

Motion: The City of Mississauga Stands for Anti-Muslim Racism

Moved by: P. Saito

Seconded by: D. Damerla

WHEREAS on June 6, 2021, a family in London, ON was killed in an attack which appears to be fuelled by anti-Muslim hate and which London Police have identified as an act of terrorism;

AND WHEREAS the City of Mississauga expresses our deepest condolences to the family, friends and the community of the victims;

AND WHEREAS this incident, and many other incidents of hate against Muslims across Canada has resulted in death and serious injuries, which has shaken the Muslim community and raised their fears and anxiety, including in the Muslim community of Mississauga;

AND WHEREAS Muslims are peaceful, compassionate and kind people, giving back to our community in immeasurable ways;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Mississauga passed Resolution 207-2020 in June 2020, which recognizes that racism, and in particular, anti-Black racism and discrimination is a crisis that requires immediate action; and has undertaken actions to address systemic racism and discrimination against racialized groups, Indigenous Peoples, and Black communities.

AND WHEREAS any threat or attack against Muslims or any community are unacceptable and must be unequivocally condemned;

AND WHEREAS the City of Mississauga condemns Anti-Muslim hate in the strongest possible terms and commits work with all levels of government to end all hate-motivated speech and crimes, including those against the Muslim community;

AND WHEREAS the City of Mississauga condemns individuals who promote hate, including but not limited to xenophobia and Muslim hate, for their own gain;

AND WHEREAS we stand with the Muslim communities and call on all residents of Mississauga to ensure that the Muslim communities feel supported, and everyone has a responsibility to raise awareness and condemn all forms of racism, hatred or bigotry.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Council of the City of Mississauga: Unequivocally condemn and stands against all forms of anti-Muslim hate, racism, hate speech or threats; Supports the National Council of Canadian Muslims calls for the implementation of a “National Action Summit on Islamophobia” with the participation of the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments.

2. The City of Mississauga Staff to provide a report to Council on the concrete actions that the City can take to combat anti-Muslim hate and racism.
3. The Council of the City of Mississauga calls on Ontario's Attorney General to aggressively pursue justice in acts of hate against the Muslim Community and other groups in order to demonstrate that Muslim racism and other forms of hate are unacceptable and will result in legal consequences
4. The Council of the City of Mississauga calls upon the Government of Canada to immediately introduce and strengthen laws to address online hate speech including white supremacy and the distribution of hateful materials targeting minority groups, including Muslims.

Pat Saito