

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (1)

DATE: Tuesday, October 08, 2024

TITLE: 2024 MAYORS SUMMIT AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM

FROM:

Mayor Steven Del Duca

Whereas, safeguarding the quality of life for all Vaughan residents by combating all forms of hate, intimidation, intolerance, discrimination, Anti-Semitism, and the incitement of violence requires an immediate call to action; and

Whereas, acts of intimidation such as the vandalism at Chabad House of Maple on November 14, 2023, and two large-scale protests in Thornhill in March 2024 have led to Vaughan's Jewish community and residents feeling considerable distress and intimidation; and

Whereas, Council adopted unanimously a resolution co-authored by Mayor Del Duca and Councillor Martow immediately following the October 7 terrorist attacks, in which the City of Vaughan pledged to stand with the people of Israel against the ongoing, egregious acts of violence from Hamas; and

Whereas, Council further adopted a unanimous resolution on June 25, 2024, arising from a Member's Resolution presented by Mayor Del Duca, which protects vulnerable social infrastructure, including places of worship, schools, childcare facilities, and healthcare facilities from demonstrations which cause intimidation, including, but not limited to, actions or expressions that incite hatred, violence, intolerance, or discrimination; and

Whereas, Mayor Del Duca has been invited by Mayor Friedman of Beverly Hills, California, to be a keynote speaker about Vaughan's municipal initiatives on combatting anti-Semitism, including the bylaw to protect vulnerable social infrastructure, at the 2024 Mayors Summit Against Anti-Semitism; and

Whereas, airfare and hotel expenses have been offered to be covered by the Combat Hate Foundation; and

Whereas, Vaughan's continued leadership and representation on the critically important issue of combatting anti-Semitism remains a priority for residents.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That Council endorse Mayor Steven Del Duca's participation as a delegate and keynote speaker to the 2024 Mayors Summit Against Anti-Semitism, where Mayor Del Duca will address the City of Vaughan's Council-approved initiatives to combat anti-Semitism and all forms of hate; and
2. That Council endorse that airfare and hotel, for the Mayor's participation as a delegate, be covered by the Combat Hate Foundation.

Financial and Staff Resource Impact

Existing budget will be used to fund staff participation to support this initiative.

Attachments: N/A