

From: Joanna Liokossis

Sent: Monday, February 19, 2024 2:58 PM

To: Clerks Richmondhill clerks@richmondhill.ca

Subject: Support for Private Member Motion Urging Second National Summit to Combat Antisemitism be Convene

Dear Richmond Hill City Council Members,

We are writing to express our strong support for the private member motion, submitted by Councillor Karen Cilevitz, urging the federal government to convene a second national summit to combat antisemitism. As longtime residents of Ward 5 in Richmond Hill, we were deeply shocked and disturbed by the two acts of anti-Semitic graffiti in our park and culvert last October, following the tragic attack on October 7th. These incidents underscore the urgent need for action to address the rise in antisemitism within our community and across the country.

Antisemitism is a despicable form of hatred that has no place in our society. It not only targets individuals and communities but also undermines the values of tolerance, diversity, and inclusion that we hold dear. As residents of Richmond Hill, we have a responsibility to stand against all forms of bigotry and discrimination.

We believe it is imperative for Richmond Hill to play an active role in combating antisemitism and promoting unity and understanding among our diverse population. By supporting this motion, we can send a clear message that hate will not be tolerated in our community.

Furthermore, we urge Canada to take a leadership role in addressing this pressing issue by convening a second national summit on antisemitism. Such a summit would provide an important platform for stakeholders to come together, share best practices, and develop strategies to effectively combat antisemitism in all its forms.

In conclusion, we urge you to support the private member motion and demonstrate Richmond Hill's commitment to combating antisemitism and promoting a more inclusive and tolerant society.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Joanna Liokossis

Carmelo Cellucci

Ward 5, Richmond Hill