



**City of Hamilton**  
**EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**ADDENDUM**

**Meeting #:** 23-012  
**Date:** September 21, 2023  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Council Chambers  
Hamilton City Hall  
71 Main Street West

Loren Kolar, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 2604

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**5. COMMUNICATIONS**

- \*5.1 Correspondence from Anthony Frisina, respecting Accessibility of City Operated Recreation Facilities

Recommendation: Be Received and referred to Item 9.1 Accessibility of City Operated Recreation Facilities (HSC23055)

- \*5.2 Correspondence from Ian Borsuk, Environment Hamilton, respecting item 11.1, Gender-Based Safety Audit

Recommendation: Be received and referred to Item 11.1, Gender-Based Safety Audit

**6. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

- \*6.2 Keisha Chapman and Emily Power, Respecting item 10.3 Housing Charge and Operating Subsidy for 272 Caroline St. S. Housing Co-operative Inc. (HSC23059) (Ward 2) (In-Person) (for today's meeting)

- \*6.3 Chelsea Kirkby, YWCA Hamilton, Respecting item 11.1 Gender-Based Safety Audit (In-Person) (for today's meeting)

- \*6.4 Karl Andrus, Hamilton Community Benefits Network, Respecting item 11.1 Gender-Based Safety Audit (In-Person) (for today's meeting)

**7. DELEGATIONS**

7.2 Delegations respecting the state of emergency taking place within the emergency food system within Hamilton (approved at the July 13, 2023 meeting)

a. Karen Randell and Jamie Vanderberg, Emergency Food Committee

\*a. Presentation

**8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS**

8.1 Snow Angels Program Sustainability (HSC23022(a)) (City Wide)

\*a. Staff Presentation respecting Snow Angels Sustainability (HSC23022(a))

## Hamilton Mountain News – Accessibility Assessment – Recreation Centres

In and or about the halfway through I must express my gratitude to those who have supported me on this journey – Mark, Mike, Gord – thank you. Our journey began at the McNab Recreation Centre – greeted by friendly staff, who were made aware of what we were doing today. One of the major things that was top of mind as I entered the building and something that I am extremely conscious of is language. “Please wait behind plexiglass” rather than, please “stand”. The social distancing markers showing feet rather than saying “6 feet”. Is another imposition of language.

As our journey went through the building, I had the opportunity to assess changerooms in addition to washrooms. One of my pet peeves is when accessibility is compromised by being used as storage space. Entering the rooms there were mechanical door openers. The space between storage lockers and benches was a little tight, ideally having a space, for someone to sit in a chair or use a mobility device on their own and reach a locker was my recommendation. This was common throughout the day. One of the biggest opportunities in the changerooms that needs to be changed is the closing the locker and the mechanism. It’s a push up lever then pull. Fine motor skills may make this way of opening a door challenging. Lever doors are the simplest and most accessible. Travel wise and space was open concept which is ideal. I also noticed the spaces in the washroom was tight, we need to measure from the biggest depth perception and go from there. Also, factoring in whether we are left side dominant or right side dominant. The accessible shower set up needs work, plumbing, drainage, and bench set up, a pull-down shower handle with adjustability is ideal. As well as a bench that doesn’t fold into the wall. Ensuring we are proactive in thinking from that concept is of the utmost of importance. We tend to think for most, not for all. I had also mentioned to staff and they had availability in some aspects of different information available in different formats (large print, braille) etc.

We made our way to Sackville – automatic doors, wonderful open concept space where check in spaces were accessible for all. In addition to washrooms, we visited craft spaces and open spaces, many push button operators were missing, having only a birds-eye view because of programming going on in some activity spaces. The organization was spectacular and everything from my point of view seemed feasible. The washrooms and change rooms spaces were tight. Grab bar and L-shaped bars, in particular I am personally not a fan of, too much risk of injuries to hands and wrists. I would rather two separate bars and position everything accordingly to exceed standard. This was noticeable throughout. What is also needed is transition strips to note flooring changes and changes in slope. Different accessibility challenges require different accommodations, and these are meant so everyone can be included.

