

From: [Barbara Patten](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Subject: My comments for 2021.EX20.1, on February 2,2021 City Council
Date: February 1, 2021 12:52:10 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-x3ppqtpi.png](#)
Importance: High

Hello,

I would like to offer our expertise and service regarding crises calls, prevention and response. This is an incredibly important program for all vulnerable populations and an underserved and misunderstood community is the Autistic Community in Canada. We represent 600,000 individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and have developed a ground-breaking program in conjunction with Public Safety and Parks Canada. We teach First Responders, Emergency Personnel, Search and Rescue teams across Canada on Recognizing Behaviours with a mandate of saving lives due to misunderstood behaviour and actions.

An "autistic" sensory meltdown is often misinterpreted by an untrained response team and can mirror that of a violent drug induced episode. Over reaction by police and emergency personnel is simply due to a lack of training and understanding and we are ready to provide that training and input. Response to a mental health breakdown by someone on the spectrum often results in unnecessary violence.

Our training is complete and ready to be deployed from the initial dispatch call to de-escalation. We are the leading experts in Recognizing Behaviours and would like to be involved in this project.

Respectfully,
Barbara



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