

Ministry of Training,
Colleges and Universities

Ministère de la Formation
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September 22, 2004

Mr. Ken Brown
554 Bolivar Street
Peterborough ON K9J 4R8

Dear Mr. Brown,

My colleague Jeff Leal, MPP for Peterborough, has forwarded to me a copy of your article, "Sound Off: Let Public In", and e-mail message about Trent University and the Ontario *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. As Minister responsible for universities, I am pleased to respond.

I want to assure you that the Government of Ontario is committed to openness and transparency, and will continue to look for ways to ensure that public institutions remain accessible and accountable. Thus far, we have introduced the Audit Statute Law Amendment Act 2003 that, if passed, would broaden the Provincial Auditor's powers to review public sector organizations, including universities.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding your correspondence to my colleague Gerry Phillips, Chair of Management Board of Cabinet, since he is responsible for provincial legislation covering freedom of information and protection of privacy. I am working closely with Minister Phillips and our colleague Michael Bryant, Minister for Democratic Renewal, on this matter. I am confident that we will be able to move quickly on this issue.

Thank you for raising your concerns and bringing them to Mr. Leal's attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary Anne Chambers'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mary Anne Chambers
Minister

c: The Honourable Gerry Phillips
Chair, Management Board of Cabinet

Mr. Jeff Leal, MPP
Peterborough