Hill Park – Requires massive changes. Getting to the building along a broken-down pathway was my first obstacle getting to only a push button door operator – poorly positioned. When I entered with information and markings in poor language. Space was very tight and transitioning to rooms with out markings will be a challenge to many. Many hangers and hooks were too high for people who use mobility devices. Washrooms were tight and also used for storage. Activity spaces were clear, with standard tables and accessories neatly tied away. However, in cooking and baking area and craft area, sink had no clearance for wheelchair. Washrooms were tight and cluttered as I only visited the men’s washroom and gender neutral throughout my travels. This space requires more people with lived experiences to take grasp of what changes need to be made to support access and inclusion. We simply require action to take place.

Lastly, we hit Huntington Park – the first thing clear was I couldn’t find the push button operator. It was there, just poorly placed. Excellent staff and customer service receptive to us and all throughout our journey. Entering the building the signage was similar to previous stops. Needs more embracing of inclusive language. Very tight spaces in washroom, poorly positioned showers for those with mobility devices and standard lockers with too much to open them, definitely requires more lever style openers. Unique to Huntington that I noticed was rubberized flooring, definitely a challenge for me to wheel on. There were a few ramps and surface changes that require transition strips. A few areas had motions sensor lights which is ideal, but to turn on lights was a challenge. Including many places throughout the days journey more motion lights were needed.

One of the things that would recommend is the use of a rectangular style push button operator as it has the most adjustability and flexibility for different needs within our community. The receptiveness to my observations has been great. Let’s see if this amounts to change. From Hamilton Mountain News 2022 - providing support

Anthony Frisina



September 20th 2023

To the members of the Emergency and Community Services Committee of the City of Hamilton,

We are writing to communicate our support for the motion being brought forward by Councillor Wilson "Gender Based Safety Audit", item 11.1 for the September 21st 2023 committee meeting.

A gender-inclusive Hamilton will help us achieve our climate goals. As Environment Hamilton, we've been working towards and advocating for immediate, sustainable climate actions. It has been heartening to see the City take initiative on this to date. In particular, the recognition of the importance of transportation as a key area of focus for the City of Hamilton is vital - as transportation emissions have continued to rise in our community for many years, driven primarily by an increase in single occupant private vehicle usage.

We also have been long-time advocates for increasing our natural green spaces in our community, and ensuring that equitable access to our parks and natural areas is improved upon for all Hamiltonians.

Thus, Environment Hamilton supports the motion being brought forward to have the YWCA conduct gender-based safety audits of public spaces - particularly our public transportation, streets for active transportation, and parks. To put it plainly - to achieve a modal shift with Hamiltonians getting out of their private vehicles and starting to use public transit and active transportation, it is imperative that all members of our community feel safe doing so. We cannot achieve greenhouse emission reductions if half of our community have barriers to accessing and using alternative transportation choices to private vehicles.

We feel that by accomplishing the goals set out in this motion the City of Hamilton will be better able to continue its important climate change work - and will achieve a variety of other positive social and economic outcomes for our community.

- Ian Borsuk, Executive Director  
Adeola Egbeyemi, Project Coordinator  
On behalf of Environment Hamilton

# Caroline Non-Profit Rental Housing Co-operative

**Keisha Chapman & Emily Power**  
Caroline Street Tenant Association  
272 Caroline St. S., Hamilton  
[carolinestreettenants@gmail.com](mailto:carolinestreettenants@gmail.com)



# Our Story

- Our building is home to **seniors, people with disabilities, newcomers, young families, single moms, students, young professionals**
- Many **long-term residents** with monthly rents in \$600-900 range
- Formed **tenant association** early 2023 in response to landlord listing building for sale
- Feared rent increases and **reno-victions** if building was purchased by investment company
- Unanimous support among residents for plan to fundraise to purchase building and convert into **non-profit rental housing co-operative**
- **Offer to purchase accepted** by the landlord in April 2023



