

**Office of the Chief Coroner  
Inquest Unit**

Forensic Services and  
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**Bureau du coroner en chef  
Unité des enquêtes**

Complexe des sciences judiciaires  
et du coroner  
25, Avenue Morton Shulman  
Toronto ON M3M 0B1

Téléphone: (647) 329-1890  
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April 25, 2025

**Via email**

Frank Bergen  
Chief of Police  
Hamilton Police Service  
155 King William St.  
Hamilton, ON  
L8R 1A7

Dear Chief Bergen:

**Re: Inquest into the death of: Robyn GARLOW**  
**Date Death Pronounced: October 20, 2018**  
**OCC Inquest File No.: Q2025-12**  
**Date Inquest Jury Verdict &**  
**Recommendations Received: April 4, 2025**

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The jury in the inquest into the death of Robyn Garlow has made recommendations which your organization may be in a position to implement. Please report back regarding your consideration to implement the recommendations relating to your organization by completing the attached chart, ***Responses to Jury Recommendations***. Responses to inquest recommendations will be made public. Therefore, your response should not contain personal identifiers with the exception of identifying the decedent.

We do request a response by **October 27, 2025**. The *Coroners Act* provides no authority for us to demand a response to a recommendation or set deadlines for a response. However, we do post responses publicly, and scrutiny of the responses has been growing. Public criticism may follow if a thoughtful response is not received in a timely manner.

A list of organizations requested to report back is provided.

We are pleased to provide you with a copy of the inquest jury verdict and recommendations. The presiding officer's verdict explanation is also attached for your reference.

I would like to explain the significance of inquests and consequent recommendations under the *Coroners Act*. An inquest is a public hearing conducted by a coroner (or a judge, or a retired judge or a lawyer) before a jury of five community members. Inquests are held for the purpose of informing the public about the circumstances of a death. An inquest does not find fault, blame or legal wrongdoing but rather examines the circumstances of one or more deaths and looks for lessons that can be learned from the death(s) that may contribute to a safer future for the living.

Juries often make recommendations based on these learned lessons and, while they are not binding, it is hoped that implemented recommendations will prevent future deaths in similar circumstances.

Please provide us with the name and contact information of the individual leading your organization's response. If you feel any of the recommendations should be directed elsewhere, complete the attached **Contact Information and Recommendation Referrals form** and forward to [occ.inquests.registraroffice@ontario.ca](mailto:occ.inquests.registraroffice@ontario.ca).

As noted above, inquest jury recommendations are not legally binding; however, we trust they will be given careful consideration for implementation and, if not implemented, that your organization provides an explanation.

Thank you for participating in this important process. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Cameron', with a stylized, flowing script.

David A. Cameron, MD, LLB, CCFP  
Regional Supervising Coroner – Inquests

/dpw

Attachments:

**Responses to Jury Recommendations**

**List of Organizations Requested to Respond to Jury Recommendations**

**Contact Information and Recommendation Referrals**

**Responses to Jury Recommendations**  
**GARLOW Inquest Q2025-12**

**HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

## # 1 - 13

[illegible]

**List of Organizations Requested to Respond to Jury Recommendations**  
**GARLOW Inquest Q2025-12**

Hamilton Police Service

All Police Services in Ontario

Ontario Police College

Ministry of the Solicitor General

**Contact Information and Recommendation Referrals  
Responses to Jury Recommendations  
GARLOW Inquest Q2025-12**

**HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE**

**Part I: Contact Information**

Name	Position Title
Email address	Telephone number

**Part II: Referral**

**We believe the following recommendations may be best addressed by these organizations:**

<b>Recommendation Number</b>	<b>Organization Name &amp; Address</b>	<b>Contact Name &amp; Title</b>

**Forward to** [occ.inquests.registraroffice@ontario.ca](mailto:occ.inquests.registraroffice@ontario.ca)