



Motion Memorandum

SUBJECT: A Call to the Provincial government to End Homelessness in Ontario

TO: Mayor and Members of Council

FROM: Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Date to Committee: N/A

Date to Council: March 21, 2023

Motion for Council to Consider:

Whereas the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario; and

Whereas the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments; and

Whereas homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government; and

Whereas homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve; and

Whereas municipalities and Regional Governments are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge; and,

Whereas leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario

Therefore, be it resolved that; Burlington City Council calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

a. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis; and

b. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario; and

c. Work with Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Regional and Municipal partners and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

And further that, a copy of this motion be sent to the Premier of Ontario; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; Halton MPPs; Halton Region and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Reason:

There are several complex factors impacting the unprecedented level of homelessness people are experiencing in Ontario. Municipalities do not have the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care issues that lead to homelessness or extend chronic homelessness.

Outcome Sought:

Municipalities want to be partners and contribute to the solution, but leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

Vision to Focus Alignment:

(check those that apply)

- ☐ Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
- ☐ Improve integrated city mobility
- ☐ Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
- ☒ Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
- ☐ Deliver customer centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation

Motion Seconded by: Councillor Shawna Stolte, Ward 4
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Approved as per form by the City Clerk,

Reviewed by the City Manager - In accordance with the Code of Good Governance,
Council-Staff Relations Policy and an assessment of the internal capacity within the City
to complete the work based on a specific target date (quarter/year).

Comments:

City Clerk: none

City Manager: none