

**From:** [Wendie Duque](#)  
**To:** [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)  
**Cc:** [Office of the Mayor](#); [VanderBeek, Arlene](#); [Litzen, Julie](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [\*\*\*\*POSSIBLE SPAM]police check fees  
**Date:** Thursday, June 3, 2021 8:36:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

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Hi Kirsten,

Thank you for your quick response. Much appreciated.

The Hamilton Police has a choice to either charge volunteers who work with the vulnerable sector or waive the fees. I understand it is somewhat costly to waive those fees due to the Municipality Act that you mentioned, but if other police municipalities can waive the fee, **why can't Hamilton?**

I am deeply disturbed by what is happening in LTC facilities across this province and in Hamilton which is why I am offering to help. Volunteers are giving their time and stepping up to help. They should absolutely not have to pay a fee to get a police check. I have already paid my fee (did this yesterday) so my concern is not about me, personally. I do, however, have a concern that people who want to volunteer in Hamilton might not do so because they feel 'put off' by this fee which is why other police departments likely waive it. They want to encourage volunteers to step up in underfunded and understaffed facilities who house vulnerable people.

It isn't right and I will continue to get my point across and spread awareness until it is resolved so yes, please place my concern on the upcoming public agenda.

I have included three articles for your reference from both Toronto, York, and Ottawa who waive police check fees for volunteers who work with the vulnerable sector. I am certain there are many more.

<https://www.yrp.ca/en/services/vulnerable-sector-check.asp>

[https://www.torontopolice.on.ca/background-checks/docs/fee\\_schedule](https://www.torontopolice.on.ca/background-checks/docs/fee_schedule).

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/local-news/police-board-keeps-background-checks-free-for-volunteers-but-hikes-fees-for-jobseekers>

Thank you for your time.  
Wendie Duque

On Thu, Jun 3, 2021 at 4:25 PM Stevenson, Kirsten <[Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca)> wrote:

Good afternoon Wendie.

My name is Kirsten and I'm the Administrator for the Hamilton Police Services Board.

Based on the *Police Services Act*, Council is responsible for reviewing the operating and capital budget as proposed by the Police Service. Council may either approve or deny the proposed budget. What Council does not have the authority to do is approve or disapprove of specific items in the budget estimates. In other words, Council does not have the authority to decide whether or not the Police Services Board can or cannot charge fees to recover

costs related to requests like a Criminal Reference Check.

As mentioned below, The Hamilton Police Services Board is authorized under the *Municipal Act, 2001* to set fees and charges for services or activities that are provided by the Board or Hamilton Police Service. The Board and Service incur costs associated with regards to individual requests, and these fees and charges are used to offset these costs.

If you would like to forward me correspondence with regards to your concerns, I can place your communication on an upcoming public Board agenda for the Board's consideration. Correspondence provided to the Board is made available to the public via our website after personal information, such as your email address, has been removed.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Take care,  
**Kirsten Stevenson, Dipl. M.A.**

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