



May 2, 2016

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination (HOPE) wishes to congratulate and thank you for your recently announced anti-poverty strategy. Fifty million dollars over the next ten years for affordable housing and poverty reduction will be a most welcome addition to this city's efforts to improve the future of many of our residents. We are especially pleased with your desire to have these homes in mixed neighbourhoods.

For much too long, even when affordable housing has been available, the tendency has been to ghettoize families with the result that their access to resources whether education, transportation, shopping, healthcare, etc., is most often of poorer quality. The logical outcome is persistent poverty through generations.

We urge all councillors to vote yes on this motion. While we must work on ending poverty for all individuals and families, this is an important step toward making Hamilton the "Best Place to Raise a Child."

Sincerely

Deirdre Pike, Chair