

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Urging a public meeting with DefundHPS protesters

From: Vilma Rossi

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Date: November 29, 2020 at 6:38:58 PM EST

To: mayor@hamilton.ca

Dear Mr. Eisenberger:

I am writing in solidarity with the DefundHPS protesters who have been camped outside City Hall for almost one week. They have weathered the cold and the rain to draw attention to the urgent need for immediate action to ensure that every single person in the City of Hamilton - and across the country - is immediately housed. This is the bottomline for respecting the human rights and dignity of all members of our communities.

From the comfort and safety of my home (something that every single person should be entitled to!), I have followed DefundHPS on twitter. Recognizing the need to keep the Hamilton community informed of their demands and of their plans, the protesters have issued regular updates for all in the community to see. Their transparency and accountability deserves to be met in kind by you as the Mayor of the City of Hamilton. To that end, I am respectfully asking you to meet with the DefundHPS protesters in a manner that is not behind closed doors; rather, one that can be live streamed to the broader Hamilton community.

The crisis that the DefundHPS protesters are drawing attention to is a matter of public concern. Police funding is a matter of public concern. The fact that there are people forced to live on the streets is a matter of public urgency. Any meeting to discuss these issues requires an immediate publicly-accessible meeting.

Respectfully,

Vilma Rossi
Ward One Resident