Pilon, Janet

Subject: Sending an amendment for the Council meeting on July 12

From: Sally Palmer

Sent: July 8, 2024 12:02 PM To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Sending an amendment for the Council meeting on July 12

Possible amendments to the City of Hamilton Motion to be considered at the Council meeting on July 12, 2024: Request for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) to Advocate to the Government of Ontario to increase Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and Ontario Works (OW) Rates in Ontario

As the group (Hamilton Social Work Action Committee) who delegated this issue to the Emergency & Community Engagement Committee of Council, we are suggesting the following two amendments to the Motion (in red print below).

WHEREAS, ODSP rates were frozen from 2018 to 2022 and that even with the indexation of ODSP rates, their spending power remains lower than when they were frozen in 2018, whereas OW rates remain frozen since 2018, which resulted in a 15% decline in the spending power of inflation-adjusted rates from 2018 to 2024;

WHEREAS, a chart from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (display attached chart on screen) shows a continual lowering of spending power for both ODSP and OW over the past 30 years, with OW losing 50% of its spending power;

Thank you, Sally Palmer, Chair

Hamilton Social Work Action Committee

OW and ODSP Rates, Adjusted for Inflation 1993 to 2024

1993=100

Prepared by: Hugh Mackenzie, Research Associate Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

