



April 20, 2021

**RE: Item 10.1 - Tenant Defence Fund - April 22nd Meeting of the City of Hamilton
Emergency & Community Services Committee**

To the members of the City of Hamilton Emergency & Community Services Committee,

Please accept this written delegation from Environment Hamilton regarding Item 10.1 on the Committee's April 22nd agenda - the staff report on a **Tenant Defence Fund**. Through the work that we do, Environment Hamilton strives to build a sustainable, climate resilient, inclusive Hamilton. To this end, we stand in solidarity with Acorn Hamilton and the work they are doing to advocate for more protection for tenants facing 'renovictions'.

Building a climate resilient, inclusive city requires developing and implementing policies to ensure that every Hamiltonian is safely housed. To this end, we support ACORN Hamilton's calls for the City of Hamilton to do the following:

- Ensure the city investigates all municipal tools and powers to restrict renovictions
- Expand the Tenant Defence Fund but do so with proper and thorough consultation with relevant local organizations including ACORN Hamilton and the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic.
- Provide clarity regarding what a 'proactive tenant education program' will look like and consider the detailed recommendations from ACORN regarding circumstances when the program should be implemented.
- Undertake a thorough study of the feasibility of a city-wide landlord licensing program as a means to restricting renovictions and ensuring rental housing is kept in good repair.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. M. Lukasik".

Lynda Lukasik, PhD
Executive Director
Environment Hamilton