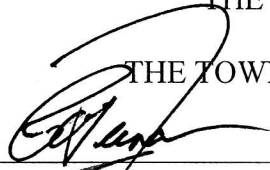


THE CORPORATION  
OF  
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Moved by:  Date: April 20, 2009

Seconded by: 

WHEREAS the world's economy has entered into a period of slow economic growth:

AND WHEREAS Governments throughout the world have introduced various stimulus packages to encourage economic growth;

AND WHEREAS the United States of America is Canada's largest trading partner and a signatory of the North American Free Trade Agreement;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Halton of Hills is supportive of Free Trade between Canada and the United States which has existed for many years;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the United States of America has introduced infrastructure stimulus packages including the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which includes "Buy American" provisions for steel and other manufactured products;

AND WHEREAS these restrictive provisions which are contrary to the spirit of free trade will prevent Canadian companies from bidding on contracts which contain the "Buy American" provisions at the municipal and state levels in the United states since NAFTA and The General Procurement Agreement of the World Trade Organization do not nullify such provisions at those levels;

AND WHEREAS Canadian stimulus infrastructure programs do not contain any restrictions on manufacturers from other countries including the United States bidding on such contracts in Canada;

AND WHEREAS local Halton Hills companies may be adversely affected by these restrictions possibly leading to lay-offs and financial losses and further could lead to the erosion of their overall ongoing viability;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Halton Hills is supportive of Free Trade between the United States and Canada and that the restrictive 'Buy American' provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are contrary to that spirit of free trade;

