



September 29, 2023

Mr. John Livey, Chair and Transition Board Members
Transition Board, Dissolution of Peel Region
c/o Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
777 Bay St, 17th Floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3

Dear Chair Livey:

Thank you for the work you have undertaken since your appointment on July 5th. The Brampton Board of Trade recognizes the enormous scope of the task before you and the scrutiny it will invite. As Brampton's oldest and only accredited business association, our members provide more than 71,000 jobs in our city and have a keen interest in your work. We have closely monitored the regional government file and are pleased to see a direction that moves away from duplicative two-tier government.

As the result of a wide range of discussions we have held with our members, committees and stakeholders, we write today to share several recommendations, expectations and key questions related to the work of the Transition Board.

1) Transparency

Recommendation: The deliberations and decisions of the Transition Board will have significant implications on businesses and taxpayers in multiple jurisdictions for many years to come. Additionally, the province has indicated that the Board will have powers that supersede those of elected councils, including Regional Council. Given the stakes, the Brampton Board of Trade recommends that the deliberations and decisions of the Transition Board be transparent by default.

Question: What information-sharing and consultations will occur to shape the Transition Board's decisions (such as asset allocations and future governance models) in order to offer Brampton businesses transparency into how decisions are being made?



2) Utility (water and wastewater) Governance

Recommendation: Decisions around the division and governance of existing wastewater infrastructure and services will be critical to Brampton, Mississauga and Caledon. The Board of Trade recommends that the Transition Board structure the delivery of water and wastewater and other utility services in such a way that there is majority oversight from qualified private sector individuals. This may be an area where continued co-operation among the three municipalities post-dissolution makes sense.

Question: What is the proposed governance and fee structure for water services in post-dissolution Brampton?

3) Emergency Services

Recommendation: Clarity around the continuity of emergency services such as policing and paramedics is of the highest importance to Brampton businesses. Like utilities such as water and wastewater, this is an area where continued co-operation may make sense, including models based on shared services in other communities such as the OPP or RCMP. It is our expectation that a sensible and transparent governance structure be proposed by the Transition Board, and that a fee structure be established that is fair to Brampton.

Question: What will a future police/emergency services board look like, and what private sector involvement will be proposed?

4) Debt and Infrastructure Financing – how to pay for Brampton, identify expected tax hikes

Recommendation: As the Transition Board contemplates how to allocate and manage approximately \$1.4 billion of Regional debt, it is important that Brampton continue to grow. Debt and infrastructure financing must be done in a way that allows Brampton to continue to build the infrastructure needed to catch-up to, and enable, further growth such as that set out in the provincial housing targets. The Board of Trade recommends that regional assets, such as regional roads, continue to be financed and built in Brampton during the transition period.

Question: How will the existing \$1.4 billion in debt be allocated, and what assurances can be made that regional infrastructure will continue to be built in Brampton during the transition period?



Sincerely,

Todd Letts, MBA, CCE
Chief Executive Officer
Brampton Board of Trade

Daniel Lewis
Chair
Brampton Board of Trade

CC:

Transition Board Members Tracey Cook, Eric Jolliffe, Sean Morley and Peter Weltman

Mayor Patrick Brown

Mayor Bonnie Crombie

Mayor Annette Groves

Hon. Prabmeet Sarkaria, MPP Brampton South

Hon. Charmaine Williams, MPP Brampton Centre

MPP Graham McGregor, Brampton North

MPP Amarjot Sandhu, Brampton West

MPP Hardeep Grewal, Brampton East