



**CITY OF VAUGHAN  
REPORT NO. 1 OF THE  
ANTI-HATE, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*For consideration by the Committee of the Whole  
of the City of Vaughan  
on November 7, 2023*

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The Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee met at 7:02 p.m., on October 16, 2023.

**ELECTRONIC MEETING**

**Members Present:**

Councillor Gila Martow, Chair  
Councillor Chris Ainsworth, Co-chair  
Asia Nisar  
Carrie Silverberg  
Erol Kavas  
Hina Zahid  
Hitesh Anand  
Ruchi Punjabi  
Sabrina Di Marco  
Sam Eskenasi  
Seyfi Tomar

**Staff Present:**

Zincia Francis, Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer  
Anna Rose, Recreation Manager, Events, Theatre and Studio Operations, Recreation Services  
Erynn Sally, Manager, Corporate and Strategic Communications, Office of Communications and Economic Development  
Mark Bond, Chief Human Resources Officer, Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer  
Michael Genova, Chief, Communications and Economic Development, Office of Communications and Economic Development  
Todd Coles, City Clerk, Office of the City Clerk  
Isabel Leung, Deputy City Clerk, Office of the City Clerk  
Rebecca Battat, Councillor Executive Assistant, Ward 5  
Anna Commisso, Councillor Executive Assistant, Ward 4  
Assunta Ferrante, Council/Committee Administrator, Office of the City Clerk

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**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

The Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee recommends:

1. That the introductions made by Committee members be received.

**2. ORIENTATION**

The Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee recommends:

1. That the staff presentation by Assunta Ferrante, Council/Committee Administrator, and Communication C1., presentation material, dated October 16, 2023, be received.

**3. CITY OF VAUGHAN SUPPORTS JEWISH COMMUNITY IN TIME OF CRISIS**

The Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee recommends:

1. That the Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee supports the following draft Member's Resolution of Councillor Martow, in its substantive form, as amended by the Committee, and subject to minor amendments:

Member's Resolution

Submitted by Councillor Martow:

**Whereas**, during the October 11, 2023, Committee of the Whole (2) meeting of Vaughan City Council, in a recorded vote, Councillors unanimously endorsed a Members' Resolution by Mayor Steven Del Duca and Ward 5 Councillor Gila Martow that the City of Vaughan stands with the people of Israel and offers its sincerest condolences to the families of the innocent lives lost due to the ongoing, egregious acts of violence from Hamas; and

**Whereas**, as violence ensues, the safety and well-being of innocent civilians, in Israel and Gaza, is of great concern and must be a top priority as part of the international community's response efforts; and

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**Whereas**, the October 16, 2023, meeting of the Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee marks the first time this Committee is meeting since reports of the latest terrorist acts began by Hamas on October 7.

**It is therefore recommended:**

1. THAT the Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee endorse the October 11 Members' Resolution – Solidarity with Israel, by Mayor Del Duca and Councillor Martow, which unequivocally condemns the heinous acts of violence and terrorism by Hamas; and
2. THAT the Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee applaud the Federal Government for providing an initial \$10 million in funding for humanitarian assistance in response to recent appeals from experienced and trusted humanitarian partners to address urgent needs stemming from the crisis in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza; and
3. THAT the Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee further recognize and welcome today's announcement (October 16, 2023) of the appointment of Deborah Lyons as the Government of Canada's new Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism, and that Mayor Del Duca write to Special Envoy Lyons inquiring about what Canada's cities can further do to combat antisemitism, *islamophobia*, and all forms of hate and discrimination; and
4. THAT the Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee reaffirms the United Nations Secretary-General's calls for Hamas to release the hostages immediately without conditions, and that there must be steadfast compliance with international humanitarian law; *and*
5. THAT we call for the immediate return of fuel, medicines, and other essential supplies to hospitals and aid agencies in the Gaza Strip, condemning the thefts and looting of these essential supplies, and emphasizing that ensuring access to basic necessities is the fundamental role of a government; and
6. THAT we urge all governments and aid agencies to ensure that civilians are not harmed and that they be permitted to leave combat zones, while condemning any reports alleging that Palestinian civilians have been prevented by Hamas forces from leaving the area, and insisting on a thorough

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*investigation and condemnation if such reports are found to  
be true.*

2. That the Member's Resolution be forwarded to Council for approval.

4. **2023 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

The Anti-Hate, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee recommends:

1. That the 2023 Schedule of Meetings be approved, as presented, with the following meeting dates:

October 16  
November 13  
December 4

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The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Gila Martow, Chair