

## Hamilton Police Service Board

Please see the attached comparison of Police Budgets for 2024 for the top 4 cities in Ontario. If it is the city of Hamilton's desire to have the lowest per Capita Police Force Spending in all of Ontario then that may well already have been achieved with the proposed Budget of \$213 million, and with any further reductions one can only assume this would result in the reduction of Services to the Public including response time that appears to be unacceptable to many citizens. In Toronto I understand that they are trying to achieve a 22-minute response time in 2024.

I am well aware that between Social Unrest Protests ie: War in Gaza, Auto Thefts, Armed Car Jackings, Armed Home Invasions, Homeless People, Drug Addiction, Stabbings, along with a host of other Violent Crimes that were unheard of just a few years ago, that Crime appears to be increasing in all of Ontario and Hamilton.

For these reasons I feel a decrease in our Police Budget would be showing very poor judgment in an effort to reduce the City Budget and save the Taxpayers Money. Surely there are other expenses that could be cut. It should be paramount to provide the citizens of Hamilton with a sense of protection that comes from having a well motived and well-equipped Police Force.

One prime example of how brazen the Criminals have become is this past Saturday night in Dundas. Armed Criminals entered a Citizen's Home where they proceeded to tie up the home owners, ransack the home and made off with two of their vehicles.

In closing, from what I see the Hamilton Police have done an excellent job in keeping expenses low. Let's ensure that the Police Services Board and Hamilton City Council do not DE-FUND our Police Force to the point of ineffectiveness.

Respectfully Brad Russell



## Top 4 Largest Cities in Ontario Based on Population from the 2021 Census

Ranking Based on Population	City Name	Population 2021 (in 000's)	Police Budget 2024 (in Millions \$)	Per Capita Spending (In Dollars)
1	Toronto	5,647		
2	Ottawa	1,069	415	\$388
3	<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>\$291</b>
4	Kitchener	532	228	\$436