

CITY OF HAMILTON NOTICE OF MOTION

Emergency and Community Services: December 10, 2020

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR N. NANN

Mitigating Financial Impacts of the Provincial Rent Freeze on Social Housing Providers

WHEREAS, the *Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act, 2020* received Royal Assent on October 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, The Act amends the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA)* and Sections of the *Housing Services Act (HSA)* to freeze residential rent increases in 2021;

WHEREAS, the rent freeze may be beneficial to residential tenants who require relief from increasing rental costs during the Covid-19 Pandemic;

WHEREAS, Social Housing providers face ongoing challenges relating capital repairs backlogs and increased costs due to the pandemic which are already straining their budgets; and

WHEREAS, the rent freeze is estimated to result in \$1.68 M of reduced revenue in 2021 and \$18,25 M of reduced revenue over 10 years for Hamilton's Social Housing Providers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Mayor, on behalf of City Council, write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting:

- (i) Provincial funding for Hamilton's Social Housing Providers to mitigate the negative financial impact of the provincial rent freeze in place from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021; and
- (ii) The Province to introduce regulations to address the long-term impact of lost revenue by allowing Social Housing Providers to recoup the lost revenue funding in subsequent years.