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Sent: June 29, 2024 9:31 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Westdale Aviary

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Good evening,

I'm writing to you because I heard that the Westdale Aviary's funding had recently been cut by the city of Hamilton, and may no longer be able to maintain its services as a result. I implore you to reverse this decision.

I sincerely love the aviary -- starting last Summer, I would walk to the building every day for the sole purpose of looking at the birds, talking to them, or even sitting on a bench nearby and listening to them. My time spent here is honestly the highlight of my days -- I know it doesn't seem like a lot, but sometimes something as little as this can work wonders for a person's mental health. I love animals, and it is truly very peaceful to be able to interact with them so freely at a place so close to where I live. I like to sit and read a book while they chirp in the background, and many of my journal entries were written in their vicinity. I'll sometimes play music for them, and it's really fun to watch them dance along with the beat of my favourite songs. I've brought many of my friends to see the birds whenever they visit me, and like me, they've all fallen in love with the aviary, and would hate to see it close down due to a shortage of funding.

I know there are others like me who see this place as a beacon that lights up their darkest days, and I sincerely hope you consider this message and the impact that this organization has on ordinary people like me. Please don't let this place shut down.

Best,
Lauren