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From: Mary Love [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, August 5, 2022 11:54 AM  
To: [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

Subject: Hamilton Chapter of the Council of Canadians written submission for August 8 Climate Plan meeting

The Hamilton Chapter of the Council of Canadians urges the City to hold every decision they have to make up to a climate justice lens. We also urge, guided by our core concerns of People Planet and Democracy, that this responsibility to consider the climate justice ramifications of every decision is somehow enshrined in your daily log, becomes part of Council's DNA, and those who administer City Hall would have a duty to say Hold On! You forgot to consider climate justice and equity here!

We also call on you to invite diverse voices into these discussions. Your staff may be trained experts, but it's unlikely they have lived experience of coping with temperatures of 30 degrees that feel like 35 without adequate air circulation or of having to trade items for bus tickets in order to get to appointments or to try for a job, and so many other of the struggles poor people in our town go through because the minimum wage is so meagre, let alone the cruel pittance of so-called social assistance. Your decisions can't promote equity if your advice lacks the means to do so.

One of the most vital things the City can do right away with its climate plan is to make transit free for all. Studies show that the middle classes support programs more wholeheartedly when they are included in them. Also, we need to encourage those who own vehicles to use them less often and transit more: making transit free even for those with adequate incomes spares them the hassle of having to keep Presto cards loaded or exact change on hand, and it will make life much less stressful and more expansive for those whose income is inadequate, because they will be able to go new places and seek out free entertainment and green spaces.

The Hamilton Chapter would like to see even more focus on using solar power in our city. There's many exciting projects in Alberta, California and other parts of the world to draw from which include exploring the challenge of storing solar energy.

And we don't approve of Enbridge being at the table! This company is in the process of desecrating the headwaters of the Mississippi River, and has threatened the Beverly Swamp in our own area as well. Vested interests already have huge lobbying privileges; they shouldn't be allowed more influence as their goal is not to preserve the natural world and the seven generations, but will only and always be expansion till their last pipeline gets vetoed.

We are encouraged at the scope of your plan, and hope you will take our suggestions to heart for the sake of all people in Hamilton, our fragile and ecologically significant part of the planet, and our battered democracy which needs serious strengthening!

Yours truly,

Mary Love

Council of Canadians Hamilton Chapter secretary

Sent from my iPhone