



LAUREL BROTEN, MPP

Etobicoke - Lakeshore

December 17, 2012

Mr. Mark Grimes
Councillor, Ward 6 Etobicoke-Lakeshore
100 Queen Street West, Suite C48
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mark:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding Mondelez Canada's November 1, 2012 announcement of the closure of the former Mr. Christie's Bakery on Lake Shore Boulevard West. This facility has a long history as a major economic driver in Etobicoke-Lakeshore. I share the concerns about the effects of this closure with many others in our community; in particular with regard to job losses and the future use of this site.

In order to best mitigate the impact for displaced workers, within one hour of receiving the announcement, the employment and training division of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities contacted the company to offer on site services subject to response from Mondelez Canada. As a result of this offer, I understand that the Ministry is waiting for Mondelez to confirm a meeting time in early January 2013 to discuss how Rapid Re-employment and Training Services could assist affected workers at this site.

With respect to future land use, as you know, this plant is located on lands designated by the City of Toronto for employment. As decisions about planning matters are made at the local level, I know that Council will consider the impact of this closure and its designated use in the context of the broader review of the City's Official Plan, especially as it relates to the need for available employment lands in the city, including their identification and protection.

I have also shared a copy of your letter with Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Infrastructure, requesting that he give thoughtful consideration to the provincial significance of this site now and into the future.

As a long time advocate and supporter of local business, I agree that this site should remain as employment lands in order to foster future growth. Of particular interest is Etobicoke-Lakeshore as a hub for the food sector, as well as home to the Ontario Food Terminal. Food manufacturing and processing continues to be an important part of the makeup of our community and significant contributor to the local economy.

Constituency Office

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With respect to the provincial role in planning matters, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is responsible for the development of the legislation and policies that make up the Land Use Planning system in Ontario.

Ontario's legislative framework and accompanying policy statements provide the foundation for planning across the province while municipalities are responsible for implementation through planning documents, for example official plans, as well as for decisions made on local planning matters.

As we look to the future use of this site and also to the City of Toronto's overall approach to land use planning, it is my hope that as part of the City's Official Plan Review, there will be an emphasis on implementing policies that will help industry stay in Toronto. I will also continue to encourage our constituents to contribute to this process by writing to the Official Plan review committee to ensure their views are known.

I am confident that these efforts will support our mutual goals of revitalizing the Lakeshore and bringing both economic and social benefit to our community now and for the future.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurel Broten MPP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laurel Broten, MPP
Etobicoke-Lakeshore