

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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FEB 25 2014

14-4486

Your Worship
Mayor Karen Farbridge
City of Guelph
1 Carden Street
Guelph, Ontario N1H 3A1

Dear Mayor Farbridge and Members of Council:

On October 3, 2013, I received a petition requesting an audit of the City of Guelph's finances and operations. A supplementary letter containing additional signatures was received on December 30, 2013. Since that time, ministry staff have reviewed all of the issues and concerns raised by the petitioners. Staff also facilitated fact finding and information sharing meetings with both municipal officials and the lead petitioners.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the municipality and its staff for the time and effort that went into answering questions and compiling documents, and for meeting with ministry staff in connection with the issues and concerns raised by the petitioners.

A review of that information is now complete and I have given it careful consideration. Staff advises me that municipal administration is willing to meet with the lead petitioners to directly address the general administration and financial questions in the petition. This offer has been conveyed to the lead petitioner in a written response. Ministry staff are available to help facilitate such a meeting, if requested.

I am satisfied that the remaining questions raised within the petition are local matters and the responsibility of Guelph City Council to address. I have decided that no further ministry action is appropriate.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Jeffery".

Linda Jeffery
Minister

c: The Honourable Elizabeth Sandals
MPP Guelph

Ann Pappert, Chief Administrative Officer
City of Guelph

Barbara Swartzentruber, Sr. Advisor of Planning and Intergovernmental Affairs
City of Guelph