



### For Immediate Release

June 4, 2020

### **Anti-racism statement from Mayor Margaret Quirk and Karen McGill, Chair of Georgina's Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee**

The events that have occurred over the last week south of the border are deeply troubling, saddening and difficult to comprehend.

We have to acknowledge that racism does not stop at the border and exists in our community, as it does in many others. Georgina is growing more diverse, and when we witness racism, we need to work harder, be louder and step-up with a united voice to stop it. It will mean difficult conversations, active listening, continuous learning and a willingness to do the work that must be done. As a society, we have a long way to go.

Through the Georgina Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee, the Town is working to promote mutual trust and respect among the Town's diverse community groups. In 2018, an Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee policy was approved to support the Town's goal of being an inclusive and diverse organization.

Racism is unacceptable and is not consistent with our community's core values. It has no place in Georgina, our community is committed to creating a Town that promotes tolerance and respect for everyone.

So, we encourage you to use your voice and speak out against the comments and actions you hear and see, whether it is in your social life, at home or at work. By doing nothing we are silently condoning it and that is not okay. We can no longer be bystanders. It is time to stand up and make our community a better place. Make the world a better place.

**"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." - Martin Luther King Jr.**