

FILE No. P36



Ministry of
Health Promotion

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NOV 20 2007

Mr. Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1



Dear Mr. Kelly:

Thank you for your correspondence, addressed to my predecessor, the Honourable Jim Watson, regarding smoking in cars where children are passengers. I have noted council's resolution.

The *Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA)* prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and enclosed public places in order to protect workers and the public from the hazards of second-hand smoke. The legislation is designed to strike a balance between the need to protect the health of Ontarians and the need to respect their personal freedoms.

The provincial government is committed to the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy – the most comprehensive tobacco-control strategy Ontario has ever had, and among the toughest and most far-reaching in North America. The SFOA is an important part of that strategy. We are also committed to helping people who want to quit smoking.

At this time, the government is focused on the implementation of the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy. We do not currently intend to take legislative measures to enforce a ban on smoking in cars that have children as passengers.

Thank you again for bringing council's views and concerns to the attention of the provincial government.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret R. Best", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Margarett R. Best
Minister

c: Dr. K. Kurji, Medical Officer of Health and Director, Public Health Programs
Regional Municipality of York

