

**Ministry of
Transportation**

Office of the Minister

Ferguson Block, 3rd Floor
77 Wellesley St. West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1Z8
416 327-9200
www.mto.gov.on.ca

**Ministère des
Transports**

Bureau du ministre

Édifice Ferguson, 3^e étage
77, rue Wellesley ouest
Toronto (Ontario)
M7A 1Z8
416 327-9200
www.mto.gov.on.ca



SEP 1 - 2009

Mr. Warren Christiani
President
Durham E-bike Association
warren@durhamebikeassociation.org

Dear Mr. Christiani:

Thank you for your e-mail about the ministry's e-bike pilot project and establishing regulations for e-bikes. I appreciate your participation in this project and your feedback at the ministry's recent stakeholders consultation, prior to the posting on the Regulatory Registry.

Bill 126, the *Road Safety Act, 2009*, which received Royal Assent on April 23, 2009, but has not yet been proclaimed, contains several items related to e-bikes, including:

- expanding the *Highway Traffic Act* definition of "bicycle" to include e-bikes
- a definition of e-bikes clarifying that they must have operable pedals attached and must be capable of being propelled only by muscular power
- regulation-making powers to define further e-bike operating requirements
- retaining the current pilot projects' requirements that e-bike riders must be at least 16 years of age and must wear helmets.

The regulation-making powers may or may not impact e-bikes that resemble scooters. As you know, based on stakeholder input at the June 2009 consultation, safety concerns that are primarily associated with scooter style e-bikes (with size, weight, braking, operation, enforcement) persist and, therefore, a final decision has not yet been made.

My ministry will determine which, if any, additional operating and equipment requirements should be included in the regulation prior to the e-bike pilot expiry date of October 3, 2009.

I encourage you to continue checking for updates on the ministry's website:
(<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/dandv/vehicle/emerging>).

Again, thank you for your e-mail and please accept my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Bradley".

Jim Bradley
Minister

c: Andrea Horwath, MPP, Hamilton Centre
The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario
Robert Runciman, MPP, Leeds-Grenville