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**Re: A Motion Advocating for the Establishment of a 'Humanitarian Corridor' to Gaza**

**Whereas** the City of Mississauga is home to large Palestinian and Jewish/Israeli communities, with Statistics Canada reporting 6,080 persons identifying as 'Palestinian', 2,065 persons identifying as 'Jewish' and 360 identifying as 'Israeli' in its 2021 Census of Population Profile,

**And Whereas** the City of Mississauga is distinctly multi-cultural with 56% of its 717,961 population identifying as 'immigrant', thus priding itself on its image as a tolerant, inclusive and safe city to live and reside in for all persons of varying ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds,

**And Whereas** growing military conflict in the Middle East, that has escalated in recent weeks following an attack on Israeli civilians by Hamas, and subsequent airstrikes and a cutting-off of water, food, medical and electricity supply to Gaza, a territory with a population of over 2 million Palestinian-majority inhabitants, have resulted in injury and severe losses of innocent civilian lives.

**And Whereas** these injuries and substantial losses of innocent civilian lives in the Middle East, as a result of recent events, are causing extreme grief for, while contributing to the growing fear, anger and hate being directed towards and experienced by Palestinian and Jewish/Israeli communities across Canada, including within Mississauga,

**And Whereas** the City of Mississauga has lowered its flags to half-mast in recognition of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, while also signalling its desire for peace and unity through the symbolic lighting of its Civic Centre clock tower to white,

**Therefore Be It Resolved that the City of Mississauga's Council endorse the Government of Canada's latest call for 'humanitarian pauses' in the ongoing conflict in the Middle East to allow for urgently needed support and aid to be delivered to Gaza, while calling on the Government to defend international law and take further action in advocating for peace and for the protection and preservation of all innocent civilians and their safe passage, particularly through the establishment of a 'humanitarian corridor' to Gaza.**

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