

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Covid-19 mandatory mask vote

From: Derek Brown

Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 4:35 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Fw: Covid-19 mandatory mask vote

Please consider the following letter to the mayor for consideration of city council ahead of the vote planned on July 17th.

Mr. Eisenberger,

I urge you to delay the vote on the mandatory mask law for Hamilton. Covid-19 continues to wane in Hamilton and the timing does not appear correct to enact a mandatory law.

From the Hamilton Spectators own website we can see the following:

44 people have died of Covid in Hamilton.

10 of those people were infected from the community. The rest lived in some sort of care residence.

Of those 10 three were in their 60's, while the rest were over 80.

The last death from Covid in Hamilton occurred on June 23rd. Nearly one month ago.

There are less than 5 people in Hamilton hospitals with Covid and none are in intensive care.

Any reasonable assessment shows that this disease is being eradicated in Hamilton without the need for mandatory masks. Further, forcing nearly every citizen regardless of age to wear masks when the risk to anyone under the age of 60 is so miniscule cannot be considered logical. This disease is already on the decline and we are in the middle of the hottest summer months where diseases like this are unlikely to proliferate. It is clear that more time is needed to observe the lessening impact of this disease. It would be the wise thing to delay the vote and consider if the measures already put in place by leadership will resolve the situation.

It should be a grave undertaking for a government to consider making a mandatory policy for all of its citizens. This disease, which is resolving itself because of the diligent work of the citizens of Hamilton, does not rise to

that level. And making a policy that is right for Hamilton and its citizens is the only thing that is important, regardless of what is happening in the outside world.

In conclusion I have a single question: If the bar is set at this low level to enact a mandatory law for every citizen then under what criteria could this law possibly be retracted in the future?

Please – let Hamilton be an example for other communities that leadership and participation work, force is not necessary.

Derek Brown

Citizen