

From: Marc Terrance

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 11:46 AM

To: Clerks Richmondhill [clerks@richmondhill.ca](mailto:clerks@richmondhill.ca)

Cc: Karen Cilevitz [karen.cilevitz@richmondhill.ca](mailto:karen.cilevitz@richmondhill.ca)

Subject: RE: Motion to Council

As a long-time resident of Richmond Hill, Ontario, and as a native of Toronto, I am writing to support the private members motion being introduced by my councillor, Karen Cilevitz on February 21, 2024, which advocates for the Canadian government and the Special Envoy on Anti-Semitism to convene a second National summit to combat anti-Semitism in our country of Canada.

The events we have witnessed since Oct. 7/23 have been disturbing and terrifying in the extreme, as we have seen repeated instances of targeting of Jewish residents in the greater Toronto area and in the country in general. The number of anti-Semitic incidents as reported by the Toronto Police and others bear this out, with the Jewish population being the greatest target of such hateful incidents in the GTA by a large margin, as they have been for the past number of years, but currently in greater numbers.

Amongst numerous other incidents, we have witnessed Jewish-owned businesses in Toronto and the GTA being defaced and disrupted, principals of such businesses being targets of anti-Semitic tropes and hateful messages, universities in GTA and throughout the country witness to terrifying anti-Semitic demonstrations and actions against the Jewish student populations, and attacks on Jewish institutions, including synagogues and schools amongst others, that are not only dangerous on both an individual and collective level, but also vicious and terrifying in their intensity.

For the foregoing reasons, amongst others, we need to immediately convene another summit to address this blatant discrimination against the Jewish population in the GTA and throughout Canada, as soon as can be arranged.

I urge you to support the motion to request a second summit of the government of Canada, as put forward by Councillor Cilevitz, to fight the growing incidence of anti-Semitism in our country. I hope that you will stand with Councillor Cilevitz in calling for the Canadian government to take action through the convening of this summit.

Thanking you for your consideration and your concern, I am

Yours truly,

Marc Paul

Richmond Hill, Ontario