

From: Gilles Bouchard

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 1:48 PM

To: Office of the Mayor

Cc: Johnson, Aidan; Farr, Jason; Green, Matthew; Merulla, Sam; Collins, Chad; Jackson, Tom; Skelly, Donna; Whitehead, Terry; Conley, Doug; Pearson, Maria; Johnson, Brenda; Ferguson, Lloyd; VanderBeek, Arlene; Pasuta, Robert; Partridge, Judi

Subject: 4-Sided Fence Proposal - City Of Hamilton

Dear Mayor Eisenburger and City of Hamilton Councillors:

This email is in regards to the new pool 4 sided fencing legislation that has been approved by the planning committee and is schedule to be voted on for adoption or dismissal at the next City meeting on April 13th, 2016.

My family and I are avid pool enthusiasts, we could not imagine having a home without a pool. The enjoyment of spending weekends at home vs leaving the region to go to a cottage in search of water activities does not appeal to me and my family. We would rather be at home spending the summer months relaxing and enjoying nature in the comfort of our own backyard right here in Hamilton - Wentworth.

This also allows us to dine and shop in our own neighbourhood stimulating the Hamilton economy vs growing the economy of cottage country in another region somewhere else.

The new legislation regarding pool enclosures is one that is unnecessary and in fact if approved will not save the lives of children drowning in pools. Children drown in pools due to improper supervision, not because there isn't a fence completely around the pool!

People entrusted with the task of watching children in a pool environment should NEVER LEAVE THE CHILDREN UNATTENDED, period! A pool is not a babysitter.

Having a fence around a pool as the bylaw is currently is the only legislation required. It works quite well. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on safety and awareness.

In today's world of bigger houses on smaller lots (trying to maximize homes available for sale as well as maximizing tax dollars generated) makes having a fence independently around a pool on 4 sides without using the home as part of the fence is unrealistic! In fact it is hard just to fit the pool on these small lots.

The pool industry in Hamilton and surrounding area is a vibrant one. Imposing this legislation will certainly make your constituents think twice about getting a pool. Again pools do not kill children, lack of proper supervision allows children to drown.

Do not allow the neglect and mistakes of a few penalize the enjoyment of many.

Gilles Bouchard