

Agenda Number: 7.1.

Resolution No.

Date: Monday, August 14, 2023



Moved by: Deputy Mayor Shaw

Seconded by: Councillor Penner

Whereas Ontario communities have seen dramatic increases in hate-motivated incidents and hate crimes against 2S-LGBTQQIAP+, Jewish, Muslim, Black, Asian, Indigenous and other equity-seeking individuals;

Whereas there were more than 1,500 police reported hate Crimes in Ontario in 2021; Whereas everyone is guaranteed equality rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which is embedded in Canada's constitution;

Whereas the Province of Ontario in May, 2023, recognizing the increase in hate crimes and has released a \$25.5 million dollar investment with the new Anti-hate Security and Prevention Grant program as part of Ontario Strengthening Supports to Combat Hate and Create Safer Communities;

Whereas locally, the 2S-LGBTQQIAP+ community and allies are being directly threatened by a hate mail campaign and events inciting discrimination against these community members;

Whereas the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie and its citizens embrace and celebrate diversity, equity and inclusion in our local community;

Whereas the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie recognizes our responsibility to meaningfully respond to the impacts of hate in our community;

And Whereas hate speech and related activities have no place in an inclusive society;

Therefore be it resolved:

1. That the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie reaffirms our commitment to a safe and inclusive community and condemns hate in all its forms;
2. Directs staff to explore the creation of an inclusion and accessibility committee that will examine the barriers, identify opportunities, and propose anti-hate policies and procedures that ensure safe and welcoming spaces for everyone in our community; and
3. That a copy of this motion be provided to Bruce County Municipalities.

Carried

Tabled

Defeated