

HARRIET ALTMAN
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR

[Personal information redacted -- Board Office]

August 21, 2024

Toronto Police Service Board
40 College Street
TORONTO, Ontario M5G 2J3

Re: Police Protection of Jewish Organizations and Jews in Toronto

Dear Sirs;

I firstly want to thank the Police Service Board for the protection they have given us. Unfortunately, it is not enough. I know the Police are stretched thin—but I myself have been the victim of Anti-Semitic Aggression—and my synagogue has been targeted. We need more protection from the Police—and we need more charges laid and more realistic sentences meted out.

When there are protests without permits—charges should be laid. When there is violence at Protests--- it should be labelled a Hate Crime and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Each and every citizen has the right to feel safe in Toronto—and we should not have to bear the cost of it at our synagogues and schools. I would hope that the Police Chief would establish procedures that allow Service Members to execute their lawful duties in a manner that meets community values: Jews have a right to feel safe.

As Secretary of the Bayview Valley Ratepayers Assoc. in Toronto; I was notified when one of our members had the mezuzah stolen from their door. When I was crossing the street to enter synagogue I was accosted by a man waving a large Palestinian flag on a pole (I am 75 and have had knee surgery so I am walking with a cane) and called a Jewish “c*nt. My grandchildren have had incidents at school and Universities. An 85 year old man was beaten by a woman wearing a hijab at Bathurst and Sheppard. This is not the Canadian Way—and we are looking to you to make Toronto safe for us again.

Yours truly,

Harriet Altman

