

# Memorandum to Council

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer



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**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**CC:** Jacqueline Long, Head of Organizational Effectiveness  
Erica Mittag, Manager, 55+ Recreation, Accessibility, and Diversity  
Amanda Morrow, Sr. IDEA Specialist

**From:** Matt Gaskell, Chief Administrative Officer

**Date:** June 16, 2025

**File #:** Text

**Subject:** Update on Anti-Hate Initiatives

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**Acknowledged by M. Gaskell,  
Chief Administrative Officer**

The intent of this memorandum is to respond to Council's direction to staff, provided at the Committee of the Whole meeting on June 2, 2025, to share on-going efforts to partner with the Region of Durham on anti-hate initiatives.

On May 29, 2025, the Region of Durham announced they had received a grant from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation's National Anti-Racism Fund to mobilize communities to advocate against hate. As part of the grant application, the Region identified three key project deliverables of the Together Against Hate campaign:

**Coalition building:** The first step will be to form a steering committee of committed partners to collaborate on recommendations for public awareness, policy reform, and actionable strategies to combat hate in our communities.

**Public Campaign:** Next, will be the development and launch of a public awareness campaign focused on education, outreach, and capacity-building. This effort will include developing resources and tools to support local communities and partners.

**Anti-Hate Conference:** To conclude the initiative, an Anti-Hate conference will be held in Fall 2025, bringing together coalition members to reflect on progress and shape policy recommendations and advocacy goals.

Durham Region sent out a call to municipal partners expressing interest in collaborating on this initiative. Two staff members of the Town of Whitby will be participating: Erica Mittag, Manager, 55+ Recreation, Accessibility, and Diversity, and, Amanda Morrow, Senior IDEA Specialist.

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Staff have reached out to Region staff about a presentation to Council regarding the work of the Together Against Hate campaign, as well as other efforts by the Region of Durham addressing hate in our community.

Staff are working with Clerks to schedule a special council meeting on September 15, 2025, for a comprehensive presentation from Region of Durham staff.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Jacqueline Long, Head of Organizational Effectiveness ([longj@whitby.ca](mailto:longj@whitby.ca)).