



THE CITY OF  
**HAMILTON**  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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October 22, 2010

File # C10-023

Honourable Laurel Broten  
Minister of Children and Youth Services  
56 Wellesley Street West, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3

Dear Minister Broten:

**Re: Item 9 of Board of Health Report 10-007 - Nutritious Food Basket (NFB)  
Report (BOH10024)**

The 2010 Nutritious Food Basket for Hamilton reports that many individuals and families with a limited income do not have adequate funds to purchase sufficient nutritious food on a consistent basis. Research shows that children who have access to nutritious food perform better in school, have less demand on the health system, and exhibit fewer negative psycho-social behaviours

Student Nutrition Programs provide healthy food and alleviate hunger for students. Nutritious food supports healthy growth and development, learning and lifelong healthy eating habits. Currently there are 126 Student Nutrition Programs serving 59 schools at 44 sites in Hamilton. More than 90 schools do not have and can benefit from universal Student Nutrition Programs

The City of Hamilton Board of Health respectfully requests your support to expand Student Nutrition Programs to all elementary and secondary school students in Ontario.

The Medical Officer of Health concurs with this recommendation. Your consideration of the Board of Health's request is appreciated. Please reference File #C10-023 when responding to this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Fred Eisenberger  
Mayor

Copies to:

The Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario  
The Honourable Margaret Best, Minister of Health Promotion  
The Honourable Carol Mitchell, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur, Minister of Community and Social Services  
The Honourable Dwight Duncan, Minister of Finance  
The Honourable Peter Fonseca, Minister of Labour  
The Honourable Sophia Aggelonitis, Minister of Revenue, Minister Responsible for Seniors, MPP Hamilton Mountain  
Dr. Arlene King, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Ms. Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies  
Ms. Carol Timmings, President, Ontario Public Health Association, Ontario Boards of Health  
Mr. Ted McMeekin, MPP Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Westdale  
Mr. Tim Hudak, Leader, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario, MPP Niagara West-Glanbrook  
Ms. Andrea Horwath, Leader, New Democratic Party of Ontario, MPP Hamilton Centre  
Mr. Paul Miller, MPP Hamilton East - Stoney Creek  
Mr. Tom Cooper, Director, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction