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# Ontario Protecting Families by Holding Impaired Drivers Accountable

The Ontario government is developing new measures that would require impaired drivers to pay ongoing child support if they kill a child's parent or guardian. The initiative would build on recent measures passed in the Safer Roads and Communities Act, 2024, and is part of the government's ongoing work to protect Ontario families and communities by holding impaired drivers accountable for their reckless and illegal behaviour. These financial support measures would build on existing liabilities for impaired drivers, including the ability of victims' families to sue impaired drivers in civil court.

"No child should have to bear the weight of losing a parent to impaired driving," said Attorney General Doug Downey. "The devastating impact reaches far beyond the immediate loss—it can leave children struggling emotionally and financially. That's why our government is looking at practical solutions that can ease their burden in the wake of such tragedies and provide financial stability for children who are left behind."

Impaired driving is illegal, preventable and the leading cause of death on Ontario roads. In 2021, there were 182 fatalities caused by impaired driving. This includes 96 drinking and driving fatalities and 86 fatalities due to drugs.

"When a drunk driver takes an innocent life, it imposes a life sentence on the family left behind, especially the children who are suddenly without a parent," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "Ontario already has some of the toughest penalties in North America for impaired and reckless driving. Under the leadership of Premier Ford, we are taking another step to strengthen support for victims and their families."

In 2023, Texas introduced a similar requirement that impaired drivers convicted of "intoxication manslaughter" who have killed a child's parent or guardian pay child support until the child turns 18 or graduates high school. The province will be exploring this requirement and other examples as it considers the best way to effectively implement this proposal

and hold impaired drivers accountable.

This policy proposal is part of an upcoming legislative package that will support the government's work to hold criminals accountable and support victims of crime.

Impaired driving means operating a vehicle while the ability to do so has been compromised to any degree by a substance such as alcohol or drugs.

The Safer Roads and Communities Act, 2024 introduced a lifetime licence suspension for anyone convicted of impaired driving causing death under the Criminal Code.

"MADD Canada works with those impacted by impaired driving every day, and we know the harsh reality families face because of someone else's harmful choices. We applaud the Ontario government for looking into additional measures that would hold offenders accountable and support victims—particularly minors—impacted by the loss of a guardian that was killed by a drunk driver."

- Steve Sullivan  
CEO, MADD Canada

# ROBINSON TAKES ON THE PALESTINE Movement

PICKERING - Controversial City of Pickering Councillor Lisa Robison has not taken offence to the City of Toronto move to raise the Palestine flag in support.

An unofficial nation that has been labeled by the United States as a terrorist state. Primarily governed by HAMAS. A globally recognized terrorist group.

Councillor Robison wrote a letter Toronto City Hall and Premier Ford that read:

Immediate Concern Regarding the Raising of the Palestinian Flag at Toronto City Hall.

Dear Premier Ford and Mayor Chow, As an elected official in this province, I am compelled to express my strongest objection to the decision to raise the Palestinian flag at Toronto City Hall today. This action is not merely inappropriate — it is a profound failure of judgment and a serious breach of responsibility to the Canadian people.

At a time when extremist groups in our own streets are chanting **"We are Hamas," "Death to Canada," "Death to the USA," and "Death to Israel,"** the City of Toronto has chosen to elevate the same symbol being waved during these hostile demonstrations. That decision sends a deeply troubling message about whose values are being prioritized in our public institutions.

Let me be absolutely clear: Canadian government buildings exist to represent Canada — not foreign movements, not foreign conflicts, and not symbols linked in any way to violent rhetoric occurring on our streets. Flags are not neutral displays. Historically, raising a foreign flag on someone else's land signaled dominance, conquest, or political alignment. To do so now, in the face of open hostility toward Canada, is reckless and unacceptable.

Our Veterans — who fought and died under one flag — would be appalled to see a government institution choose to elevate a symbol tied to groups calling for violence against the very nation they defended with their lives. This is not what they sacrificed for, and it is not what Canadians expect or deserve from their leaders.

You have a duty — we all do — to defend the integrity of this country, the unity of its people, and the sanctity of our national identity. Government buildings must never be used to legitimize, normalize, or embolden extremist rhetoric or foreign political agendas.

I am urging you both to reconsider this path immediately. This decision undermines public confidence, weakens national unity, and sets a dangerous precedent for the future.

I expect and deserve a formal response. The Canadian public

deserves clarity on why this decision was made and what message you intended to send by raising this flag today.

Sincerely, L. Robinson

In a press release to all media Robinson continues:

"Toronto City Hall Raises Palestinian Flag Amid Extremist Chants — A Dangerous Failure of Leadership" Today, Toronto City Hall made the deeply irresponsible decision to raise the Palestinian flag on Canadian soil — at the very same time extremist groups in our streets are chanting "We are Hamas,"

**"Death to Canada," "Death to the USA," and "Death to Israel."**

This is not a moment of unity. This is not a gesture of peace. This is a political signal made in the face of open hostility toward our own country.

Over the past months, Canadians have watched with shock as individuals waving this same flag have

burned the Canadian flag, celebrated violence, and shouted extremist slogans against our nation and our allies. These are not peaceful expressions of opinion — they are explicit declarations of hatred and allegiance to a terrorist organization.

Yet despite all this, Toronto City Hall chose to elevate the symbol being waved during these extremist demonstrations. Flags on public buildings are not political props. They are not tools for foreign agendas. And they are certainly not meant to legitimize groups whose chants openly target Canada.

Our Veterans fought and died under one flag — the Canadian flag. They did not give their lives so that government institutions could raise symbols tied to extremist rhetoric in our own streets. They fought for unity, for Canadian identity, and for our right to live in a country free from intimidation and political

coercion.

Canadians deserve better from their leaders. Our public institutions must stop pandering to loud, aggressive factions while ignoring the overwhelming majority of residents who want safety, stability, and national pride — not political theater from foreign conflicts.

Today's decision is a dangerous betrayal of Canadian values, Canadian unity, and Canadian sovereignty. It sends exactly the wrong message at exactly the wrong time.

I am calling for immediate reconsideration of this divisive and irresponsible action, and I urge all elected officials to defend Canadian identity, Canadian institutions, and the safety of Canadians first. Canada must stand for Canada — now more than ever. She concludes.