

Morin, Lois

From: Frances Murray
Sent: August-11-19 5:00 PM
To: Eisenberger, Fred; Jackson, Tom; Morin, Lois
Subject: Police Conduct Concerns - Saturday, August 10

This email is intended as a communication to the Hamilton Police Services Board. Unfortunately, all email addresses do not appear to be publicly available.

I have a deep concern with the events on Saturday, August 10 at the forecourt of City Hall during the anti-hate rally. Normally I attend the rally each Saturday, but had other obligations that day. My information comes from members of the community who posted to social media.

My concerns are:

1. Why was a school bus allowed to park on the sidewalk, endangering rally goers as it mounted the sidewalk and the driver was not arrested or ticketed?
2. Why was a peaceful anti-hate protestor arrested after being accosted by those who wear yellow vests and yell hateful rhetoric?

Hamilton Police Services has always had my full support. I served on my neighbourhood association for many years and appreciated the work of our crime managers and Superintendent's Advisory Committee. However, recent events in our city have not shown a fair and balanced approach to policing in the community. It seems the police are targeting anti-fascists, despite evidence of violence continually committed by alt-right, neo-Nazis, not just here, but world-wide. The power imbalance between police and citizens has become alarming.

I know this issue is larger than the current situation in Hamilton. However, it seems we are asked for more and more funding for the police, and there is absolutely no accountability for police conduct within the community. Community members do not seem to be entitled to any information about any investigation that goes on when it is HPS itself that is under investigation.

I am requesting a full and public investigation of the events at Pride in June 2019 and the arrests of Cedar Hopperton and "Woody" at City Hall anti-hate rallies.

This request is to the council and citizen members of the HPS board.

Sincerely,

Frances Murray

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