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From: rob lamothe

Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 11:55 AM

To: PSB Administration <psbadministration@haldimandcounty.on.ca>

Subject: From Rob Lamothe, regarding outside 'agitators' at recent Pride event in Dunnville

To whom it may concern,

I would like to attend (and participate as a delegate) at the upcoming June Police Services Board meeting, regarding the recent PRIDE event in Dunnville. Professional 'agitators' from Texas, California, Ohio, Hamilton and Toronto terrorized and traumatized community members at a family-friendly celebration of inclusion and equality in Dunnville's Central Park, as at least 8 OPP officers stood by observing.

Amongst other questions, I would like to know if there are any ongoing investigations by Haldimand County and/or OPP in response to the hateful, violent speech and intimidation experienced by community members at the Pride event in Dunnville's Central Park on Saturday, May 26. I would like to know if there are any ongoing investigations by Haldimand County and/or OPP regarding the Caledonia Administration offices being targeted by 5 of the agitators on Monday, May 28. I would also like to know if there are any ongoing investigations by Haldimand County and/or OPP in response to 5 of the agitators attempting to enter a Pride event co-organizers residence at Maple Grove on Monday, May 28, where he was harassed, intimidated and threatened. Assuming there are currently investigations under way, I would like to know the status of the investigations.

The 12-14 agitators marched into the park 30 minutes into the celebration, blocking the stage with 12-ft-high anti-gay-and-lesbian banners. They overwhelmed the event's professional sound system with a portable military-grade loudspeaker, screaming their Homophobic and Islamophobic hate speech and traumatizing families, seniors and children.

My wife was a co-organizer of the Pride event. She and her team had the necessary permits, insurance and extra port-a-potties on site. I was hired to set up and run a sound system for community speakers (including Counsellor Bernie Corbett and Pastor Warner Bloomfield from Grace United Church) and musical performers. Event organizers have now been contacted by national organizations (and press) and I would suggest that Haldimand County and OPP might want to take the opportunity for some public conversation/de-briefing with Pride event attendees and organizers before this story goes national. By the way, I'm not in any position to guarantee that this story won't go national before the next Police Services Board meeting.

I'm assuming a lack of legislation was the cause of the OPP decision to allow outside agitators to terrorize and traumatize community members? Myself and many other people in this community (and beyond) would like to know why the intimidation and hate speech was allowed to continue...

Note: A coalition of anti-oppression groups has called an emergency meeting for tomorrow at the Downtown YMCA in Hamilton. They will address concerns around our Dunnville event... and the traumatizing effect it had on attendees.

Thank you,
Rob Lamothe