

Alvaro Almeida **Deputy Chief** of Investigations

Paulo Da Silva **Deputy Chief** of Operations

Jim MacSween Chief of Police

Cecile Hammond Deputy Chief of Administration

Kevin McCloskey **Deputy Chief** of Support

April 19, 2024

Mayor Steven Del Duca and Members of Council City of Vaughan 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1

Your Worship and Members of Council:

Re: Member's Resolution for Vulnerable Infrastructure Protest By-law

I am writing on behalf of the York Regional Police to express our full support for the proposed Member's Resolution to draft a By-law aimed at protecting vulnerable social infrastructure and the residents who use it from demonstrations that are intended to intimidate, incite hatred, violence, intolerance or discrimination.

We recognize the serious concerns raised by residents regarding certain demonstrations occurring in close proximity to vulnerable locations, such as religious institutions, schools, childcare centres, hospitals and congregate care facilities. We are committed to working with the City of Vaughan to address these concems and ensure the safety and well-being of all community members.

Furthermore, we are open to providing support and assistance to the city, whether through joint enforcement operations or community outreach initiatives.

The right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly is fundamental to our democratic society. The proposed Member's Bill recognizes the importance of these rights, and that nothing in the By-law should prevent peaceful protests or demonstrations.

Together, we will be able to promote safe and secure access to vulnerable social infrastructure throughout the City of Vaughan.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not he sitate to contact me if you require any further information or assistance.

Yours Truly

Jim MacSween, M.O.M., B.A.A.

Chief of Police



JMS/cd



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