

Hello there,

I am emailing because Mayor Cam Guthrie's new bylaw proposal uses language of supporting "human rights" when it's clear that his heart / care lies more within making the "public space safer" for consumers, middle/upper class home owners who are privileged enough to afford to shop and eat downtown. It is not at all a human rights approach to offer temporary shelter without supportive & permanent housing measures in place. I am abundantly concerned by section 5. How is it possible that people living under mental health issues and have to turn to drugs to cope in a society that clearly wants to displace them, how is it that they can safely exist without sometimes causing loud noises? I'm concerned that the mayor & all who support this new bylaw proposal have never had a mental health crises to the extent at which people face downtown. I myself am a survivor of psychosis, which is one of the main mental health crises that stimulant drugs cause. People NEED to be able to express themselves fully during these episodes without repression if we are to build a true safer community. Once again, how is it a human rights approach to offer / allow temporary shelter when it appears you have every intention of displacing these temporary shelters in the future because it's too disturbing for you & lots of Guelph to bare witness to the very problem you are complicit in - your job is to assure everyone has their basic needs met. And this bylaw would continue to assure that your interests are more with appeasing the privileged classes of society rather than assuring, with collaboration with the county, that unhoused, street involved communities have THEIR BASIC NEEDS MET TOO.

Thank you. I hope you have some heart.

DO NOT LET THIS BYLAW THROUGH. SO NO ONE CAN MAKE LOUD NOISES DOWNTOWN UNDER THIS BYLAW? ARE YOU GOING TO TARGET INTOXICATED UNIVERSITY KIDS OR WILL YOU TARGET SOMEONE WITH COMPLEX TRAUMA LIVING IN THE MARGINS AND IN A TENT? WHERE IS YOUR HUMANITY. GIVE THESE PEOPLE ADEQUATE, PERMANENT SHELTER BEFORE YOU THINK TO DISPLACE AND CRIMINALIZE THEM

I LOVE ALL OF MY NEIGHBOURS - THIS INCLUDES UNHOUSED FOLKS DOWNTOWN. WHAT THEY NEED IS PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NOT TO BE CRIMINALIZED, OUTCASTED AND DISPLACED FROM THEIR TENTS. THEY DONT WANT TO BE LIVING IN TENTS. THEY WANT SAFE PLACES TO LIVE. BUT YOU MAKING DOWNTOWN LESS SAFE FOR THEM AFFECTS US ALL AND IT IS TRULY ROOTED IN EVIL TO DO SO.

Jill Francis