# Our Story



- Building inspections completed and **capital plan prepared**
- Fundraising **down payment** through residents' contributions, philanthropic community supporters, Hamilton Community Foundation, and City of Hamilton Housing Secretariat acquisition assistance fund
- **Mortgage** to be insured through CMHC program
- Co-op members' rent payments will cover mortgage payments, maintenance, and property taxes, operating on a **non-profit model**
- Units to become part of City's **social housing stock**
- Working with co-op federation and lawyers to prepare **by-laws** and **operating plan**
- On track to **close on purchase** and establish co-op early 2024



# Staff Recommendations

## Item 10.3, Housing Charge and Operating Subsidy for 272 Caroline St. S. Housing Co-operative Inc. (HSC23059) (Ward 2)

### Primary Recommendations

*That the City enter into an agreement with the Caroline Co-op, providing **housing charge supplements** to 10 eligible households and an annual **operating subsidy**, together valued at \$122K.*

*That a corresponding increase to the 2024 Housing Services division budget be referred to the 2024 Tax Operating Budget.*

### Alternatives for Consideration: Secondary Recommendations

*That the City provide a **one-time grant** of \$52K in 2024 and \$56K in 2025 to the Caroline Co-op, to be placed in their **Replacement Reserve fund for capital repairs**, funded from the projected 8% annual increases to the Municipal Capital Grant for Social Housing.*

# Types of Co-ops: Key Differences

## Equity Co-ops



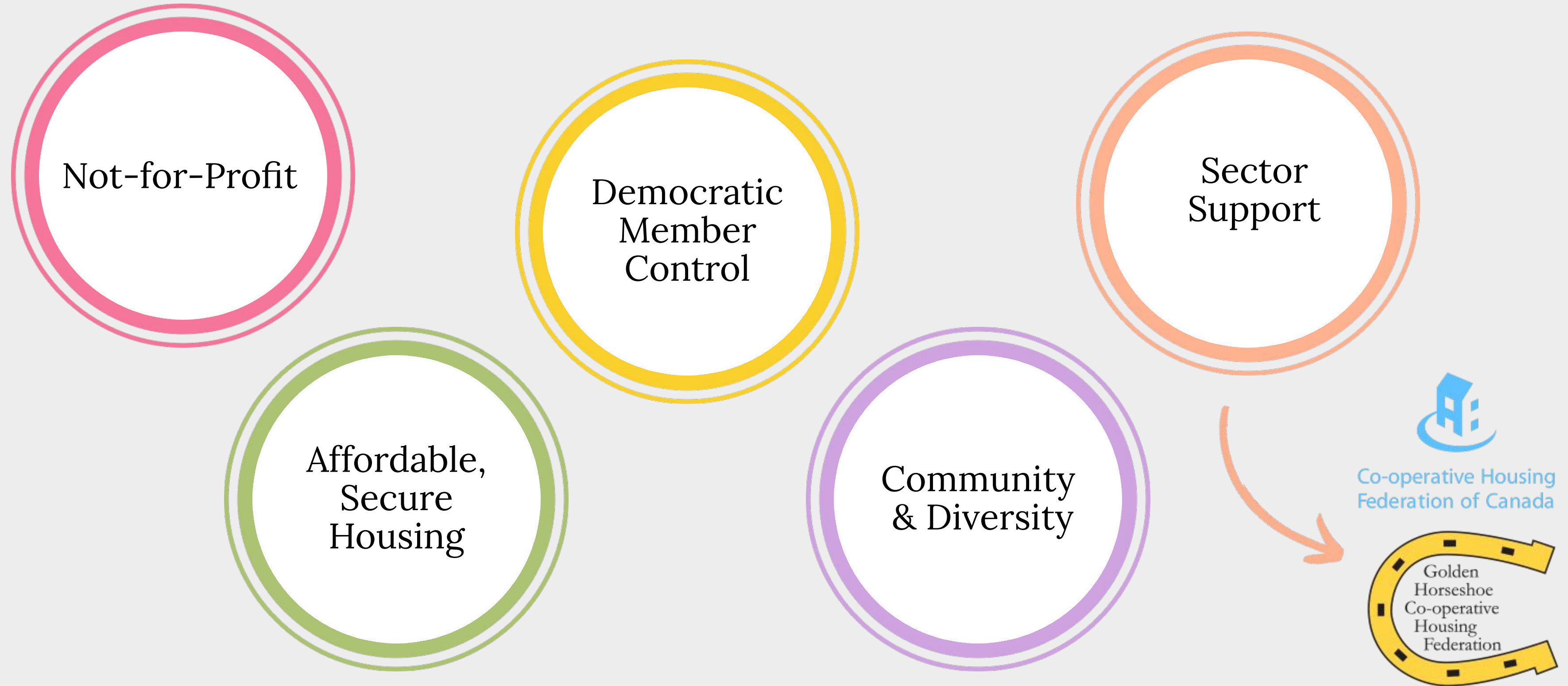
1. For-profit model.
2. Co-op members are owners. Operates like a condominium building.
3. Members must purchase a share, which functions like a down payment.
4. Co-op units increase in value over time and can be sold at a profit.
5. Not eligible for affordable housing funding.

