

UNITED FOR ALL

Together we can overcome
hate and violence

Racism Has No Place In Our City

September 21, 2020

The community continues to point to systemic racism within the Ottawa Police Service. The [United For All](#) coalition vigorously condemns the offensive videos circulating online that target Chief Peter Sloly and his efforts to address systemic racism in the Ottawa Police Service in response to calls from the community.

We are also deeply troubled by two incidents where community members were thwarted in their efforts to raise awareness about anti-Black racism and police brutality. These community members [created anti-racism chalk art](#) and were attempting to bring the community together to address these issues in Ottawa. We commend them for their work. For the partners involved with United For All, this difficult weekend serves as a reminder of how much work we still have to do as a community. These incidents point directly to the need for a collaborative city-wide strategy to address racism and discrimination.

Speaking on behalf of the United For All coalition, Yasir Naqvi, Chief Executive Officer of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship (ICC), said:

“Last year, we launched the United For All coalition to overcome hate and violence in our communities, including racism. This work continues and our partners are working closely with the City of Ottawa Anti-Racism Secretariat, Ottawa Police Service and Crime Prevention Ottawa as part of the development of the community-wide strategy.

“In response to these events, United For All partners reiterate their support for the Ottawa Police equity, diversity and inclusion vision, which includes racial profiling policy, traffic stop race data collection project, diversity and gender audits and addressing major concerns regarding lack of trust in policing.

“Chief Peter Sloly’s leadership and accountability measures are key steps in restoring public trust in institutions and making it easier for the community to build trust with the police.

*“We also want to reinforce this message: **diversity is the heartbeat of our city**. Thank you to those who, each day, bravely stand up for equity. And, for those on a journey of learning — we are here for you too. Together, we can overcome hate and violence.”*

Yasir Naqvi

Chief Executive Officer, Institute for Canadian Citizenship

Michael Allen

President and Chief Executive Officer, United Way East Ontario

About United for All: United for All is a coalition of 44 organizations representing 150+ partners who are all committed to overcoming hate-based violence, racism, and extremism in East Ontario. Since 2016, this growing partnership has brought together social service agencies, faith-based organizations, policymakers, human rights groups, health providers, school boards and post-secondary institutions, grassroots social justice groups, criminal justice professionals, cultural groups and more – all with the common mission to build safe, compassionate, resilient communities for everyone.

United for All and our partners acknowledge the privilege to be operating on the unceded traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg. We recognize the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island who have been thriving on this land since time immemorial.

For more information on United for All, visit unitedforall.ca.

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