

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Letter to Council

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From: J. C. Weresch

Sent: February 22, 2024 3:17 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Letter to Council

Dear Clerk:

Below, please find a letter to the council of the city of Hamilton, Ontario. Thank you for including it on the publicly-available agenda.

Kindly,

Joshua Weresch

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

I write regarding the request made by the Circle of Beads group for a seat on Council to represent the Indigenous community. An article about it was published in the Hamilton Spectator on 21 February 2024.

I ask that you heed their request, commission a study, and see through the implementation of a seat on Council to represent the Indigenous community. The implications are clear: Indigenous peoples in the Greater Hamilton Area will, beyond the voices they already have, also have a voice at Council and this is a change spoken of in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. It is also possible, if legislation on municipal governance is changed. Finally, these are the voices of people in the city of Hamilton who are asking for this change and so it should be done, if Council wants to represent accurately the voices and wishes of those who have elected them to do so.

Thank you for your time and attention to this.

Respectfully,

Joshua Weresch