

From: Charlie Chiarelli <charlie@ccproduce.ca>

Sent: January 20, 2021 10:48 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: To be read at Thursday's GIC Meeting

To the Chair and Members of the General Issues Committee,

I'm not sure I can effectively express how devastating the Covid Pandemic has been to small business, including my own at the Hamilton Farmers' Market.

The Federal and Provincial Governments have recognized the peril we are facing and have instituted relief measures to support us. At issue here, the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program (CECRA).

The HFM vendors cannot qualify for CECRA for the months of April through September 2020, because we are housed in a city run facility.

We are commercial tenants. We pay rent. We are small businesses. We have suffered along side all other Hamilton small businesses. But we cannot access the relief designed to help us, because of who our landlord is. This is devastating to us, and leaves us at a disadvantage to those around us.

We are asking you, to work with our board to come to a solution that will provide the equivalent of the CECRA relief to the market vendors for those 6 months.

Thank you,

Charlie Chiarelli
CC Produce