

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities resolution

Resolution – Strengthening Canada’s Hate Speech Laws

Meeting – Annual Conference – June 2021

Resolution Status – Adapted

Sponsor – Town of Collingwood, ON

Resolution:

WHEREAS Canadians generally recognize of the strength of community that is derived from embracing and appreciating all community members regardless of ethnic origin, gender and sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or faith – and in accordance with statements made by the Federal Government, individual Provinces, and The United Nations, that hate speech has no place in an inclusive society that seeks to empower its constituents; and

WHEREAS it is widely recognized that symbols can have a powerful and profound effect on the psychology and well-being of community members; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that FCM petition the Canadian Government to build on Parliament’s 2019 Report Taking Action to End Online Hate and engage in the development of legislation that would clarify and strengthen the definition of hate speech, including explicit recognition of the psychological harm that can be caused by hateful symbols, and work with all levels of government in addressing the root causes of hate speech.