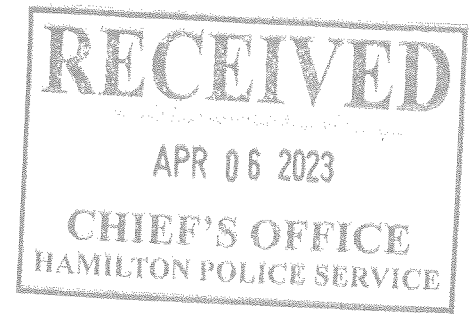


March 29, 2023

Hamilton Police Service
155 King William Street
Hamilton, ON L8R 1A7



Attention: Chief Frank Bergen

The purpose of this correspondence is to extend appreciation to the HPS for your ongoing efforts to ensure safety and security in our local communities. It was extremely reassuring that the police budget was passed at the most recent council meeting, as it should have been, and, hopefully, all councillors will continue to provide the most fulsome support in achieving the policing goals outlined under your leadership. I have written to council numerous times supporting the HPS and the HPS budget requests and will continue to do so in the future.

Specifically, I wish to thank you for the recent policing efforts provided around the university district during the St. Patrick's Day Weekend. While the inclement weather certainly contributed to containing nuisance behaviours and parties, there was also a very visible police presence proactively monitoring neighbourhoods which sent not only a clear message of zero tolerance but also served as a measure of confidence for residents feeling uneasy about the potential for problematic issues. I live in the area of Ewen and Whitney and witnessed several cruisers as well as a court services wagon policing our side street on several occasions which does have some student rental homes that have potential for disturbance. I am so deeply grateful for this visible presence which I have repeatedly requested through council and various avenues as the student population continues to grow exponentially with no real supports from McMaster. I remain hopeful that this type of proactive policing will continue at crucial points in the school year (Welcome Week, FOCO, HOCO) and that the HPS will continue to respond fulsomely to noise and nuisance issues related to the university at all times throughout the year as it is an area of the city with a unique set of circumstances.

Once again, thank you for your leadership and thank you to all those dedicated members of the service who contribute to the protection of our community each and every day. My prayers and support are with you always!

Respectfully,

A Grateful Resident of West Hamilton