

March 5, 2025

Mayor Margaret Quirk
Town of Georgina
26557 Civic Centre Road
Keswick, Ontario
L4P 3G1

Dear Mayor Quirk,

I am writing to you on behalf of B'nai Brith Canada, the country's oldest human rights organization and the voice of Canada's grassroots Jewish community. Our organization is committed to eradicating racism and hatred in all its forms and championing the rights of the marginalized.

It is with the utmost concern that we have witnessed the increased frequency with which the Nazi swastika (hakenkreuz) is appearing in the Canadian public sphere. A mere 80 years after the liberation of Auschwitz and the surrender of the Nazi Reich, the swastika is being used by groups and individuals to foment division, promote hate and instill fear within Canadian society. In response to this horrifying trend, B'nai Brith Canada has launched a [campaign](#) calling on the Government of Canada to ban the public display of the Nazi swastika and other Nazi iconography, with reasonable exceptions for purposes such as historical education or artistic expression.

The Nazi swastika is intrinsically and irredeemably linked to the horrors of the Holocaust and the atrocities committed by the Third Reich. It is a symbol synonymous with genocide and hatred. It is representative of the worst of humanity. The normalization of its display in our country poses a threat to every single Canadian citizen, undermining the core values of equality, diversity, and respect that define our nation. Its presence is an affront to the millions of victims of Nazi persecution and to the thousands of Canadians who sacrificed their lives to liberate the world from the dangers of Nazi tyranny.

Eighteen countries have already taken action to ban the public display of the Nazi swastika and other Nazi symbols. As our nation grapples with an unprecedented surge in hate crimes and hate-motivated incidents, it is imperative that Canada follows suit. B'nai Brith is pleased to share that in Ontario, the Town of Whitby, the City of Pickering, and Region of Durham, have already passed motions endorsing our call to action.

We are calling on municipalities across Canada to continue to be leaders in the fight against hate and to protect Canadian values by endorsing our call to action. It is our hope to garner support from coast to coast for this important initiative, and request that you consider the merits of bringing forward a motion to have your municipality endorse our campaign.

We look forward to collaborating with you on this pressing issue.

Sincerely yours,



Judy Foldes
Chief Operating Officer



Richard Robertson
Director, Research & Advocacy