

Bates, Tamara

Subject: FW: Current Living Conditions at the Cathedral Women's Shelters**From:** Zoë Kazakos <**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2022 3:21 PM**To:** tmcfadzzean@gsch.ca; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca**Subject:** Current Living Conditions at the Cathedral Women's Shelters

Hello, my name is Zoe Kazakos, and I am very very concerned, outraged and frustrated at the current living situation at the Cathedral women's shelters in downtown Hamilton. I am e-mailing to echo the demands of residents at Cathedral shelter and the Hamilton Encampment Support Network for the immediate redress of the dangerous and inhumane living conditions.

It is clear, based on countless testimony that Good Shepherd services are not able to maintain proper safe and healthy shelter conditions. We call on Good Shepherd services to work in conjunction with other social services and supports to improve the conditions within the Cathedral Shelter.

We call on the City of Hamilton and Good Shepherd services to guarantee access to clean and safe drinking water for all residents. For guaranteed dietary considerations, reflecting the different health needs of shelter residents. To have clear and standardized fire safety plans, including fire and emergency protocols that are posted and respected.

Together the city and Good Shepherd must remove any and all disturbed asbestos, pests and airborne illnesses like mold and mildew.

We know first hand what happens when residents are not protected, as we have witnessed countless deaths and prolonged illness due to negligence and lack of safety protocols throughout this pandemic. Good Shepherd Hamilton has allowed a bad situation to get worse, either from laziness, lack of resources or what have you - but this is not an excuse. This must be rectified. The people of Hamilton must be protected, and offered safe living conditions. There is no excuse for this blatant disregard of human life.

I look forward to hearing back from you, to discover what steps are being taken and when they go into effect.

Sincerely,
Zoe Kazakos