



CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

To:	Emergency and Community Services Committee
From:	LGBTQ Advisory Committee <div style="text-align: right;">_____ Cameron Kroetsch, Chair</div>
Date:	September 21, 2021
Re:	Recommendations from the Community Conversation

Recommendations

1. That the City of Hamilton implement the following recommendations, as brought to the LGBTQ Advisory Committee (LGBTQAC) from members of Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities from across the city, at its June 15, 2021 Community Conversation -
 - a. Locate, build, or otherwise procure a safe space for the direct use and benefit of Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities and the organizations that support them
 - b. Provide direct and ample funding to programming for a wide variety of organizations that directly support Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities

- c. Implement a municipal framework, generated by and accountable to City Council, to take action on the following immediately -
- i. Put an end to carding and racial profiling
 - ii. Ban the surveillance of community activists
 - iii. Support the safe use and safe injection of drugs in the City's shelter spaces
 - iv. Prioritize a dramatic increase in affordable housing provided or supported by the City of Hamilton
 - v. Prioritize a dramatic increase in the stock of Rent Geared to Income (RGI) housing provided or supported by CityHousing Hamilton, and other social housing providers
 - vi. Place a city-wide moratorium on evictions for at least another 18 months to allow tenants to continue to adjust and respond to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic
 - vii. Develop and fund a plan to provide targeted social services to members of Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities including food, legal support, mental health support, and education
 - viii. Create a Strategic Manager position that is responsive to the needs of Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities and is connected to social service supports
 - ix. Respond to the recommendations outlined in Scott Bergman's report entitled "Pride in Hamilton" commissioned by the Hamilton Police Services Board

Background

The LGBTQAC invited members of Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities to be part of a Community Conversation on June 15, 2021. These were the priorities outlined by those community members. As promised, the Committee is forwarding them to City Council and asking that they adopt them.

We have done our best to remove the recommendations from this report, even those that were discussed at the Community Conversation, that have already been directly voted on during this term of Council. If we have included something that has already been discussed, we apologize for the oversight.

Issues that were brought up by participants that did not form part of the list of recommendations above, because they have already been considered by Council, involved police budgets, landlord licensing, and encampment evictions.

It is our understanding that while some of these issues have been discussed broadly that they have not been voted on based on the terms outlined in this Citizen Committee Report.

Analysis / Rationale

The LGBTQAC recognizes that some of these recommendations may overlap those outlined in the Hate Prevention & Mitigation Initiative Recommendations Report commissioned by the City of Hamilton and submitted by Sage Solutions.

While members of the Committee have read the Final Report, the LGBTQAC did not undertake to cross-reference the entire report and the Committee submits this report independently. We did, however, delay submitting our recommendations pending the report by Sage Solutions as we recognized that some of the items would already have been approved by Council.