

June 18, 2020

Rima Berns-McGown
Member of Provincial Parliament
Beaches-East York

Peter Tabuns
Member of Provincial Parliament
Toronto-Danforth

Dear MPPs Tabuns and Berns-McGown,

I am writing to you in response to your letter regarding the hate crime that occurred last week on the EllisDon construction site at Michael Garron Hospital (MGH). I appreciate the concern expressed by both of you as well as your public denouncing of racist acts in our community. It was an overt and despicable display of racism; an act that will not be tolerated.

Like you, I am grateful to our partner EllisDon for their quick actions to contact police following this incident, for condemning this terrible act and for their efforts to support both the physical and mental health of their workers.

Following this incident, I reached out to all staff and physicians at MGH to remind them of our Employee & Family Assistance Program, a confidential support service available to all our employees and their immediate families, and I have made myself personally available to anyone who would like to share their own experiences, questions or concerns. Our diversity is our strength and I denounce any form of racism or hate in our community.

We work closely with EllisDon and their construction partners. We have and will continue to raise the matter of Anti-Black Racism in our discussions. We support our partner in acting quickly and swiftly to protect their workers and our community.

Investigations into this matter remain underway and I sincerely hope that whoever is responsible for this act is identified and prosecuted.

Respectfully,



Sarah Downey
President and CEO, Michael Garron Hospital

cc: Geoff Smith, President & CEO, EllisDon
Chief Mark Saunders, Toronto Police Service