



# COMMUNICATION UPDATE

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members City Council
<b>DATE:</b>	November 9, 2023
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Update to Report HSC23012(a) – Annual Winter Response Strategy (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Michelle Baird Director Housing Services Division
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	<i>Michelle Baird</i>

## COUNCIL DIRECTION

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Mayor and Members of Council with an update on the City's progress on initiating its Winter Response Strategy and to provide information about warming spaces that are currently available.

On September 13, 2023 Council approved that staff implement an immediate Winter Response Strategy, from December 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024 to support vulnerable individuals within the homelessness serving system.

A Call for Applications (CFA) closed on October 27, 2023 with the successful proponents set to begin operating overnight warming spaces, daytime drop-in spaces, and staff to support operating an overnight warming bus that will serve as a mobile warming centre on December 1, 2023. Extended hours at recreation centres and the Hamilton Public Library Central location will also begin on December 1, 2023.

Staff will bring forward a communication update on or before November 27, 2023 detailing the results of the CFA and service levels for its Winter Response Strategy.

As temperatures continue to drop, recreation centres, libraries and drop-in centres throughout the City are always available to people as warming spaces during operating hours which includes evenings and weekends.

For more information about hours of operation for warming spaces and other community resources please visit: [www.hamilton.ca/cold](http://www.hamilton.ca/cold)

Any questions please contact Rob Mastroianni, Manager, Homelessness & Housing Support by phone at 905.546.2424 Ext.8035 or by email [Rob.Mastroianni@hamilton.ca](mailto:Rob.Mastroianni@hamilton.ca)

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.