
City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM34.43	ACTION			Ward: All
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**Standing against Islamophobia - by Mayor John Tory,
seconded by Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong**

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Mayor John Tory, seconded by Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong, recommends that:

1. City Council express its condolences to the family and friends of the London, Ontario family killed on Sunday night in what police have confirmed was a targeted and intentional Islamophobic attack.
2. City Council condemns in the strongest terms possible this act of Islamophobia and all such acts, and restate its commitment to an inclusive and welcoming City for all Toronto residents.
3. City Council urge our Provincial Crown Attorneys to aggressively pursue justice in acts of hate against our Muslim Community to send a message that Islamophobia and other forms of hate are not acceptable and will result in legal consequences.

Summary

On Sunday, June 6, 2021, a family of five were deliberately targeted due to their Muslim faith and attacked in London, Ontario. Four innocent people - a 74-year-old woman, a 46-year-old man, a 44-year-old woman, and a 15-year-old girl - were killed and a young boy, 9, remains in hospital.

London Police have said they believe the innocent victims of this horrendous act

were murdered because of their Islamic faith.

London Mayor Ed Holder has called this mass murder of three generations of a family an unspeakable act of hatred and Islamophobia.

We join our neighbours in London in mourning this family and comforting the Muslim Community in London, in Toronto and across Canada.

We should never hesitate to say that and to call out those perpetrating acts of hatred against our Muslim Community when we see them.

This incident of Islamophobic violence and other acts of hatred increase fear in our Muslim Community.

It is so important at this time to stand with the Muslim Community in London and here in Toronto in the face of this tragedy. And to absolutely reject the hatred and Islamophobia that led to this deadly violence.

We welcome and embrace our Muslim faith community here in Toronto and across Ontario and we will not tolerate any attacks on them or their places of worship.

Islamophobia has absolutely no place in our City and our society.

The mass shooting in Quebec City, the stabbing here in Toronto at the IMO, this tragedy in London and many other less high profile incidents tell us we have much to do to live up to our values which tell us to embrace each other, not stigmatize and never hate.

As a City, we have been working to try to combat these acts of hatred. One of the first Toronto For All public education campaigns was focused on confronting Islamophobia. We have also created the Muslim Youth Fellowship at City Hall to break down barriers and to ensure voices from our Muslim communities are represented in decision-making spaces. More than 30 fellows have worked at City Hall over the last three years.

This year, we have also increased funding for the Toronto Police hate crime unit to ensure our enforcement officials have the resources they need to combat Islamophobia and hate-fuelled violence targeting any community in our City.

We remain deeply committed to this work in our City and we express our solidarity with the family and friends of the victims in London, to all of the members of the Muslim Community in London and to all members of the Muslim

faith community here in Toronto.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM34.43