Beaconsfield, November 30, 2019

By e-mail

Mrs Andrée Laforest,

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,

10, rue Pierre-Olivier-Chauveau

Québec (Québec)

G1R 4J3

**Subject : Montreal Agglo – 2020 Budget - Over taxation of $150 Million by the City of Montreal of the 15 suburban municipalities**

Dear Minister Laforest,

This communication is intended to bring to your attention a grave taxation injustice that has been going on for years and is once again about to be repeated by the City of Montreal / Agglo in 2020 with regards to the annual taxation of the fifteen Montreal Suburban Municipalities.

The 2020 budget of City of Montreal has attributed unwarranted taxes of 150 million dollars to suburban municipalities. For the City of Beaconsfield alone, as an example, this represents a totally unjustified over taxation of 12 million dollars per year without getting any services in return. Residents in suburban municipalities face annually thousands of dollars of undue taxation that appears to have the sole purpose of placing the burden of balancing the City of Montreal’s budget on the back of suburban municipalities and its citizens.

This has to stop.

Efforts by suburban mayors to seek correction by the City of Montreal of this unfair taxation has been constantly ignored over the past years. Past merger and demerger policies of the Quebec Government did not help and may have unintentionally created a City of Montreal “ grab all “ environment that has proven to be unjust and requires immediate remedy before causing more financial damage to the municipalities and its citizens.

I am calling on you to encourage the City of Montreal to apply corrective taxation measures during your mandate in the spirit of fairness and just taxation for all.

Thanking you for support and consideration in this matter,

I remain, respectfully yours,

YOUR NAME AND SIGNATURE

Cc: Mr. Gregory Kelly, MNA, Jacques-Cartier

Cc: Mr. George Bourelle, Mayor of the City Beaconsfield

Cc : Mme Valérie Plante, Mayor of the City of Montreal

Cc : Association of Suburban Municipalities

Cc : Beaconsfield Citizen’s Association