

February 13, 2018

Mayor Eisenberger and City Councillors
Hamilton City Hall
2nd Floor – 71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

RE: Rental Licensing Discussion Paper

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and City Councillors,

The REALTORS® Association of Hamilton-Burlington (RAHB) supports the discussion paper, *Promoting Code Compliant, Affordable, Safe, Clean and Healthy Rental Housing*, presented by Brad Clark of Maple Leaf Strategies to the Planning Committee February 6, 2018.

The report clearly outlined how rental housing licensing has not provided the various desired outcomes in other jurisdictions. There is no reason to expect that following the same path would result in a different experience in Hamilton and, in fact, licensing would likely take affordable units out of the rental market.

The report also set out very clearly how the City of Hamilton could, by implementing the recommendations in the report, make it easier for homeowners to create secondary suites, ensure rental units are code-compliant and safe, and use by-laws already in force to remedy complaints about tenants. All this can be accomplished without licensing landlords or rental housing.

We encourage Council to ensure the staff report requested by the Planning Committee (February 6, 2018) is considered by the committee most appropriate to pursue a forward-looking, made-in-Hamilton solution to rental housing issues.

Yours truly,



George O'Neill
CEO
REALTORS® Association of Hamilton-Burlington

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