



FRANCIS M. VALERIOTE
Member of Parliament for Guelph



OTTAWA
September 2, 2009

Hon. Tony Clement, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Industry
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Hon. Gary Goodyear, P.C., M.P.
Minister of State (Science and Technology)
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Ministers:

I would like to take this opportunity to share my insight and concerns with regard to the economic crisis and particularly its impact on the manufacturing industry in Guelph.

As you are aware the downturn in the economy has caused a severe contraction in manufacturing in and around the Guelph area. The automobile industry, which provides employment directly and indirectly to over 500,000 people in Canada has been particularly hard hit. Guelph is home to a significant auto parts industry and, as a result, has been severely affected by this contraction. I believe it is imperative for Guelph's recovery and future economic vitality that the federal government addresses the critical need for financial support of the manufacturing industry in Guelph.

Linamar Corporation and Guelph Tool & Die are among the many large industries that have been negatively affected. Companies as small as Destiny Tours are also seeking federal support but have been left unnoticed and unanswered. The loss of employment in these industries has impacted every aspect of our local economy.

Both innovation and the turning of ideas into jobs are critical to Guelph's prosperity and require your partnership. Whether the source of needed support is from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, Technology Partnerships Canada, FedDev Ontario or other innovation or stimulus funds please be fully cognizant of the acute need for the preservation of existing jobs and the creation of jobs of the future.

Guelph is one of the primary sources of research and innovation both at the University and through private research and manufacturing facilities located in Guelph.

Respectfully, therefore, I ask that your immediate attention be given to development of partnerships and supporting those initiatives that advance community development, innovation, economic diversification or other job creating investments in the community of Guelph.

I appreciate your consideration and I look forward to your response on this important issue.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Valeriote, M.P.
Guelph