# Marit Stiles

## LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION CHEF DE L'OPPOSITION OFFICIELLE MPP/DÉPUTÉE DAVENPORT

## Dear Colleagues in Government:

Last week we announced that the Official Opposition Ontario NDP caucus would be conducting a review, led by former Toronto Mayor David Miller, of the Provincial - Municipal relationship, as called for by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Like you, we know that this relationship is broken. Local governments not only deliver services that residents count upon, they work openly and transparently with their residents to build strong communities for all. This has been damaged by Provincial interference in local matters, downloading of costs, and a lack of sustainable long term funding. In addition, the Province's habit of controlling all decisions has meant long delays over decisions that should be routine - like approving municipal housing proposals.

We have already committed to uploading transit operating costs, housing repair and key infrastructure projects. These will be important first steps. But the municipal - provincial relationship needs fixing in more ways, and we recognize that the first step in fixing it is working with and listening to our partners in government - you.

We will be in touch over the coming weeks, but in the meantime we would be delighted to get your preliminary thoughts - please feel free to contact Heather Douglas at hdouglas@ndp.on.ca who is co-ordinating our work.

Sincerely,

Marit Stiles

David Miller

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