TOWN OF AJAX



65 Harwood Avenue South Ajax ON L1S 3S9 <u>www.ajax.ca</u>

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Sent by E-Mail

April 17, 2024

| Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
|--|----------------|
| Date & Time | April 17, 2024 |
| Received: | 1:55 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action File | |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Renewed Call to Recognize and Combat the Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on April 15, 2024:

WHEREAS Intimate partner violence (IPV) is physical, sexual and emotional abuse and aggression that occurs in an intimate relationship;

AND WHEREAS in 2019, of the 107,810 people who reported Intimate Partner Violence to police, 79% were women;

AND WHEREAS on March 14th, 2018, Krassimira Pejcinovski and her children, 15-year-old Roy and 13-year-old Venellia, were murdered by Krassimira's boyfriend in an act of Intimate Partner Violence:

AND WHEREAS on March 30th, 2024, Jennifer Polak of Ajax was allegedly murdered by her boyfriend in an act of Intimate Partner Violence;

AND WHEREAS between 2014 and 2019, despite accounting for about 5% of all women in Canada, Indigenous women accounted for 21% of all women murdered by an intimate partner;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Ajax passed a motion on April 17th, 2023, calling on the Ontario Government and Region of Durham to declare an Intimate Partner Violence epidemic, per recommendation #1 of the Renfrew County Inquest; and

AND WHEREAS the Legislature of the Province of Ontario is currently considering *Bill 173, Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act, 2024* which, if enacted, would recognize Intimate Partner Violence as an epidemic;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Town of Ajax renew its call to the Province of Ontario to recognize Intimate Partner Violence as an epidemic through the passage of *Bill 173, Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act, 2024*;

AND THAT Town of Ajax staff be directed to facilitate a roundtable discussion with subject matter experts and local service providers for survivors of IPV to provide guidance on actions the Town can take to combat Intimate Partner Violence in Ajax;

AND THAT this motion be distributed to Ajax MPP Patrice Barnes, the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, the Region of Durham and Durham municipalities, Renfrew County, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Luke's Place Herizon House and Violence Prevention Coordinating Council of Durham (VPCC).

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 905-619-2529 ext. 3342 or Jason.McWilliam@ajax.ca.

Sincerely,

Jason McWilliam

Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Regional Councillor M. Crawford

Councillor L. Bower

Hon. Doug Downey, The Ministry of the Attorney General

Hon. Charmaine Williams, The Ministry of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity

The Region of Durham

All Durham Region municipalities

Renfrew County

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Luke's Place Herizon House

Violence Prevention Coordinating Council of Durham (VPCC)