

March 18, 2019

Dear Mayor Eisenberger & Hamilton City Councillors,

Since its inception in 1845, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce has served as the definitive voice of local business. Throughout its history, the Chamber has played an important role in advocating for policies that enhance the social and economic prosperity of our city.

Over the years, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce and the City of Hamilton have maintained a constructive dialogue to address the concerns of our 1,000 members and the wider business community. Under this capacity, we thank the City's Business Development Consultant, Debbie Spence, for seeking our input on cultivating our local creative industries in Hamilton.

This letter is meant to provide our full support behind the Creative Industries Sector Profile Report before the General Issues Committee on March 20th, 2019. In particular, the Chamber encourages the City to host a creative industries forum event in 2020.

With approximately 2,488 businesses in Hamilton included in the creative industries sector, 11% of Hamilton's total labour force (29,790 persons) contribute directly or indirectly to the production of goods and services in the creative industries. Fostering this already prominent industry will enhance the city's economy, cultural landscape and reputation. By hosting a forum, we would draw attention to local opportunities, allow further collaboration within the sector and offer tailored guidance for creative businesses.

As such, the Chamber encourages the City to host a creative industries forum in 2020 and we look forward to providing input and support in the preparation, execution and aftermath of the event. Additionally, the Chamber will continue collaboration efforts and dialogue with the City about how best to support this important sector.

The Chamber is pleased to continue to facilitate a constructive dialogue on important municipal issues that impact our members and our economy. Thank you for your consideration.

With kind regards,



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