

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Matthew Trennum, City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk
The Corporation of the City of Hamilton
71 Main Street,
Hamilton ON
L8P 4Y5

Dear City Clerk,

Re: Ontario Works Value for Money Audit - Request for Missing Information under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) - Council Correspondence

I wanted to write to Council awareness of a situation that I have not received a response from staff in regards to a missing journal entry for December 2025 from a recent Freedom of Information Request with the Healthy and Safe Communities Department did not provide a missing record for December 2025 Ontario Works payment and recoverables journal entry.

Ontario's *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA)* was built on a simple democratic principle: that government transparency and accountability are fundamental to a healthy democracy. Municipal records must be accessible to the people of Ontario, subject only to limited and carefully defined exceptions. When I've made several inquiries to staff over the last several weeks on the missing record, I haven't received a response to the record in order to prepare for an upcoming meeting with department staff. Freedom of information laws exist to provide Ontarians with vital information about how municipal government decisions are made, on what basis, who influenced them, and whether the public interest is being served

Freedom of information and privacy are fundamental rights for upholding a healthy democracy at a time when we need it the most. I trust that the City and staff are aware that the public right to access information is done in an accurate and timely manner.

I request the Council to ensure that staff fulfill its duty to serve the public in regards to their rights in accessing information under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) and that inquiries are responded to in a timely manner and information provided is accurate.

Sincerely,

Hafeez Hussain

Cc: Office of the City Clerk, Office of the City Manager, Auditor General of Hamilton