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**From:** Ashley Daniels  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2020 4:37 PM  
**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)  
**Subject:** RE: Commonwealth Games- written delegation for Aug. 10 meeting

Mayor and Members of Council:

I am writing to you today to ask that you vote against hosting the Commonwealth Games in Hamilton.

Whenever a city hosts a Games like this, there are promises of tourist money, infrastructure, and improved housing stock made to the citizens.

It rarely ends up that way. [[1](#); [2](#); [3](#)]

Hamilton is [already a tourist destination](#). We have a CFL team, a thriving arts scene, and more natural beauty than you can shake a dozen sticks at.

Hamilton is a fantastic place to visit, work, and live. Mostly.

Hamilton is also a city with a [homelessness crisis](#). The COVID-19 pandemic is only [making it worse](#). Hamilton is a city with an [affordable housing crisis](#). Hamilton is a city with [clearly segregated public health outcomes](#) along class and economic lines.

The Commonwealth Games will cost this city [upwards of \\$1,000,000,000](#). A billion dollars.

Right now, we have human beings [living in tents](#) in this city (if they're lucky). You can host some exciting races and sports events in our city, or you can make it so no-one freezes to death in Hamilton come winter. You can use this money to have fun, or to save lives. It's a pretty simple calculus, depending on one's notion of the value of a human life.

We could put Hamilton on the map (aside from being the 9th largest city in the country, with all the attractions and beauty mentioned above) with a one-time sporting event. Or we can put Hamilton on the world's radar and in the history books as a city that chose to end homelessness and lift up all residents. Let's put that billion dollars to good use, and provide housing first.

Do not support the Commonwealth Games. Support lifting up Hamiltonians and letting us all live with the dignity we deserve.

Ashley Daniels, MEd, OCT