

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Recent Defund The Police Action

From: **Sarah Perkins**

Date: Mon, Nov 30, 2020 at 12:37 PM

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To: <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>

Dear Councillor Nann,

I am writing firstly to thank you for your support of the recent Defund The Police action in support of affordable housing in City Hall's forecourt. Secondly I am writing because this battle is clearly far from over. The response from the City, and particularly the Mayor's Office, has been shockingly flippant and lacking in compassion.

Citizens from all classes in Hamilton came together to support some of Hamilton's most vulnerable through direct action, donating time, money, and supplies to help those that our Mayor doesn't deem fit for a dignified and safe existence. This may sound harsh or dramatic, but when volunteers providing the most basic of needs in an organized, pandemic-safe way are ticketed and houseless peoples' only shelter and belongings are trashed, it begs the question of who the "bad guys" are.

The City of Hamilton shamefully used its by-law enforcement officers to violate our cause again, without bringing out any effort of immediate solution. People will be without shelter again tonight if Hamiltonian volunteers aren't there to pick up the pieces, and they risk being ticketed for doing so.

I implore you to please keep up this fight; It is not going away and neither are we. Please share this letter with your colleagues and fellow counselors. I am a taxpayer, health care professional, business and homeowner, caring neighbour, and proud Hamiltonian. I want the best for this city, all of us together.

In solidarity,
Sarah Perkins, OMP, M.OMSC, B.Sc Hons B.TOX