## Non-Profit Rental Co-ops



1. Not-for-profit model.
2. Co-op members are renters. Operates like an apartment building.
3. No share capital required. New members pay first + last months' rent, plus maintenance deposit.
4. Co-op units cannot be bought or sold. Individual co-op members cannot profit.
5. Eligible for affordable housing funding.

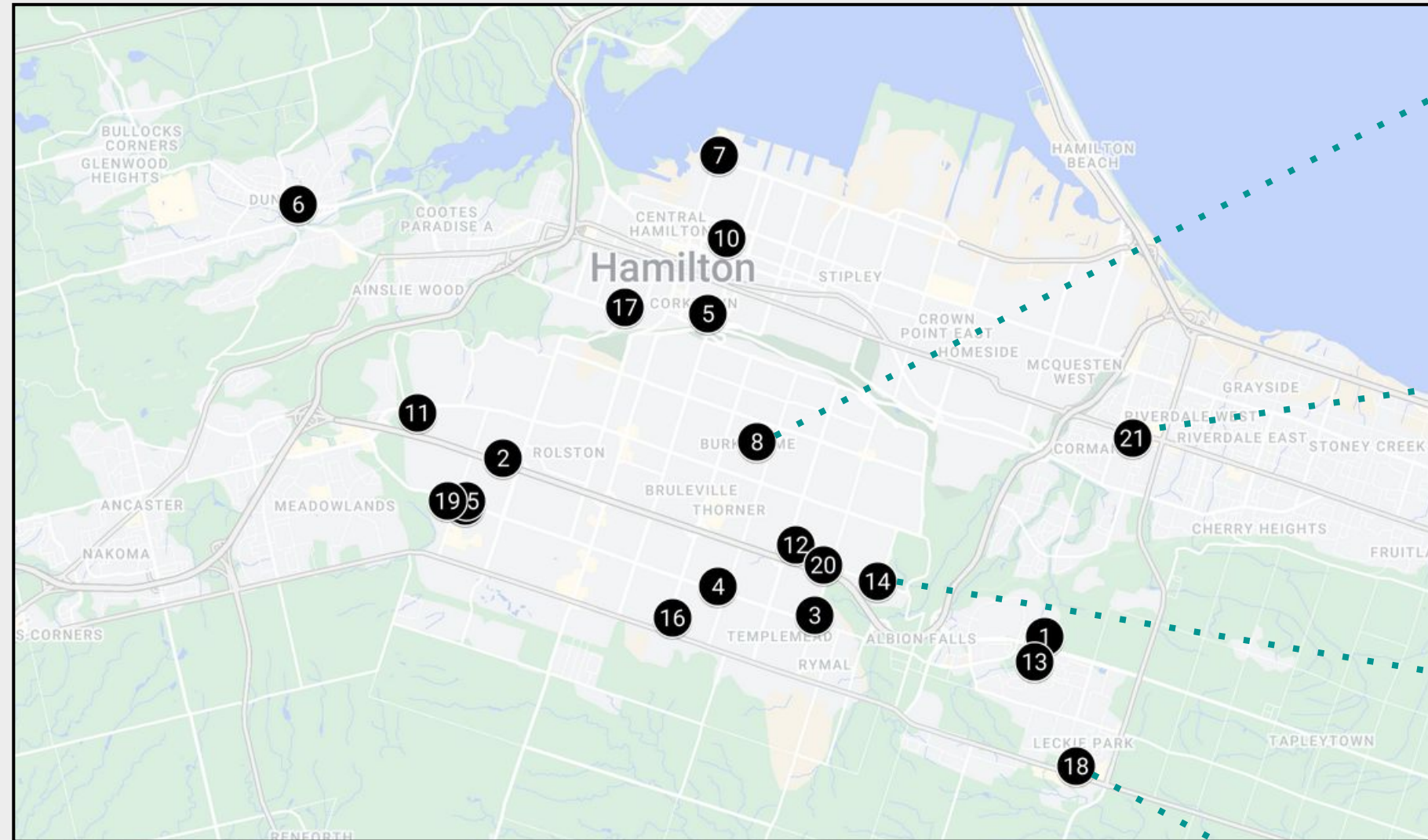
# Non-Profit Rental Co-ops: Key Benefits



