



ATU·Local 107



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Union vows to fight unfair vax Policy

HAMILTON, ON - Amalgamated Transit Union Local 107 vows to proceed with Section 49, Speedy Arbitration. On Wednesday, in a tie vote, City Council overturned the GIC Committees vote, after Senior Staff and the City Legal Council recommended to drop the Vaccine Mandate.

Hamilton's own Officer of Health, Dr. Elizabeth Richardson spoke at the GIC meeting supporting the recommendation to drop the Vaccine Mandate and stated that "it is time and supported the staff recommendation to drop the mandate"

Dropping the Vaccine Mandate is the right thing to do considering that both the Federal, and Provincial Governments have recommended dropping such mandates. This also includes most major institutions such as Hamilton Police Services, Mohawk Collage as well as one of our leading medical facilities, McMaster University.

This decision by City Council could cost local taxpayers upwards of \$500,000.00 for unnecessary litigation. Those financial resources could have been better spent on upgrading air treatment equipment on our buses to better protect both workers and transit riders.

Science has proven vaccinations have done little to stop the spread, or to keep others safe. The responsible choice would be to enforce mandatory masks and physical distancing on transit, yet that's not happening.

It is irresponsible for this City Council to cast a vote to terminate hard working employees, who have served on the front lines for the last 2 years during Covid19. Especially during times without any protection. Meanwhile, City Council sat in the comfort of their homes, shielded from danger when our ATU 107 members kept Hamilton moving, and working during the worst of times.

To come to this conclusion now is disrespectful and completely unfair to all Frontline City and Transit Workers who continue to work and serve this community daily.

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