

**Notice of this motion is provided in accordance with the notice and submission deadline requirements of section 11.1 of the City of Thorold's Procedural By-law. Councillor DeRose seeks to bring forward a motion respecting Thorold City Council support for Criminal Code amendment to criminalize the desecration of the Canadian Flag.**

WHEREAS the Canadian flag is a symbol of the nation's unity, history, and values, representing the sacrifices and contributions made by Canadians across generations;

WHEREAS the Canadian flag stands as a symbol of national pride, democracy, freedom, and the rights and responsibilities of Canadian citizens;

WHEREAS the desecration of the Canadian flag is an act that disrespects the ideals and principles upon which Canada was built, undermining national cohesion and respect for the country's institutions;

WHEREAS acts of flag desecration can cause significant emotional harm to Canadians, particularly veterans, and others for whom the flag represents personal or collective sacrifice, dignity, and identity; and

WHEREAS criminalizing the desecration of the Canadian flag would serve as a means of protecting national symbols from acts that seek to degrade their meaning while still respecting the constitutional rights of citizens to protest peacefully and express diverse views;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the City of Thorold enacts as follows:

1. That Council for the City of Thorold **SUPPORTS** the amendment to the *Criminal Code* R.S.C., 1985, c. C-46, for the purpose of criminalizing the act of desecrating the Canadian Flag; and
2. That this resolution **BE CIRCULATED** to the Office of the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, and the Office of Member of Parliament for Niagara Centre, Vance Badawey.