# Non-Profit Rental Co-ops in Hamilton

## KEY FACTS

- 21 non-profit rental co-ops in Hamilton
- 1,200 units
- Mix of apartments and townhouses
- Most built in 1970s and '80s through federal CMHC funding
- Most receive Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) subsidies and are part of the City's social housing stock



1 Andes Heritage Co-op	8 Halam Park Co-op	15 Stone Church Co-op
2 Applegarth Co-op	9 Los Andes Co-op	16 Stoneworth Co-op
3 Applegrove Co-op	10 Meridian Co-op	17 Student Co-operative Residence Of Hamilton
4 Appleridge Co-op	11 Mountain City Co-op	18 Tabby Town Co-op
5 Corktown Co-op	12 Mountmuir Co-op	19 West Hills Co-op
6 Dundas Co-op	13 Red Hill Co-op	20 Winkleigh Co-op
7 Guise St Co-op	14 Southern Lights Co-op	21 Womens Community Co-op



**Halam Park Co-op**  
85 Halam Ave.  
102 units



**Women's Co-op**  
32 Clapham Rd.  
46 units



**Southern Lights Co-op**  
1365 Limeridge Rd. E.  
43 units



**Tabby Town Co-op**  
191 Candlewood Dr.  
78 units

# Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Is the purchase moving ahead?**
- 2. What is the condition of the building?**
- 3. How will the co-op be managed?**
- 4. Will City funding allow individual residents to profit?**
- 5. Could this model scale up and be used by tenant groups in other parts of Hamilton?**

# CAROLINE STREET CO-OP

Thank you for your time.

Keisha Chapman & Emily Power  
Caroline Street Tenant Association  
272 Caroline St. S., Hamilton  
carolinestreettenants@gmail.com



Submitted on Fri, 09/15/2023 - 14:15

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:


## Committee Requested

Committee  
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

## Requestor Information

Requestor Information  
Keisha Chapman and Emily Power  
272 Caroline St S Tenant Association  
272 Caroline St S  
Hamilton, Ontario. L8P3L9  
[carolinestreettenants@gmail.com](mailto:carolinestreettenants@gmail.com)  


Preferred Pronoun  
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request  
Respecting Housing Charge and Operating Subsidy for 272 Caroline St. S. Housing Co-operative Inc. (HSC23059) (Ward 2) (item 10.3 on today's agenda)

