Pilon, Janet

Subject: Request for Proclamation

From: David Sheng <<u>david@swacoalition.org</u>> Sent: February 17, 2022 9:00 AM To: Office of the Mayor <<u>Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca</u>> Subject: Request for Proclamation

Dear Mayor Eisenberger,

I am writing today to request your council to proclaim May 10, 2022, as the **"Day of Action Against Anti-Asian Racism"** - a nationwide movement that was initiated by a group of grassroots activists in Burnaby, BC.

<u>Stand With Asians Coalition (SWAC)</u> is a Canadian registered non-profit organization and a community of people in Canada who are concerned about the surge of anti-Asian racism in our cities. According to Statistics Canada Police-reported hate crimes against East and South East Asians has increased 301% in 2020*

Stand With Asians Coalition brings allies together to raise awareness and to combat anti-Asian racism. We must condemn all forms of hate in public spaces as it creates unsafe conditions for members of the Asian, Black, Indigenous, People of Colour, and Racialized Communities.

SWAC is organizing a virtual <u>National Day of Action Against Anti-Asian Racism E Rally</u> on Zoom on May 10, 2022 at 5 PM PT/ 8 PM ET. More details will follow.

I am writing to request your council to make a city-wide proclamation by March 31, 2022 to support this important initiative. Please see attached a sample wording of the proclamation. After the release of your proclamation, we ask that you kindly email an electronic copy to <u>admin@swacoalition.org</u> so that we can post it on social media. Should you have any questions about this request, please contact me at 604-626-7896 or <u>david.p.sheng@gmail.com</u>. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

David Sheng Board Member Stand with Asians Coalition

*<u>https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2021001/article/00013-eng.htm</u> Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2020 Police-reported hate crime during the COVID-19 pandemic

SWAC is grateful for the opportunity to work and live on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the handaminam and <u>Skwxwú7mesh</u> speaking peoples as well as all Coast Salish peoples.

ABOUT SWAC

<u>Stand With Asians Coalition (SWAC)</u> is a grassroots movement that started in Burnaby, British Columbia, in April 2021, to stand against the rising incidence of anti-Asian racism and other forms of racism. Initially centered around a <u>Facebook group</u> that has attracted more than 2,400 members,

SWAC is now registered in British Columbia as a non-profit society. SWAC is working to unite municipalities across the country in acknowledging the impact of anti-Asian racism as a first step towards developing more effective policy initiatives & systemic change to protect all Canadians.

Nearly 9 million Canadians and 3.3 million union workers across Canada have proclaimed May 10, 2021, a <u>Day of Action Against Anti-Asian Racism</u>. <u>Stand With Asians Coalition (SWAC)</u> is working toward uniting municipalities representing 10 million Canadians to declare May 10, 2022, as the Day of Action Against Anti-Asian Racism.

WHEREAS, The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms gives everyone equal rights "without discrimination and, in particular without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability"

AND WHEREAS, in 21^{er} Century Canadian society, racism and acts of hatred have no place in any of our provinces, territories, regions, towns and cities and Canadians must come together to call all acts of racism and hatred; yet there has been a dramatic surge in incidents of racism across Canada, particularly instances of anti-Asian racism across Canada*

AND WHEREAS, According to Statistics Canada Police-reported hate crimes against East and South East Asians has increased 301% in 2020*

AND WHEREAS, **Stand With Asians Coalition** (SWAC) brings allies together, across our country to raise awareness and to combat anti-Asian racism by calling out racism where it occurs each and every time,

AND WHEREAS, aiming to maintain our values as inclusive and racially diverse Canadians, we support the Stand With Asians Coalition to build a stronger, more inclusive society where everyone can feel safe, happy and healthy;

We therefore join SWAC to declare May 10, 2022, to be Day of Action Against Anti-Asian Racism

*https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2021001/article/00013-eng.htm

Police-reported crime statistics in Canada, 2020

Police-reported hate crime during the COVID-19 pandemic