

Pilon, Janet

Subject: URGENT: Reconsider investigation of Cameron Kroetsch

From: Haley Reap

Sent: September 28, 2020 8:14 PM

To: Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Partridge, Judi <Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Danko, John-Paul <John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca>; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: URGENT: Reconsider investigation of Cameron Kroetsch

Dear Mayor Eisenberger, Members of City Council, and City Clerk:

I am writing to express my deep concern and frustration with the recent proposed removal of Cameron Kroetsch from the Hamilton LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee over his comments regarding the failure of the Hamilton Police to effectively protect the attendees of the 2019 Pride Festival.

I am deeply disappointed (although, it has to be said, unsurprised) that Council continues to disregard and censor Hamilton's 2-Spirit and LGBTQ+ community. I question council's decision to prioritize the investigation and removal of an engaged citizen volunteer over the 14 existing complaints against Council. Certainly, especially during a pandemic, complaints against paid public servants should take priority. Especially considering the fact that the advisory committees were suspended for much of this year, I fail to see how Mr. Kroetsch's investigation and removal can be reasonably considered a top priority.

Council's continued dismissal of 2-Spirit and LGBTQ+ voices has created, and contributes to a civic environment in which we feel unsafe to engage, and which emboldens hateful action against our community. This is just the latest in a saga of casual suppression. I urge you to reflect on this. Do not take this lightly. We are asking you to listen. Please stop antagonizing us. We belong here too.

Sincerely,

Haley Reap
They/them
Ward 3