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
Yes

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
No

Submitted on Mon, 09/18/2023 - 14:47

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

### **Committee Requested**

Committee  
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

### **Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Chelsea Kirkby - Vice President of Strategic Initiatives  
YWCA Hamilton  
75 MacNab St. S  
Hamilton, Ontario. L8L3C1  
[ckirkby@ywcahamilton.org](mailto:ckirkby@ywcahamilton.org)  
905-522-9922

Preferred Pronoun  
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request  
11.1 - Gender-Based Safety Audit by Councillor Maureen Wilson

To discuss the scope, benefit and need, plus answer any questions about the Gender-Based Safety Audit.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
Yes

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
Yes



Submitted on Tue, 09/19/2023 - 14:26

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Committee Requested**

Committee  
Emergency & Community Services Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?  
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?  
No

**Requestor Information**

Requestor Information  
Karl Andrus  
HAMILTON COMMUNITY BENEFITS NETWORK



Preferred Pronoun  
he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request  
To support item 11.1 Motion to perform a Gender Based Safety Audit

Will you be requesting funds from the City?  
No








Will you be submitting a formal presentation?  
No

## The Emergency Food Strategic Planning Committee Delegation to The City of Hamilton

The Emergency Food Strategic Planning Committee is a collection of 16 local organizations that operate 23 Hunger-Relief programs (emergency food banks and hot meal programs) throughout the Greater Hamilton Area.



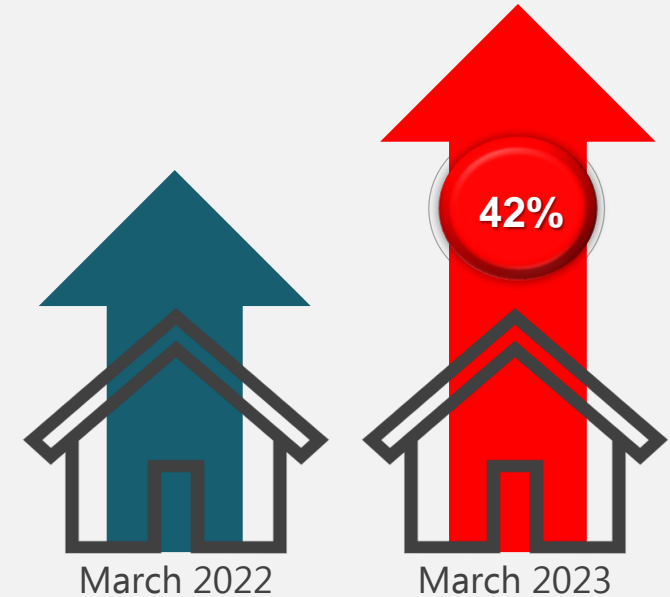
# Food Bank Visits: March 2023 vs March 2022

	 Household Visits	 People	 Children	 Seniors
 2023	<b>11,882</b>	<b>33,534</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>1,964</b>
 2022	<b>8,525</b>	<b>23,440</b>	<b>9,216</b>	<b>1,589</b>
 Increase	<b>39%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>24%</b>

