Pilon, Janet 4.12 (s)

**Subject:** Abuse of the office of the Integrity Commissioner

From: sarah Kovacs

Date: September 29, 2020 at 10:08:44 EDT

To: Jason Farr < <u>Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca</u>>, <u>mayor@hamilton.ca</u>

Cc: tmoro@thespec.com

**Subject: Abuse of the office of the Integrity Commissioner** 

Jason,

As a resident of Ward 2 in Hamilton and your constituent I had to reach out to say that I am disgusted at council's abuse of the office of the integrity commissioner in bringing a complaint against Cameron Kroetsch. The IC's office is meant to investigate complaints against council. That you are using it to punish a resident, and one who volunteers for the community is an egregious abuse of power.

Cameron is an outspoken member a minority community with a position leading a City council advisory committee. It is his job to speak out against council when their actions hurt people in the LBGTQ community. That you would use this process against him sends the message that council is willing to punish the least powerful in our community when they speak out against the most powerful in our community.

Is that really the message you want to send the constituents of ward 2 and the city at large? That you stood up against one person whose duty it is to help council improve? Is this an accomplishment that members of council will stand behind when campaigning for their seats in 2022?

You are bullies. You are using your power against us. Your job is to act with integrity when representing us and to protect us. But watching you throw the full weight of an Integrity Commissioner against one of your own constituents I'm left wondering, who will protect us from you?

From Sarah Kovacs Ward 2 resident Hamilton Ontario