

**From:** sandra antoniani ·  
**Sent:** February-25-18 4:48 PM  
**To:** Morin, Lois  
**Subject:** Shifting Focus - photographic exhibit at AGH - Request for Hamilton Police Services Board involvement

Hello Ms. Morin,

I am writing to you to determine whether the Hamilton Police Services Board might be in a position to assist with a project that I am producing in conjunction with Mission Services. I have pasted below my communications to date with Deputy Chief Kinsella which includes a description of the project and my request from Hamilton Police. As you will see from the email trail, I am currently in communication with Police members about the possibility of involvement of an officer in the show itself.

My current challenge continues to be a funding shortage. I have reviewed the HPS business plan and I believe that this project may fit within the Community Engagement mandate described. As you will see below, the project will involve the volunteer time of about 40 Hamiltonians, and it will be displayed at the Art Gallery of Hamilton for 4 months later this year. Any guidance you can give me about who I might address this with at the Hamilton Police Services Board would be much appreciated.

I would be happy to come in to show a representative more detail about the show and to discuss how any participation from the Hamilton Police Services Board would be acknowledged.

thank you very much for your time  
Sandra Antoniani

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Daniel J. Kinsella <[dkinsella@hamiltonpolice.on.ca](mailto:dkinsella@hamiltonpolice.on.ca)>  
**Date:** Mon, Feb 19, 2018 at 10:40 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Shifting Focus - photographic exhibit at AGH - Request for HPS involvement  
**To:**

Good morning Sandra, I have had a chance to review your request and reach out to some of our members here at the HPS. As far as a request for a donation from the Service, unfortunately we do not have a budget for this type of donation and as a result we will not be able to provide support of this nature. There may be an opportunity for you to obtain some support through the Police Services Board. I would suggest that you reach out to the Board to see if that might be a funding option for you. They can be contacted through our HPS web site.

As far as officer participation goes, I have spoken to our Superintendent in Community Mobilization and our Corporate Communicator to see how we may participate in the photograph portion of your work. I will connect you with Supt, Greg Huss and Jackie Penman for potential participation in the exhibit portion of the show.

I wish you all the best with this endeavour and look forward to seeing the show.

Dan

Deputy Chief Dan Kinsella  
Community Policing  
Hamilton Police Service

Ph# 905-546-4701  
e-mail: [dkinsella@hamiltonpolice.on.ca](mailto:dkinsella@hamiltonpolice.on.ca)

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**sandra antoniani**

to Dan



Hi Dan

Thanks again for meeting with me a few months ago to discuss the exhibit that I am producing and the possibility of having the Hamilton Police service involved. I wanted to have the show further along before I got back to you, so that you might have some detailed information to share with others at the Service in considering my request. Let me know if you think that there is other information which would assist HPS in considering my requests. As per your suggestion, I've written the information so that it is descriptive for others at the Service who you'll need to share it with.

thank you  
Sandra

The following is a brief description of the show:

#### SHIFTING FOCUS - DRUG ADDICTION THROUGH A SONDER LENS:

Drug addiction ruins lives and kills people. This photographic exhibit showcases people living in our community whose lives have been altered by drug addiction and who are willing to share their story. Every person's life is complicated, but the lens through which we see drug addiction is very narrow. Shifting Focus offers a broader story about drug addiction, through the lenses of a dozen local photographers and accompanied by biographical text. Its intention is to provoke conversation and expand our understanding of an issue that affects so many of us.

I am working on this project in collaboration with Mission Services, who runs the Drug Treatment Court, of the Ontario Court of Justice in Hamilton. The Drug Treatment Court is a program which provides an opportunity for people who commit crimes as a result of drug addiction to have an opportunity to participate in treatment and counselling over a period of 18 months-2 years, as an alternative to jail. Participants attend the program 5 days per week, and engage in treatment, community service, nutrition/physical health programming, and much more.

The show will involve about 25 people who's lives have been affected by drug addiction. Some will be current addicts, some in treatment, and some will be members of our community who have overcome their addiction and moved on to success. The show will consist of photographs of the subjects, and be accompanied by some biographical text which will give the viewer some context in relation to the person's life. The aim will be to show each individual as who they are outside of their addiction.

The show will be on exhibit at the gallery and is a one time project, though it may tour more than one gallery over a period of about a year, and I hope to donate the exhibit to Mission Services to keep on permanent display in their building. The artists and writers are donating their time, as are the subjects.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING PRODUCTION OF THE SHOW AND REQUEST FOR INVOLVEMENT BY THE HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE:

My name is Sandra Antoniani. I am a lawyer, and a Hamilton resident. I am currently working on a project which will be a photographic exhibit, and which will be on display at the Art Gallery Of Hamilton, from September 2018 until January 2019. The exhibit will be hung in the community gallery. I am working there with curator Tor Lukasik-Foss. There will be an opening event on September 13, 2018, which will also be a fundraiser for Mission Services.

The show is a collaboration between myself and a journalist/crime reporter/lawyer, and about a dozen local photographers. The participants are all local - both the 25 subjects who will be photographed, and the artists. In total, nearly 40 community residents will be involved in the creation of this project.

I am writing now to ask that the Hamilton Police Service consider being involved in the show in 2 ways:

1. by permitting a uniformed police officer pose with one of the subjects, who is an artist. The artist does face painting, and it would be terrific to have a photograph of him painting the face of one of our officers. Given the current impact of the issue of drug addiction, I believe that it would send the Hamilton community a strong message that the Police Service is engaged in the issue and is concerned, and that participation will promote a positive image of the relationship between Hamilton Police and the people it serves. It is entirely my intention to produce a photograph that honours the Service and does not diminish or embarrass it in any way. I can provide examples of the artist's work. The photograph would be taken by a young, well respected Hamilton photographer - Peter Michael Wilson. In addition, I would send you a copy of the photo before using it in the show in order to obtain the express consent of the Service and agree not to use it if the image is not to the satisfaction of the Hamilton Police Service. Our idea is that the photograph be taken outdoors, on a Hamilton street, with the artist/officer and several citizen onlookers close by, and that it portray a positive/healthy relationship between our police officers and Hamilton citizens.

2. I respectfully request that the Service consider a donation of \$5,000 to cover the cost of printing the photographs (the whole cost of the show will be over \$20,000 - framing and glass - but \$5,000 would cover the printing costs) The funds would be paid to Mission Services, with whom I am working on this effort. All of the show participants - photographers, writers and photo subjects - are volunteering their time. The costs of the show are entirely in relation to printing, framing and hanging the photographs.

Any donation from the service would be fully credited in any promotional material, via a printed framed plaque at the show itself, and through a mention at the opening event on September 13, 2018. I expect that local media will attend and cover the show and the opening, and as the producer and spokesperson, I intend to credit all of the community organizations who will have participated to make the show possible.

I am producing this show with the input and assistance of Mission Services, with whom I work closely in their capacity as the primary service provider for the Hamilton Drug Treatment Court (see below). In respect of this photographic exhibit, I have the assistance and cooperation of Carol Cowan, Wendy Kennelly and Daniel Moore at Mission Services.

thank you for your consideration of these requests

Sincerely,

Sandra Antoniani  
cell 289-244-1181  
office 905-525-7188

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