

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Opposition to homeless advocate registry

From: Joshua Weresch

Sent: May 26, 2023 7:16 AM

To: Ward 1 Office <ward1@hamilton.ca>; Ward 2 <ward2@hamilton.ca>; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nringer Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; Ward 4 <ward4@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Ward 12 Office <ward12@hamilton.ca>; Ward 13 <ward13@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>

Cc: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; info@hesn.ca

Subject: Opposition to homeless advocate registry

Dear councillors and mayor of the city of Hamilton, Ontario:

Hope this finds you well. I write as a life-long resident in this city, as a home-owner, and as a tax-payer regarding the proposed homeless advocate registry. I ask that this letter be placed on the agenda of the next council meeting of the city.

I ask that you as councillors and mayor oppose the establishment of this proposed homeless advocate registry. It devolves the responsibility of the city to ensure the welfare of those within its bounds upon the largesse and ability of wealthy individuals. Being unhoused is not a situation that can be fixed directly by the laden pockets of the wealthy, though progressive taxation would certainly help in that regard, but is one that requires the co-operation of all levels of government and the immediate establishment of safe and permanent housing for those most in need. Moreover, ticketing unhoused peoples by way of by-law officers does nothing to alleviate this situation but criminalize being unhoused, which is not a crime but a crisis that requires compassionate care and not further harm and harrying. If this registry is established, further harm is risked to those in need of safe and permanent housing.

As I have written in the past, so I write again: end all encampment evictions; expropriate any and all housing, built and unoccupied, particularly newly-built condominiums; and allocate funding toward permanently housing people in need. Thank you for your time and attention in these regards and I hope your actions move in a good way for those most in need in this city.

Regards,

Joshua Weresch, OCT, M.Div.