

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Calls to Defund & Abolish the Police in Hamilton

**From:** Xavier Michaud

**Sent:** August 11, 2020 5:58 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Calls to Defund & Abolish the Police in Hamilton

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

With the current calls to defund and abolish the police department, I would like my objection to these measures to be heard. While I support calls for transparency, accountability and review of police actions and policies, I cannot in good conscience accept the crippling or dissolution of this city's law enforcement. Such demands are not in either the short-, or long-term, interest of law-abiding citizens and residents of this city. It would ultimately only benefit those with criminality on their mind.

Instead of cutting funding to the police force, I support increases in funding for:

- Better screening of police cadets to root out those ill-equipped to serve the community fairly
- Increased training for both peaceful and combative interactions with the public
- Widespread use of bodycams and other accountability tools
- The formation of specialized taskforce to oversee wellness checks
- Increase statistical analysis of perpetrator and victim demographics to better understand the root cause of crime and police-civilian interactions

Thank you for you time and attention,

**Dr Xavier D. Michaud, PhD,**