



PEEL REGIONAL POLICE
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 Mississauga, Ontario L5N 8M5
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CHIEF NISHAN DURAIAPPAH

November 12, 2024

City of Mississauga
 300 City Centre Drive
 Mississauga, ON L5B 3C1

Dear Mississauga City Council,

I am writing to express Peel Regional Police's full support for the proposed motion to establish safety zones around places of worship in Mississauga prohibiting protests near places of religious and cultural significance.

Recent demonstrations across Peel Region, near or at places of worship, have raised significant public safety concerns, with some devolving into violence and criminal activity. While we respect the right to peaceful assembly and expression, it is also important to balance this with the safety and freedom of community members to access and practice their religion at places of worship without fear.

Intimidation, incitement, hatred, or violence in any form will not be tolerated in Peel Region, especially in or around vulnerable social infrastructure.

Our commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community, while safeguarding their fundamental rights and freedoms, is unwavering. By setting clear boundaries for peaceful demonstrations, we can better protect the rights of demonstrators while preserving the safety and sanctity that places of worship represent.

In light of recent global events and online threats, Peel Regional Police has taken proactive steps to increase our presence around places of worship to provide reassurance and prevent potential acts of violence.

We appreciate the many community leaders who have worked with us to uphold peace and reject divisive actions within Peel Region.

Peel Regional Police is committed to working alongside the City of Mississauga, and our community partners to reinforce our collective dedication to public safety. Our officers will continue to work diligently to uphold the rights and safety of all community members, ensuring that places of worship remain sanctuaries of peace and safety.

We look forward to supporting the successful implementation of safety zones around places of worship in the City of Mississauga.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Nishan Duraiappah OOM, OOnt.
Chief of Police
Peel Regional Police