

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Mandatory masks

From: Trish S

Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 8:08 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Fw: Mandatory masks

Dear Clerk

Please find below correspondence I sent last week for consideration at tonight's meeting.

Additionally, in light of the recent events, I would prefer to see masks recommended, but not made mandatory. This give those who are unable to wear a mask, for whatever reason, less fear when out in public. In my shopping experience, I've been able to social distance as I ensure I shop in non peak times and from what I've read, social distancing is still the best option for keeping both parties safe. Virus's are so small, they can penetrate a mask and, again in my experience, those who wear a mask do not adhere to social distancing rules, feeling they are protected.

Again, I ask that you not include places of worship, but allow them to follow the guidelines that were laid out. We finally were able to worship again in our church building, but you're taking that away by implementing masks.

The job of the council is to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all it's constituents, not feed the fear.

Trish Smink

From: Trish S

Sent: July 11, 2020 8:41 AM

To: mayor@hamilton.ca <mayor@hamilton.ca>; esther.pauls@hamilton.ca <esther.pauls@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Mandatory masks

Mayor Fred and Esther,

It was with great disappointment that I read that that Board of Health voted in favour of mandatory masks (Thank you Esther for voting against and opting for education, realizing that we are capable adults). I'm appealing to you to vote contrary to that at your meeting.

During the peak of the virus in our area, masks were not required at the grocery store. Now, even with all the other regulations in place and with the numbers quite minimal, they will be?? What rationale? All the reports I read from practicing medical professionals say that the virus is not contracted while shopping, but while socializing (sustained close contact).

And why include churches? Can you not let them follow the guidelines? Our church has been doing a fantastic job and now I won't be able to worship as I can't wear a mask.

I'm very disappointed to be living in Hamilton right now. The guidelines were clear: Wear a mask when you can't social distance, wash your hands, don't touch your face - all easy to do to protect those around us (and ourselves).

Trish Smink