

Ministry of the  
Attorney General

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Our Reference #: D09-00153

DEC 17 2009

His Worship Paul Ayotte  
Mayor  
City of Peterborough  
c/o City Hall  
500 George Street North  
Peterborough, ON  
K9H 3R9

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MAYOR'S OFFICE

Dear Mayor Ayotte:

I am pleased to inform you that Bill 212, the *Good Government Act, 2009*, received Royal Assent on December 15, 2009. This Act contains legislative amendments to the *Provincial Offences Act (POA)* to give effect to numerous recommendations made by the provincial-municipal POA Streamlining Working Group.

As you know, in the fall of 2006, the Ministry of the Attorney General established a working group to undertake a streamlining review of POA proceedings in collaboration with municipal partners. The goal of this review was to recommend changes to enhance the local delivery of timely, accessible, fair and effective justice services. Given the important role that municipalities play in the administration of the provincial offences courts and in the prosecution of provincial offences, the ministry asked representatives of the Municipal Court Managers' Association, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Prosecutors' Association of Ontario to participate on this working group, along with representatives from several provincial ministries.

Before submitting final recommendations to the Attorney General in September 2009, the working group consulted broadly with other interested parties, including all municipalities responsible for the administration of provincial offences courts. In response, many municipalities submitted proposals to simplify procedures, reduce demand for resources, enhance fine enforcement and improve service to the public.

I would like to thank you for your municipality's participation in this important initiative. I believe these changes will improve the local delivery of justice services and strengthen our partnership with municipalities across the province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Murray Segal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Murray" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Segal".

Murray Segal  
Deputy Attorney General