

**Rachel Tyczinski**

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**Subject:** FW: Hope's Cradle in SSM

-----Original Message-----

From: Kirsten Duke

Sent: Sunday, June 22, 2025 3:58 PM

To: City Clerk <cityclerk@cityssm.on.ca>

Subject: Hope's Cradle in SSM

Good afternoon,

Please forward my email below to all city councillors in advance of tomorrow's City Council meeting.

Councillors.

I hate to be here again. To be reminding you that investments in preventative public health measures, in the case of Hope's Cradle, that can keep babies alive. The relative cost to even an implied impact is immeasurable.

But that's it right? You're spending money that you aren't certain will have a return on investment. Does that sound familiar? The Honourable Mayor sat in front of you all last month explaining why Councils need to be arms length from a police budget. In effect, that you can't be guaranteed a return on investment.

The same logic applies here. If you think harm reduction from a police force works, then investments in other preventative public health measures shouldn't be difficult to understand. In fact, it almost seems like a no brainer in that context.

You never ever want to have something like Hope's Cradle to be used. But, we are also all aware changes are coming swiftly to our community, whether we like it or not. Tariffs, international wars, they will impact the financial roots of our community, and we may find ourselves in need of these supports far sooner than any of us would like.

I really would appeal to each of you to consider the long term impacts of this initiative, and in light of the local letters to the opposite recommendation, that you broaden the net and actually consider the other recorded, actual evidence that exists that support Hope's Cradle. Our community is just as proud as it is stubborn, and our systems and agencies reflect that.

You've all been capable of big, important decisions before. And I hope you will continue in that direction.

Kirsten Duke  
Ward 2