Ministry of Transportation

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto ON M7A 1Z8 416 327-9200 www.ontario.ca/transportation

February 23, 2023

Ministère des Transports

Bureau de la ministre

777, rue Bay, 5<sup>e</sup> étage Toronto ON M7A 1Z8 416 327-9200 www.ontario.ca/transports



107-2023-555

Hilda MacDonald Mayor Municipality of Leamington 111 Erie Street North Leamington ON N8H 2Z9 mayor@leamington.ca

Dear Mayor MacDonald:

I am pleased to announce the launch of the 2022-23 Gas Tax Program and to advise you of your funding allocation.

Our government is committed to working with municipalities to improve Ontario's transportation network and support economic growth. Investing in transit will reduce traffic congestion, create jobs and help businesses to develop and prosper.

The Municipality of Learnington will be eligible to receive an allocation of **\$299,128** for this program year.

In the coming days we will be distributing, through the Transfer Payment Ontario Network (TPON) system, the electronic versions of your Letter of Agreement, along with program guidelines, reporting forms and the Canadian Content for Transit Vehicle Procurement policy. The primary staff contact at the Municipality of Learnington will be notified when these documents are available.

Please return a scanned copy of the signed Letter of Agreement, in pdf format, and the required supporting by-law (if applicable), and the 2022 Reporting Forms to **MTO-PGT@ontario.ca**.

The Municipality of Learnington currently provides a public transit service that includes service to, and receives financial contributions from, the Town of Kingsville.

As your municipality is the host for the provision of this joint service, we therefore request that your supporting Council by-law confirm that your municipality is continuing to act as the host for the other supporting municipalities.

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) recognizes that COVID-19 impacted gasoline sales in 2021-22. As a result, the province has committed an additional \$80 million in supplementary funding for the 2022-23 Gas Tax program. This additional funding maintains the funding envelope at the level of the 2021-22 program year as the province recognizes transit systems are continuing to build back their ridership levels.

For the 2022-23 Gas Tax Program, the ministry is using a five-year average of ridership from 2017 to 2021, and will be using the highest level of reported municipal spending from 2017 to 2021 when calculating municipal allocations.

If you have any questions regarding the Gas Tax program, please contact Melissa Djurakov, Director, Municipal Programs Branch, at <u>melissa.djurakov2@ontario.ca</u>.

Cauline Mulimey

Caroline Mulroney Minister of Transportation

c. Rick Nicholls, MPP, Chatham-Kent—Learnington Taras Natyshak, MPP, Essex

Dennis Rogers, Mayor, Town of Kingsville