


Sent by Email

March 3, 2025

Richard Robertson
Director, Research and Advocacy
B'nai Brith Canada
PO Box 77510, Sheppard Plaza
Toronto, ON M3H 6A7
richr@bnaibrith.ca

| | |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | March 03, 2025 1:49 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Subject: Protecting Canadian Values: Ban the Nazi Swastika in Canada

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on February 24, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in recent years, Nazi iconography has resurfaced with alarming frequency in the public sphere, used by an increasing number of groups and individuals to promote hate and instill fear within Canadian society;

And Whereas, since the atrocities of WWII, the Nazi swastika, specifically the German Hakenkreuz, has become universally synonymous with systematic violence, terror and hate. These symbols and iconography represent Nazi ideology, a doctrine rooted in racism, antisemitism, and genocide. Its growing presence in our country poses a threat to every single Canadian citizen, undermining the core values of equality, diversity, and inclusion that define our nation;

And Whereas, 18 countries have already taken action to ban these symbols. It is imperative that Canada follow suit;

And Whereas, the City of Pickering Council agrees that the people of Canada are counting on the federal government to ensure a future free from hate, where every Canadian is protected, valued, and respected;

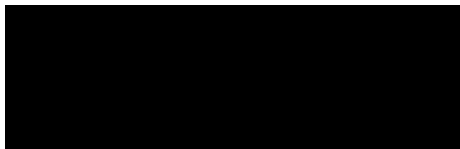
Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the CAO:

1. That the Mayor and Members of Council write a letter which supports B'Nai Brith's call to the Government of Canada to pass legislation banning the public display of Nazi symbols and iconography, including the Nazi swastika - specifically, demanding that the Government of Canada immediately:

- ban the Nazi swastika;
 - ban all variations of all Nazi symbols and iconography; and
 - condemn acts of hate and explore protocol to report hate motivated acts to human rights organizations;
2. That the Mayor and Members of Council condemn in the strongest terms possible the recent acts of antisemitism and hate felt across the Region of Durham and beyond;
 3. That the Mayor and Members of Council reiterate their support for the past National Action Summit on antisemitism which had the participation of the Federal, Provincial and municipal governments;
 4. That the City of Pickering commits to looking for ways to educate residents in combating all forms of hate including antisemitism, and the possible inclusion of antisemitism and antihate campaigns;
 5. That the City of Pickering staff report on the possibility of establishing a protocol or policy to notify various human rights organizations when hate motivated criminal acts are identified by City staff, and the intent of the policy is to assist them in the collection of empirical evidence related to hate crimes; and,
 6. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to B'nai Brith Canada, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA), Rabbi Tzali Borenstein, Jennifer O'Connell, MP Pickering-Uxbridge, The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge, the Regional Municipality of Durham, Durham District School Board, Durham Catholic District School Board, and all lower-tier Durham municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: Jennifer O'Connell, MP Pickering-Uxbridge
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Durham

Jaclyn Grossi, Clerk, Town of Ajax
June Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington
Chris Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby
Fernando Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa
Blair Labelle, Clerk, Township of Scugog
Durham District School Board
Durham Catholic District School Board
Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA)
Rabbi Tzali Borenstein

Chief Administrative Officer