

New vision church hall.pdf

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Date: 17/05/2025

Subject: New vision church and Music Hall Alliance.

To whom it may concern.

I am Miriam Karuga an immigrant from Africa and a leader of Kenyan newcomers community.

I would like to offer my support for the Music Hall Alliance and New Vision United Church's request to fund the next phase of renovations to The Music Hall, our much-needed music/performance venue and creative community hub. This heritage building has much to offer to the Hamilton downtown core.

The New vision church has been very welcoming to us and we have been welcomed to use the hall for our community meetings whenever we need for free. We have been using it for our welfare and our cultural dance practices.

The Music Hall will be a venue that all of us can use, access and play a role in. Unfortunately, Hamilton has lacked a proper mid-sized venue for such a long time and The Music Hall is exactly what our music, arts and culture sectors so desperately need. We are truly fortunate that The Music Hall Alliance and New Vision Church came forward with its plan to convert the church to a live performance venue and community hub focused on the arts and culture while maintaining a safe and affirming space for a diversity of individuals and groups, including the LGBTQ2S+ community.

As a leader of the African community, I can only stress how important it is to have a variety of venues of different sizes and capacities. The Music Hall will enable local and touring artists to include Hamilton performances in their plans. Performance venues also contribute to employment opportunities and go beyond the local communities and bring in variety meetings and performances. The Music Hall's central location can only enhance the city and business community's collective efforts to enhance our downtown and bring more people to the core.

In closing, this is great news for the community, cultural performers, musicians and artists in the city having longed for such a venue. I hope this City sees the importance and value of The Music Hall and will support the group's efforts to complete all the remaining renovations.

Sincerely,

Miriam Karuga.

17/05/2025