

## The Commons

Worship Gatherings – Sundays at 6pm  
128 Hughson St. N. Hamilton, ON, L8R 1G6

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March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### To my fellow citizens and residents of Hamilton,

Thank you for allowing me to voice my support for the ***Protocol for Gender Identity and Gender Expression; Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Persons*** on behalf of The Commons, a Mennonite Church in downtown Hamilton.

It is in the person of Jesus that we find an active model of radical hospitality. Time and time again at our gatherings we read about the stories of Jesus making room at the table for people at the margins of his society.

As the pastor of The Commons, I see this same radical hospitality reflected in the spirit of this Protocol that recognizes right on page 1 *“that transgender and gender non-conforming persons constitute one of the most disadvantaged groups in our society”* and then begins to articulate ways to be more inclusive and equitable in our public structures, policies and spaces.

We are grateful to be part of this public dialog and thankful for everyone here, even if we find ourselves in disagreement. It is not our intent as a church to “other” anyone, and we ask your forgiveness if we have ever done so.

**Sincerely,**  
**Pastor Randell Neudorf**

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**The Commons** is committed to working together to creatively live out:  
**Justice, Hope, Beauty, Authenticity, Truth, Community, and Peace.**