

**Friends of the Ajax Pickering Hospital  
68 Hills Road  
Ajax, Ontario  
L1S 2W4**

August 21, 2006

Mayor Steve Parish,  
and Members of Council  
Town of Ajax  
65 Harwood Avenue South  
Ajax, Ontario  
L1S 2H9

Dear Mayor Steve Parish and Members of Council,

As you may be aware, the Central East LHIN, of which Durham Region is a part, is in the process of preparing its first Integrated Health Services Plan. We, *The Friends of the Ajax Pickering Hospital*, understand that this plan will be completed by October 31, 2006, and will then be submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for approval. The *Friends* have urged that, **before** The Board of the Central East LHIN adopts this plan, the plan be widely circulated throughout the Central East LHIN inviting public comment and input.

On June 19, 2006, *The Friends of the Ajax Pickering Hospital* submitted to the Central East LHIN what the *Friends* consider to be the urgent, immediate health and hospital priorities for Ajax, Pickering, Whitby and West Durham. That submission is attached for your consideration and endorsement.

On June 23, 2006, the *Friends* met with some members of the Board of the Central East LHIN, and some staff to discuss our submission, and to urge that our five priorities be included as part of their first Integrated Health Services Plan.

The Central East LHIN has tremendous power and influence as far as health and hospital priorities and planning are concerned, and also where these health and hospital services will be located and delivered. It is urgent that Councils and all the people in our communities become very involved in the planning decisions of the Central East LHIN in all aspects of health and hospital care, delivery and location.

The *Friends* firmly advocate better health care closer to home.

Thank you for your consideration and endorsement of our submission. We are entering a new and very important period with respect to hospital planning and health care delivery. The people must be very involved in every aspect of this planning.

Sincerely yours,

Yvonne Bosch  
Co-Chair

Bill Parish  
Co-Chair

Enclosure