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MAYOR PATRICK BROWN

December 16, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1 The Honourable Michael Kerzner Solicitor General of Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

Re: Urgent Provincial Action to Address Extortion and Transnational Organized Crime in the Region of Peel

Dear Premier Ford and Solicitor General Kerzner,

I am writing further to a motion adopted by Brampton City Council addressing the growing impact of extortion and transnational organized crime on the City of Brampton and the broader Region of Peel. A copy of this motion has been shared with your offices to formally convey Council's request and the urgency of provincial action.

Extortion-related crimes have increased significantly in Peel Region, with small businesses, families, and community members facing threats of violence, property damage, and intimidation. These crimes often go underreported due to fear and lack of access to culturally appropriate and adequately resourced victim support services. The human and economic toll on our communities continues to grow.

The Government of Canada's recent collaboration with the Province of British Columbia provides a strong and effective model. In British Columbia, dedicated provincial and federal investments have supported victims of extortion through safety planning, outreach, protective measures, and trauma-informed services. This approach recognizes that victim support is a critical component of any successful strategy to combat organized crime.

Given the severity and scale of extortion affecting Peel Region and following Deputy Mayor Harkirat Singh's motion, unanimously approved by our Council, we respectfully request that the Province of Ontario work in partnership with the Government of Canada to establish a dedicated victim support fund, mirroring the funding model implemented in British Columbia. Such a fund would ensure timely, coordinated, and culturally responsive support for victims, while reinforcing public confidence and encouraging reporting of these crimes.

A provincial commitment to victim support would complement law enforcement efforts, reduce long-term social and economic costs, and demonstrate Ontario's leadership in protecting communities from organized criminal activity that transcends municipal boundaries.

The City of Brampton stands ready to collaborate with the Province of Ontario and federal partners to design and implement a funding framework that reflects local needs and delivers meaningful support to those most affected.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to continued partnership in safeguarding Ontario's communities.

Yours sincerely,

Mayor Patrick Brown City of Brampton

cc: The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Gary Anandasangree, Minister of Public Safety of Canada, Deputy Mayor Singh, Regional Councillor Gurpartap Singh Toor, Regional Councillor Navjit Kaur Brar