## Vital Homelessness Prevention Supports

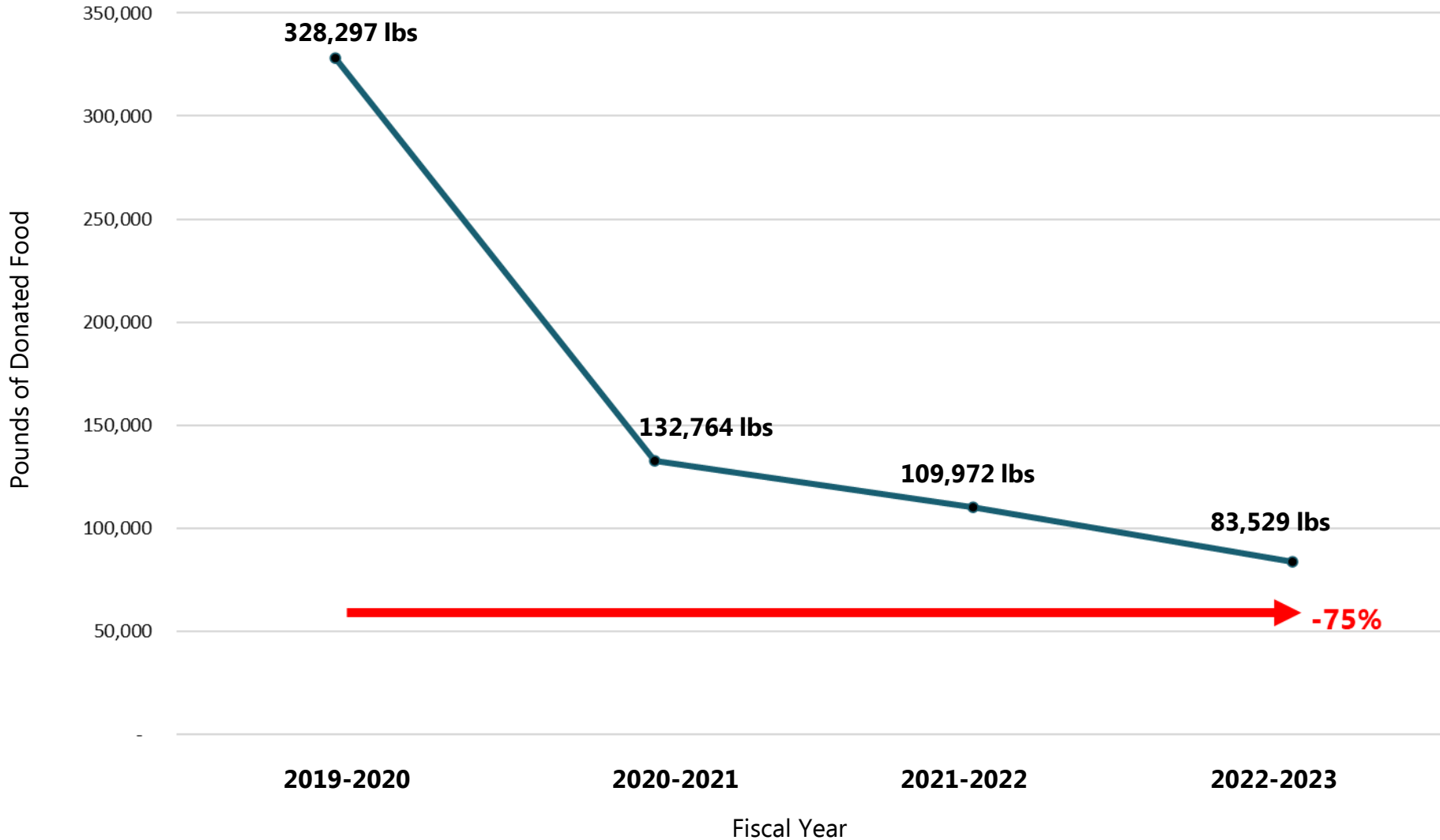
Every day there are 84 households that rely on emergency food banks to put food on their tables so they can pay their rent.

- In March 2022, there were **1,841** households **paying more than 50% of their total income on rent.**
- In March 2023, that number increased to **2,621** households, putting them at extreme risk of homelessness.



**If even 2% of the households supported through the emergency food system become homeless, there is nowhere for them to go.**

# Community Food Donations to Hamilton Food Share: 4-Year Comparison



## Since Covid:

The emergency food system has reported **60-80% decrease** in community food donations.

## Agency Operating Budgets: 2019-20 & 2022-23

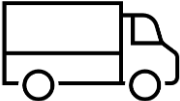

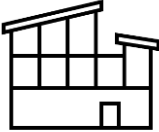
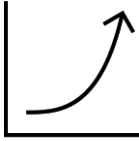
	2019-2020	2022-2023	Increase
<b>Flamborough Food Bank</b>	\$106,847	\$293,885	<b>175%</b>
<b>Neighbour2Neighbour</b>	\$519,074	\$602,421	<b>24%</b>
<b>Welcome Inn</b>	\$57,610	\$118,226	<b>105%</b>
<b>Hamilton Food Share</b>	\$2,251,000	\$3,284,000	<b>46%</b>

Everyone has had to pivot to purchasing food.

