

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Request by resident

From: Melanie Grillo

Date: 2023-06-19 7:25 a.m. (GMT-05:00)

To: [mayor@hamilton.ca](mailto:mayor@hamilton.ca)

Cc: [ward1@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward1@hamilton.ca), [ward2@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward2@hamilton.ca), [ward3@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward3@hamilton.ca), [ward4@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward4@hamilton.ca), [Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca](mailto:Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca), [tom.jackson@hamilton.ca](mailto:tom.jackson@hamilton.ca), [esther.pauls@hamilton.ca](mailto:esther.pauls@hamilton.ca), [ward8@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward8@hamilton.ca), [Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca](mailto:Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca), [brad.clark@hamilton.ca](mailto:brad.clark@hamilton.ca), [Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca), [ward12@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward12@hamilton.ca), [ward13@hamilton.ca](mailto:ward13@hamilton.ca), [Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca](mailto:Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca), [Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca](mailto:Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca)

Subject: Request by resident

Good morning Mayor Horwath and Hamilton Councillors,

I would like to encourage voting unanimously in favour of declaring Intimate Partner Violence a Crisis/Epidemic in Hamilton. According to WAWG, there were 2008 reports of domestic violence and sexual assault to Hamilton violence against women agencies in 2021 alone and we know this number has increased.

As a resident, I would ask that the City of Hamilton follow the lead of Burlington Mayor Marianne Meed Ward and declare a crisis in our city and call upon the Province to do so as well.

I have included the resolution that the City of Burlington drafted as an example of what may be presented.

Looking forward to hearing that the City of Hamilton will declare Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic to help save and protect lives.

Sincerely  
Melanie Grillo



## Motion Memorandum

**Subject:** Declaration of Intimate Partner/Domestic Abuse Crisis in Halton

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**Lead:** please select,

**Co-sponsor:** please select

**Date to Committee:** N/A

**Date to Council:** June 13, 2023

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### **Motion for Council to Consider:**

Wheres the jury that adjudicated the Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam Inquest (The Renfrew Inquest) issued 86 recommendations to the Province of Ontario on Intimate Partner Violence; and

Whereas recommendation #1 of the Inquest is for the Province of Ontario to declare Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic; and

Whereas, every six days in Canada a woman is killed by her intimate partner; and

Whereas, on any given night in Canada, over 6,000 women and children sleep in shelters because it is not safe for them at home; and

Whereas this past year in Ontario, 52 women or one every week, were victims of femicide; and

Whereas in Halton in 2022 there were 3,503 Intimate Partner Violence calls made to Halton Regional Police and there were 2,342 calls to the Women's Shelter Crisis/Helpline calls; and

Whereas 93% of the CAS domestic violence-related intake cases involve a girl/woman as the primary participant; and

Whereas the waitlist for counselling is current six months; and

Whereas violence against women costs the national justice system, health care systems, social service agencies, and municipalities billions of dollars per year; and municipalities are on the front lines in addressing gender-based violence; and

Whereas Burlington City Council recognizes that issues of violence against women in all communities are of local importance to the health and wellness of our residents; and

Therefore, be it resolved that Burlington City Council

- recognizes the issues of violence against women and girls in Halton as serious to the health and wellness of local families; and
- is committed to engaging with community partners to educate and support our residents about the seriousness and long-term danger of violence in our community; and

That Burlington City Council declares, in accordance with Recommendation #1 of the Renfrew Inquest, that Intimate Partner Violence and Violence Against Women are epidemic; and

Be it further resolved that this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable. Charmaine A. Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, The Honourable Parm Gill Minister of Red Tape Reduction, Natalie Pierre, MPP Burlington, Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP Oakville North-Burlington, Halton Region, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and the Ontario's Big City Mayors.

**Reason:**

Over the years there has been a drastic rise in the number of cases of intimate partner violence and the funding and supports for available has decreased.

**Outcome Sought:**

The Province of Ontario declares that Intimate Partner Violence and Violence Against Women are epidemic and commits to doing more to act on the 86 recommendations from The Renfrew Inquest.

**Vision to Focus Alignment:**

(check those that apply)

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
- Improve integrated city mobility
- Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
- Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
- Deliver customer centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation

Motion Seconded by: as required  
Share with Senior Staff

Approved as per form by the City Clerk,

Reviewed by the City Manager - In accordance with the Code of Good Governance, Council-Staff Relations Policy and an assessment of the internal capacity within the City to complete the work based on a specific target date (quarter/year).

**Comments:**

City Clerk: none

City Manager: none