and the Association of Municipalities for their support, and further

THAT this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Ministers of Finance and Municipal Affairs and Housing and all of Cabinet."

We look forward to hearing from you respecting the above.

Yours truly,  
Marion I. Koepke, C.M.O., Deputy City Clerk