

C20
Communication
Council – June 25, 2024
CW(2) – Report No. 25 Item No. 23

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: Adelina Bellisario
Subject: FW: [External] "Protest-free bubble zones"
Date: June-24-24 7:43:55 AM

From: Sheri Cowan [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, June 22, 2024 5:54 PM
To: clerk@vaughan.ca; Clerks@vaughan.ca
Subject: [External] "Protest-free bubble zones"

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.

To: City of Vaughan Council

From:
Sheri Cowan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Centre Street London ontario
[REDACTED]

Each day since the genocide in Palestine began, I am further shamed by our government's response. Never would I have thought it possible that humanitarian Canadian citizens that are simply asking Israel to simply stop killing innocent men, women and children, would be vilified and even legislated against. What has happened to the land of the peace-keepers that we allow this a genocide to continue for 9 mos, and even send weapons to Israel that is, according to the UN, plausibly committing genocide? Shame on us.

I have been involved in the pro-peace protests in my own city since October 2023 and have never seen anyone made unsafe by my fellow protestors, whatever their race or religion. In fact, I have been constantly amazed by the wonderful, warm feeling of being with like-minded empathetic, individuals who truly care about people they may have never met. Our movement is made up of diverse people, including many people of Jewish descent who are against the genocide being perpetrated by Israel.

I'm writing to urge the council not to continue with your efforts to further silence the pro-Palestine and anti-genocide campaign. I urge you not to take further steps in criminalizing voices for human rights. It is blatantly clear that the excuses made, under the guise of, "no tolerance for hate in Vaughan", or "vulnerable social structures", and "seek to intimidate residence" as stated by Mayor Steven Del Duca, are more ways to mask the nationalism, and Islamophobia, systemically generated and perpetuated by the Canadian government. I sincerely hope that the pro-Israeli lobby groups don't have a strong hold on the City of Vaughan's decision-making process, because I assure you, the truth will always surface, in time. We will dig until there are no surfaces left, unsolved.

I hope you will be on the right side of history. This genocide will end, and just like with Rwanda, we will be judged on what we did to stop the killing. I hope your children will be able to look and see that you stood on the side of

human rights.

Sincerely, Sheri Cowan