



April 21st 2021

RE: Renoviction, Emergency and Community Services Committee

My name is Elizabeth Ellis, I am co-chair of Hamilton ACORN's East Hamilton chapter and a tenant in Ward 4.

A developer called Malleum bought my apartment building in 2018 at . Repairs, cleaning of the common areas, and pest treatment stopped. The new company made it hard to pay rent. Initially they told us that they had no plans to get rid of us. But in the fall they were approaching tenants door to door with money offers to move. I said no for as long as I could. But they texted me, knocked on my door, mentioned it during any unit inspections. They caught me on a bad day and I said yes and signed away my apartment. They gave me \$2000. It was almost impossible to find a new place, finally found one last week before I had to move.

My new apartment is more expensive and in a basement with no windows and I have to have a roommate. I am working now full time as a Personal Support Worker but after disclosing the \$2000 my Ontario Works got clawbacked. I had to go months without income in 2019.

It's been difficult to watch the same company do the same thing at other buildings in Hamilton.

For example at 540 King St East, 36 households were placed. Rent went from \$825 for one bedroom in 2018 to \$1,395 in 2021 for the entire building.

I join with other ACORN members across the city asking the City of Hamilton to protect tenants from renoviction and substandard housing.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ellis