

Good Morning,

I have read through the language pertaining to the mandatory mask by-law in the Meeting Materials provided by your office. While I cannot attend the meeting to voice my perspective, I do wish for my voice, and the voice of many others to be heard. As such, I will submit correspondence to be circulated to committee members. Below are my thoughts.

It's become very clear in the language of the meeting materials, social media communications by the mayor and city hall that there is no debate to be had. The mayor and city hall are operating from a position of fear and are imposing by-laws to support actions in response to unfounded fear. This action will not achieve what you are intending. People who are not wearing masks today will not wear them even if you impose the unenforceable "mandatory" by-law.

Based on the language in your document, as well as other regional by-laws you will:

- Get little additional compliance – those of us who do not wear masks, do not wear them for a reason and won't wear them unless those reasons subside, regardless of your proposed by-law
- Put the onus on hourly workers to have contentious discussion and debate to enforce your proposed by-law, which is unreasonable and unfair
- Further feed the fear based agenda of many in our region, fueled by misinformation in all forms of media, and our own governments manipulation of numbers by declaring ALL covid positive deaths as Covid deaths, regardless of why or how the person died
- Further retard local economic recovery as people continue to shop online or travel to other regions to shop

Let's recap what's happened in our region to date:

- In all of Halton Region, there have been 779 active cases since tracking began
- The population of Halton region is 548,435. That means we've had a TOTAL infection rate of 0.14%
- If we look at deaths, there have been 25 deaths. That means we've had a 0.004558% fatality rate and that number is inflated. The province has been wrongly classifying deaths as covid. One Halton death was a woman, over 85 with Stage 4 Lung Cancer. Covid did not kill her – lung cancer did
- Today there are 54 active cases, meaning today we have a TOTAL infection rate of 0.009% in all of Halton region
- We have maintained and further controlled spread in Stage 2 without a unenforceable "mandatory" bylaw

What you are proposing is entirely unwarranted and unsupported by many in your community. If this was truly warranted, the province or our regional medical officer of health would have mandated this, not our municipal government.

Please really consider all viewpoints and the numbers before imposing actions that infringe on civil liberties and create divides within our community.

Regards,
Jennifer Keenan