



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

VIA: Mail

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

The Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Office of the Premier
Queen's Park, Legislative Building,
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

September 19, 2023

Dear Prime Minister and Premier,

At the City of Hamilton Council meeting of September 13, the following motion was approved:

7.2 Municipal Resolution in Support of Basic Income for the City of Hamilton

WHEREAS, The City of Hamilton recognizes the social and economic challenges faced by its residents that have a detrimental impact on the determinants of health including income inequality, poverty, inadequate housing and precarious employment;

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the City of Hamilton to strive for the well-being and prosperity of all its residents, which includes ensuring access to basic needs and opportunities to improve health;

WHEREAS, through addressing poverty and improving access to healthcare, a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income can potentially reduce healthcare costs enabling people to afford preventive care and timely treatments while preventing more costly healthcare interventions, leading to better overall population health,

WHEREAS, a Basic Income program was tested in Hamilton during the Ontario Basic Income Pilot project between 2017 and 2019 and more than 1,000 local residents reported positive outcomes including the alleviation of food and housing insecurity, improved physical and mental health, financial stability, social equity and greater connection to the labour market;

WHEREAS, the Federal Budget Office upon reviewing the concept of a national Guaranteed Basic Income program determined it could, if properly set out, be a major economic driver to the Canadian economy; and

WHEREAS, a Basic Income program can complement and enhance existing social support systems, ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive approach to addressing the needs of Hamilton residents including persons with disabilities and aligns and complements the City of Hamilton's Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton supports the concept of a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to combat poverty, income inequality, and economic insecurity within our community; and supports the continuing advocacy of the Basic Income Hamilton Working Group (under the auspices of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction) to share research and the unique experiences of local residents who participated in the Ontario Basic Income Pilot project;
- (b) That the City of Hamilton calls upon the provincial and federal governments to collaborate to implement a national Guaranteed Livable Basic Income program;
- (c) That Hamilton City Council directs the Office of the Mayor to write a letter to the Prime Minister, local Members of Parliament and the Senate, the Premier of Ontario, local Members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, calling on these orders of government to work collaboratively towards implementing a National Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to eradicate poverty and homelessness, and ensure everyone has sufficient income to meet their basic needs; and
- (d) That the City of Hamilton encourages other municipalities across the province and the country to join in advocating for a Guaranteed Livable Basic Income as a key policy tool in the fight against poverty and inequality and to this end, Hamilton City Council will advocate through its representatives at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Canadian Federation of Municipalities for Guaranteed Livable Basic Income resolutions at meetings of those organizations.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Horwath', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mayor Andrea Horwath
City of Hamilton

cc: Hamilton Area Members of Parliament
Hamilton Area Members of Provincial Parliament
All Municipalities of Ontario

From: [Kolar, Loren](#)
To: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca
Subject: City of Hamilton (Ontario) Correspondence respecting Support for Basic Income
Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 3:02:00 PM
Attachments: [Correspondence City of Hamilton re Basic Income.pdf](#)

Prime Minister,

Hamilton (Ontario) City Council approved the following as part of a greater resolution respecting Support for Basic Income:

(c) That Hamilton City Council directs the Office of the Mayor to write a letter to the Prime Minister, local Members of Parliament and the Senate, the Premier of Ontario, local Members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, calling on these orders of government to work collaboratively towards implementing a National Guaranteed Livable Basic Income to eradicate poverty and homelessness, and ensure everyone has sufficient income to meet their basic needs; and

Please see the attached correspondence respecting Support for Basic Income, for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Loren Kolar
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk
(905) 546-2424 Ext.2604

 **Hamilton**
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West, 1st Floor
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Vision: The Legislative Division is Dedicated to Excellence in the Provision of Service to the Community, Corporation & Council with Integrity, Accuracy and Transparency.

Mission: The Legislative Division aims to strengthen and promote local government by facilitating the proceedings of City Council and its Committees, fulfilling the requirements of various Provincial statutes and educating the public to make it understandable and accessible.

From: [Kolar, Loren](#)
To: premier@ontario.ca; [Donna Skelly Flamborough Glanbrook](#); [M Taylor Hamilton Mountain](#); [N. Lumsden Hamilton East Stoney Creek](#); [S Shaw Hamilton West Ancaster Dundas](#); [Sarah Jama, Hamilton Centre](#)
Subject: City of Hamilton (Ontario) Correspondence respecting Support for Basic Income
Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 3:04:00 PM
Attachments: [Correspondence City of Hamilton re Basic Income.pdf](#)

Premier,

Hamilton (Ontario) City Council approved the following as part of a greater resolution respecting Support for Basic Income:

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From: [Kolar, Loren](#)
To: ["C Collins MP Hamilton East Stoney Creek"](#); ["D Muys MP Flamborough Glanbrook"](#); [F Tassi, Hon. MP Hamilton West—Ancaster—Dundas](#); ["L Hepfner Hamilton Mountain"](#); ["M Green MP Hamilton Centre"](#)
Subject: City of Hamilton (Ontario) Correspondence respecting Support for Basic Income
Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 3:05:00 PM
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Members of Parliament,

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