At Hamilton Food Share, food purchasing has grown by **624%**, from **\$193,326 in 2019** to **\$1,400,000 in 2023**.

# Agencies are having to pay to ensure capacity meets demand.

Areas impacted because of the increase:

Transportation	Staffing	Storage	Resources
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pickup and delivery of increased product amounts</li><li>• Fuel costs</li><li>• Vehicle maintenance</li></ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased staff to meet the need</li><li>• Wages &amp; Benefits</li><li>• Training</li><li>• Administrative costs</li></ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased storage to meet the need</li><li>• Maintenance and operational expenses</li></ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refrigerators &amp; freezer units</li><li>• Purchased food increase</li><li>• Hamper programs</li></ul>

# Request: **\$1.25M**

- Hamilton Food Share will hold the funding contract with the city, reporting annually on the disbursement and impact of the funding
- \$625,000 dedicated to food purchasing by Hamilton Food Share & Priority Food Program.
- Hamilton Food Share will act as the flow through, providing \$625,000 to agencies by way of grants to cover staffing and infrastructure expenses.





# SNOW ANGELS PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

Emergency and Community Services  
Committee Meeting  
September 21, 2023

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Emergency and Community Services Committee requested that staff consider the feasibility of a City contract and external contractors for snow removal options, and the options in the original report (#HSC23022) with a report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee.

# Program Background

- In 2005 By-law No. 03-296 (Snow & Ice)
- In 2005, the Snow Angels Program was approved by Council

# Program Details

## Current Service level:

1. Shovel the sidewalk to satisfy the by-law (down to the pavement, snow and ice cleared from edge to edge).
2. Clear the windrow.
3. Clear a pathway to main access point of the home (stairs and walkway).

All the above after a cumulative snowfall of 3 cms or more and cleared within 24 hours.

# Subsidy Program Highlights

- Consistent and sustainable model for service delivery
- All qualified residents have an equal opportunity to access the subsidy
- Removes risk from the City
- Residents who exhaust the subsidy before the end of the snow season could access other community-based programs

## Cost breakdown for Recommendation (a)

<b>Number of Residents</b>	<b>144</b>
Staffing required	0.5 Case Aide
Staffing costs	\$45,344
Program costs	\$65,966
Total	\$111,310

\*no net levy impact

# Program Challenges

- Lack of available volunteers
- Difficulty maintaining recipient-volunteer matches based on geography
- Inconsistent service due to injury or fatigue (especially as the winter season goes on)
- Snow removal is not guaranteed

## Community Snow Clearing Programs

Agency	Service level	Who removes the snow?
Snow Angels Canada* <a href="http://www.snowangelscanada.ca">www.snowangelscanada.ca</a>	Snow Removal Service	Volunteers
St. Joseph's Home Care	Referral Service	Private Contractors Volunteers
Flamborough Connects	Sidewalk, driveway, and path to door	Volunteers
Stoney Creek Seniors Outreach	Sidewalk, driveway, and path to door	Paid volunteers (12 active volunteers)



- [snowangelscanada.ca](http://snowangelscanada.ca)
- A self-serve website; *a community fueled tool to connect neighbours and their neighbourhood.*
- Those seeking snow removal assistance and those willing to volunteer to remove snow sign-up for free.
- Website matches those in need of assistance with those who are offering help.
- Formally adopted by other cities/municipalities such as Barrie, Caledon, Guelph, London and Newmarket as part of their snow removal service offering.

# Alternatives Summary Costing

Alternatives	144	250
<b>Alternative #2:</b> Subsidy for 250 residents	N/A	\$203,188
<b>Alternative #3:</b> City snow removal	\$1,790,792	\$3,223,329
<b>Alternative #4:</b> Procurement tendering of contract	\$346,085	\$536,885

# THANK YOU