



TORONTO POLICE ASSOCIATION

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March 9, 2026

To All Members of City Council

Dear Councillor:

We know you are well aware of the disturbing acts of violence targeting our city's Jewish community. While thankfully no one was physically hurt, the fear and anxiety caused are just as troubling. Our Association and the 8,500 members we represent stand with your constituents and support the comments made this weekend by Chief Myron Demkiw, committing the full resources of the Toronto Police Service to find those responsible.

We also know that, unfortunately, these incidents are not isolated and have become all too common since October 7, 2023. In fact, with the situation worsening in the Middle East, it seems there is no end in sight to the protests and demonstrations we witness daily across our city.

That is why, on February 25, we partnered with other emergency services to send a letter to Prime Minister Mark Carney and Premier Doug Ford, requesting additional financial support for the City of Toronto. We've included the letter below, but our message was and remains very clear. The burden of keeping the country's largest and most populous city safe cannot be the sole responsibility of the municipality, and a coordinated funding model is essential to ensure the delivery of safe and effective services during these times.

As the largest police association in the country, our priority is not only to advocate for the members we represent but also to champion what is right and what matters to the communities we serve.

If there is anything we can do to support you and your constituents, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Clayton Campbell
President

cc: Her Worship Olivia Chow
Chief Myron Demkiw

WE PROTECT THOSE WHO PROTECT OTHERS



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Toronto Civic Employees' Union - Local 416
110 Laird Drive
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February 27, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Office of the Premier
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Prime Minister Carney and Premier Ford,

Since October 7, 2023, cities across Canada have experienced thousands of demonstrations of varying sizes in relation to the geopolitical events across the world.

Nowhere have these events been more pronounced than in the city of Toronto.

According to the Toronto Police Service, more than 3,500 protests and demonstrations have taken place over the past two years, with more than 1,608 events in 2025 alone.

These events have had a disproportionate impact on our first responders. While our members and their respective agencies are equipped to respond to protests and demonstrations – both planned and unplanned – sustaining this response over the past two and a half years has been challenging and has had a detrimental impact on member wellness.

These pressures have not only contributed to burnout and staffing shortages but have also increased reliance on overtime across several services, including documented cases of frontline personnel declining overtime due to unsustainable workloads.



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Emergency system pressures, such as a 300% increase in low ambulance availability since pre-pandemic levels, affect the entire first responder network, requiring longer on-scene times for police and fire while waiting for medical units to clear. Overall, budgets across all agencies have been stretched to the limit. For instance, the Toronto Police Service alone estimates it has spent more than \$42M on event management since 2023.

We know there is an expectation on the City of Toronto to manage its resources responsibly. However, it is not unreasonable to expect a joint investment from all three levels of government in supporting the city's response to global issues.

Toronto is the largest city in the country and the fourth largest in North America. It is home to 3.245 million people, with more diversity than any other spot in Canada. It is home to 87 of 108 consular offices, and the largest population of Jewish and Palestinian residents anywhere in the country. You can speak with any Toronto-area MPP or MP and they will tell you the impact these events have had on local communities.

When major demonstrations occur, all three emergency services must deploy additional units for crowd safety, risk mitigation, and incident response, which pulls resources from critical emergencies across Toronto. We know it is often unpopular to say so, but it is undeniable that Toronto is unique, faces challenges not found anywhere else in the country, and therefore requires special attention.

As you know, the Toronto Police Service Board wrote to Ministers Downey, Kerzner, and Sarkaria in January, advising of a Motion from its most recent meeting. The Motion, among other things, considered protest activity, public order, and hate-motivated crime. In support of the Motion and the subsequent correspondence to the provincial government, we are requesting consideration of a cost-sharing agreement among all levels of government to ensure sustainable resources are provided to all first responder organizations, enabling an adequate response to geopolitical activity.

The burden of keeping the country's largest, most populous city safe cannot be the sole responsibility of the municipality. When global issues play out on



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this local stage, it is in everyone's interest to ensure the response is appropriate and consistent. A coordinated funding model among all levels of government is essential to ensure first responders can continue to deliver safe, effective services during periods of heightened geopolitical activity, which will likely continue for many months ahead.

We respectfully request that your governments consider this request and collaborate with Mayor Chow on a financially sustainable solution that benefits not only Toronto but also Ontario and Canada.

On behalf of the 15,000 members we represent, thank you for your continued support for first responders.

Sincerely,

Clayton Campbell
President
Toronto Police Association

Eddie Mariconda
President
CUPE Local 416

Mike Smith
President
Toronto Professional Firefighters Association



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cc: The Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Public Safety
The Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario
Julie Dzerowicz, Member of Parliament & Chair of the Toronto Caucus
Her Worship Olivia Chow, Mayor of Toronto
Councillor Shelley Carroll, Chair of the Toronto Police Service Board
Chief Myron Demkiw, Toronto Police Service