

FIN-22-13

From: David Poirier <david8394@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 6, 2022 9:50 AM
To: clerks <clerks@oshawa.ca>
Cc: Maggie Doherty-Gilbert <mdohertygilbert@durhamdeaf.org>
Subject: DDS reaching out to Finance committee

Dear Finance committee

Durham Deaf Services is reaching out to you in your capacity as Mayor of our city with the hopes of obtaining some emergency funding.

We have reached out to often throughout the years with a request for assistance in funding the services that we provide for D/deaf and deafened in the Durham region with particular emphasis on the services we provide for this very vulnerable group of both adults and children in Oshawa

First off the financial picture for Durham deaf Services gets bleaker each day as we run a monthly deficit, often exceeding \$10,000/month. We sold our building in 2019 and moved to rental space in Church in Oshawa which adds to our expenses despite the sale of our building providing a reserve fund that will indeed run out one day. For this reason, we are asking if you could assist us in getting funding for the purchase of must need computers for our Oshawa students that are part of our Deaf literacy initiative, and our Deaf Adult Upgrading Program. We are asking you, Mayor Carter, if you could put a motion to the council to allow for an emergency funding of \$25,000 This \$25,000 will allow us to fund the purchase of some of the computers that are in dire need of replacement or repair

Durham Regional chair and CEO John Henry was our keynote speaker a few years ago and we meet with him when he is able. When requesting financial assistance. As you might expect, he asks us to go to the City of Oshawa level to get motions put before the council in requesting assistance.

Durham Deaf Services as a non-profit organization has provided services and educational programs to promote self-reliance within the deaf community of Whitby, and the rest of Durham. The size of the D/deaf and deafened community in Oshawa is large and growing. CHS estimates that there are over 18,000 D/deaf or HOH people in Oshawa alone. We are very politically active and as DDS asks our members to always support candidates that support us. DDS provides a needed charitable non-profit organization for these vulnerable Oshawa citizens. We are asking for a one-time "leg up" in order to work through continued funding in the months ahead. We are confident that with your short term/one-time assistance, we can mobilize a new volunteer base; grow our action plans in fundraising for 2022, and further,

We are committed to and will continue to work as long and as hard as I can to fight to keep DDS doors open, as the D/deaf and deafened community in the city of Oshawa

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and the rest of the Durham region need this service.

We are asking you to make a motion to Oshawa City council to grant us a one-time \$25,000 to assist the D/deaf community in Oshawa.

Warmest Regards

David Poirier
Board of Directors
Durham Deaf Services

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David Poirier
Sent via email