I never thought that I would feel insecure in Toronto just for being Jewish. But that is my reality for the last year. Protests have spiraled well beyond legally permissible bounds, leading to threats, harassment, and intimidation. For me personally, I have altered my usual commuting pattern, avoided walking on the most direct routes near my workplace, and occasionally chosen not to attend certain functions due to the above behavior. And I have spent numerous hours commiserating with many others who have similar experiences.

With that background:

* I would like to see stronger action taken to prevent or end protests that obstruct rights-of-way (blocking of streets; encampments at universities; etc.).
* I would like to see stronger action taken against protesters who conceal their identity while engaged in unlawful behavior.
* I would like to see stronger action taken against those who harass or intimidate people as defined by current law. This includes setting up protests or obstructions in places where the intent is clearly to target private citizens of a particular group (e.g., setting up protests or roadblocks in Jewish neighborhoods), rather than protesting at government or other public offices.
* I would like to see laws against unlawful protests applied equally regardless of the topic/viewpoint of the protest. My sense is that laws against trespassing, unlawful assembly, mischief, etc. are not enforced with the same rigor against activities by groups associated with certain topics/viewpoints.
* I would like to see elected officials in Toronto and Ontario exhibit support for the police when they undertake the above action.

Finally, I wish to thank the Toronto Police Force members for undertaking difficult work under difficult circumstances.

Thank you.