

Added Item 10.1.g

Description/Rationale for a Community Safety Working Group:

- The City of Hamilton frequently has one of the highest reported rates of hate crimes;
- Weekly rallies at City Hall and the events preceding, at, and following Hamilton Pride have resulted in discussion regarding hate and hate crimes by Hamilton City Council;
- The alleged presence of a Hamilton Police Services officer from the Hate Crimes and Extremism Unit at a community meeting held by the LGBTQ Advisory Committee has resulted in increased mistrust and feeling unsafe amount members of marginalized communities;
- The City of Hamilton has proposed a Hate Incidence Prevention Policy, that amping many things increases surveillance for actions on city grounds

All of this to say how to respond to “hate” and fascism is becoming and increasingly prevalent conversation at Hamilton City council. While our primary function is to advise on accessibility, aspects of our mandate require to consider the well being and needs of disability community issues. Given that marginalized communities are the most impacted by these conversations we should be at the table.

I am proposing a working group to look at community safety so members of this committee and public members who wish to attend may have an avenue to address concerns in regards to safety.