

From: Marlene Rumas

Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 1:20 PM

To: Lehman, Steve <slehman@london.ca>; Franke, Skylar <sfranke@london.ca>; Cuddy, Peter <pcuddy@london.ca>; Peloza, Elizabeth <epeloza@london.ca>; Stevenson, Susan <sstevenson@london.ca>; Pribil, Jerry <jpribil@london.ca>; Rahman, Corrine <crahman@london.ca>
Cc: Trosow, Sam <strosow@london.ca>; City of London, Mayor <mayor@london.ca>; Marlene Rumas
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Fiscal Responsibility

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to share my views on the recent SORWG decision regarding community grants and nonprofit delegations.

- **Support for Grant Suspension:** Suspending Capital and Innovation Community Grants and Neighbourhood Decision Making Grants will save \$750,000 annually. This helps reduce property tax increases and ensures city funds are focused on essential services.
- **Nonprofits and City Budgets:** While nonprofits provide value, they should seek private funding. City budgets should prioritize essential services and infrastructure, not funding for nonprofit organizations. This prevents diversion of critical resources and maintains fiscal responsibility.
- **Appreciation for Fiscal Prudence:** Thank you to the councillors who prioritized fiscal responsibility by voting to suspend these grants and exclude nonprofit delegations from this stage of the budget discussion.
- **Citizens as True Stakeholders:** It's crucial to differentiate between citizen input and nonprofit input. Citizen input is vital, as taxpayers are the true stakeholders. The focus should be on ensuring our tax dollars are used effectively for core municipal functions.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Sincerely,

Marlene Rumas