

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF M O T I O N

Healthy & Safe Communities Committee

DATE: June 11, 2018

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MERULLA

One Time Funding for Hamilton's Emergency Shelter System

WHEREAS, a delegation from the Good Shepherd Centres on behalf of Hamilton's Emergency Shelters presented at the June 11, 2018 Healthy and Safe Communities Committee;

WHEREAS, Hamilton's Emergency Shelters are currently block funded based on the number of beds at each facility, and there has been no cost of living increase in funding to the Emergency Shelters since April 1, 2014;

WHEREAS, the number of unique individuals accessing Hamilton's emergency shelters has decreased since 2010 but the occupancy rate has increased;

WHEREAS, individuals are staying in Hamilton's emergency shelters longer and the average number of nights in shelter is increasing;

WHEREAS, there has been an increase of asylum seekers in the Emergency shelters, particularly in the Family Shelter where 50% of people are refugees or refugee claimants (Asylum seekers) and it is anticipated that this number of people will increase;

WHEREAS, the current provincially funded CHPI funding allocation for Hamilton is \$19,455,174. The City of Hamilton has not had a significant increase in CHPI funding since its inception in 2013. The Province has confirmed an annual increase of \$190K per year until 2020. This is less than a 1% annual increase to support all 5 service categories of which emergency shelters is one; and,

WHEREAS, in April 2009 Hamilton City Council approved the Blueprint for Emergency Shelter services, which seeks to develop a sustainable system to better support homeless people as they move to permanent housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Mayor and Council correspond with the Provincial and Federal Governments requesting additional funds to support the current financial pressures in the Emergency Shelter system attributed to the minimal increase in provincial funding over the past several years, increased complexity of mental health and addiction issues of people in the shelters as well as the influx of asylum seekers into the Hamilton Emergency Shelter system over the past several months.

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M O T I O N

Healthy & Safe Communities Committee

DATE: June 11, 2018

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MERULLA

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

That the Rules of Order be waived to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting One Time Funding for Hamilton's Emergency Shelter System.

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SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

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