

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [mayor@vaughan.ca](mailto:mayor@vaughan.ca)  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Concerns about events in Thornhill  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024 2:57:48 PM

**C53.**  
**Communication**  
**CW(2) – June 18, 2024**  
**Item No. 23**

**CAUTION!** This is an external email. Verify the sender's email address and carefully examine any links or attachments before clicking. If you believe this may be a phishing email, please use the Phish Alert Button.

Thank you for your response. I am deeply concerned about the rapid and troubling rise of antisemitism in Canada. I believe it is an extremely serious issue that must be addressed. I applaud you for taking this matter seriously. Although this is a good first step, there is still much more work to be done.

On Tue, Jun 11, 2024 at 2:24 PM [mayor@vaughan.ca](mailto:mayor@vaughan.ca) <[mayor@vaughan.ca](mailto:mayor@vaughan.ca)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Thank you for previously contacting the Mayor's Office regarding your concerns about community safety.

We are happy to provide you with this important update.

During the May 22, 2024 Council meeting, Vaughan Council unanimously passed Mayor Del Duca's [Member's Resolution](#), which directs City staff to develop a by-law aimed at protecting Vaughan's places of worship, schools, childcare facilities, and hospital from protests that intimidate, or incite hatred, intolerance, and violence.

I am pleased to inform you that City staff have since developed the proposed by-law, which will be presented to City Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for June 18th, 2024.

To read the proposed by-law, [click here](#).

It would be very helpful if you would please consider sharing your opinion regarding this initiative with all Members of Council and our City Clerk.

To submit a written communication on the proposed by-law, please send an email to [clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:clerks@vaughan.ca) and [council@vaughan.ca](mailto:council@vaughan.ca). The deadline for submitting written communications is noon on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

If you'd like to make a deputation (which can be done in person or virtually) regarding the proposed by-law at the Committee of the Whole meeting, you can do so by pre-registering by completing the [online form here](#) or calling Service Vaughan at 905-832-2281. Deadline to register for a deputation is noon on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Please let us know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thank you for your attention and participation in making Vaughan a safer, more inclusive community.

Best regards,

Office the Mayor, Steven Del Duca

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**From:** Laurence Price [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 8, 2024 1:21 AM  
**To:** [mayor@vaughan.ca](mailto:mayor@vaughan.ca)  
**Subject:** [External] Concerns about events in Thornhill

**CAUTION!** This is an external email. Verify the sender's email address and carefully examine any links or attachments before clicking. If you believe this may be a phishing email, please use the Phish Alert Button.

Dear Mayor Steven Del Duca,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to you as a concerned citizen living in your riding of Thornhill, which has a sizeable Jewish community. Recent developments in the conflict between Israel and Palestine have sparked numerous protests throughout Toronto and Canada. While I understand and respect the importance of free speech and the right to demonstrate peacefully, I am alarmed by the growing anti-Semitism and criminal behaviour evident at these events.

The protests, originally intended to express solidarity with Palestine, have unfortunately taken an anti-Semitic turn, featuring vandalism, threatening language, and intimidation, particularly against Jewish individuals and communities. This level of hateful public discourse is not only disturbing but also dangerous, as it fosters a climate of fear and hostility.

I believe this rhetoric crosses the line into incitement to violence against Jews, and it is disheartening to see the lax response of law enforcement to such serious issues. The defacement of property, intimidation towards Jewish-owned businesses, and other such behaviours I have witnessed at these protests go beyond the realm of free speech and enter a domain that necessitates legal intervention. Much of this is being caught on camera, and nothing is being done.

I am profoundly alarmed by the possible intensification of violence if the prevailing wave of anti-Semitism persists without intervention. It's disconcerting to contemplate what it would take to prompt a more assertive law enforcement reaction. Would it require the murder of a Jew or a bombing at a synagogue causing numerous fatalities? It is a real possibility that this could happen.

I drove by the protest in your riding which took place on Sunday March 3, which is a few minutes away from my neighbourhood in Thornhill on Clarke, in front of the Reena Foundation for people with developmental disabilities, where I volunteer once a week. I did this to see the protests for myself, as I refuse to be intimidated by them. I have seen the vile antisemitic rhetoric from clips on social media that took place at the protests as

well. There has since been an even bigger, boisterous and violent protest Thursday March 7. The protestors were on residential property, committing assault, and involved in other illegal acts. This was not a peaceful protest. All of this is on social media. You can see who is committing the crimes and did not face arrests.

I would like to believe that composing this email would resolve all issues, but unfortunately, it will not. The situation is getting worse and not improving and is deteriorating rapidly. Members of the Jewish community no longer feel safe and indeed are not safe in Thornhill. Please understand that the strategies currently employed to ensure the safety of the Jewish community are not effective. It is crucial that current approaches be thoroughly reevaluated and revised.

As a concerned citizen who voted for you, these protests must stop.

Mayor Steven Del Duca you and law enforcement must do more to protect Jews from violence and hate.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing your perspective on this critical issue and the steps you plan to take to address these concerns.

Sincerely,

Laurence Price [REDACTED] Robinwood Trail, Thornhill, [REDACTED]

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