

follies variety show

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Charitable Reg. No.: 10225 8043 RP0001

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September 28, 2012

Your worship, Mr. Bob Bratina and members of council,

A meeting with Mr. John Hertel and Mr. Rick DiFilippo has prompted us to write to you about the Hamilton Follies. We have been in existence since 1974, entertaining tens of thousands of happy patrons in Canada, the United States and overseas. But likely you know all that because the "Geritol Follies" are a Hamilton institution, and Mr. Bratina has even appeared on stage with us.

In talks with Mr. Hertel, Mr. DiFilippo and members of council, we have been encouraged to tell you our story. Recently, we discovered that our administrator and director have been deceiving us about our financial stability. As a result we nearly folded. Rather than choose receivership we decided to fight back the only way we know how. That is, by taking over the management of the organization ourselves, searching for sponsors and donors and taking an active role in pursuit of more performance venues.

Tasked with the job of looking for financial support, I write to you to ask if the city of Hamilton would consider seriously a one time financial commitment & become the patron of our very valuable Hamilton asset. We keep seniors healthy, happy and active. We benefit their mental wellbeing and contribute to their sense of usefulness in their community. Our audience receives a like benefit and exits our performances humming the tunes and telling each other how they will tell our funny stories at dinner later that evening. It's one of those situations where we may not be missed until we're gone. We as the board of directors of the Hamilton Follies are not prepared to let that happen. We will be bold and we will ask for help. We need your financial assistance now and look forward to hearing that you will be willing to do so as a city sponsor.

Our current indebtedness to HECFI is approximately \$48,000.00 and climbing monthly due to interest. We believe that with our restructuring program, your assistance in this area, and other community and corporate sponsorship, as well as, our own in house fundraising efforts, we will be able to completely recover from our indebtedness.

I thank you for reading my letter and would add that members of the Board are available to answer your questions and tell you our story.

Please help us keep Hamilton's Geritol Follies alive.

For the Board of Directors I remain,

Yours sincerely,



Sofia Buzzelli
Director