


### **President's Report 2009:**

I am pleased to welcome everyone back to a season full of excitement and promise.

It has been an honor to have the opportunity to be part of this exceptional organization. 2008-2009 has been a season full of trials and triumphs. The economic climate of this past year was a challenge for many and our Symphony was no exception. The corporate sponsorship opportunities we had worked tirelessly to cultivate proved difficult to harvest; however, there is much to celebrate. This season brought us continued successes in many areas which deserve recognition. Despite economic challenges, our audience still honored us with their patronage with our RBG concerts continuing to be a resounding success. New partnerships have been born with groups like Wave 94.7 and Listen Up Canada which have bolstered our profile in the community and will continue to open future opportunities to our Symphony. Support has continued with ongoing Ontario Trillium Foundation funding and the generous support of our individual donors, which I'm ecstatic to announce, has allowed us to balance the budget for a fourth consecutive year.

In addition to our financial success, we have continued to deploy the funds awarded to us by the Ontario Trillium Foundation. These funds were awarded over three years to allow us to develop financial stability and sustainability, and we are now entering the final year of the funding. These funds helped us produce the "Symphonic Spectaculars" season which resulted in extensive positive feedback regarding our uplifting infusion of Hollywood to our programs. The new website that was unveiled this season trumpeting our new image and name was a product of these funds and has received many compliments regarding its ascetics and professional nature. Most importantly, these funds have brought our Director of Business Development, Judi Partridge to Symphony Hamilton. Judi has worked tirelessly since July of last year promoting Symphony Hamilton, forming defining community partnerships, cultivating sponsorship opportunities, strengthening our board with talented community members, and improving our community profile on the whole. Judi's report will highlight some of the key activities of the past year, but I would like to emphasize that without her efforts it would have been impossible to continue to grow as we have amidst this year's challenges.



Another significant change has occurred this season. We have formed a fabulous new partnership with Hamilton Mennonite Church. In our new rehearsal space we look to continue to produce wonderful music to share with the community, and in Hamilton Mennonite Church we have found a new community with which to share.

Flowing along a sea of change on the waves of success, we are well on our way to another outstanding season. Our program theme of “Let the Music Move You” further promotes our new image and promises to show audiences old and new what Symphony Hamilton is all about. Your gifts of talent, time, and support and the continued artistic vision and dedication of Maestro Jim MacKay, promise to make this another outstanding season.

This season proves to be a momentous one. Emerging from many changes with opportunity all around us, our corporate theme this year is “growth”. Following on our year of “transformation” in which we unveiled our new name and image, we will continue to grow upon the sound base we have built into our surrounding communities. Many challenges still lie ahead. With our commitment acting as roots firmly planted, the expertise and continued hard effort from all members will fuel this growth. I am confident we will be a strong and vibrant organization which will continue to bring excellent symphonic experiences to the community, well into the future.

Keeping with last year’s theme of “transformation” I must regretfully resign from my position of Interim President and from the Board of Directors. It has been an absolute honor to serve Symphony Hamilton as this is a magnificent organization. I wish everyone all the best in your future endeavors and want to thank all those who have supported me in this role.

Respectfully submitted,



Bryan Peters  
Interim President