

DEPUTATION IN WRITING

REGIONAL COUNCIL

JULY 9, 2020

Subject: July 9, 2020 – public submission for meeting

Spokesperson: Melanie Konje

Name of Group or person(s) being represented (if applicable):

Brief summary of issue or purpose of deputation:

Dear York Region Council Members,

First thank you for carefully considering my submission.

My family and I are residents of East Gwillimbury.

The people of Ontario have been in vast majority, very compliant with the recommended medical guidelines in place. As a result of this compliance and the epidemiological curve there has been a steady decrease in cases in York Region as shown on the York Region public health website.

Actually the York Region public health and Ontario public health have been very strong with their robust testing and have been orchestrating very thorough contact tracing to contain the spread of this particular virus and any outbreaks that will occur. As they continue to give the best advice for Ontarians and York Region residents.

I would like to make three points:

First, and most importantly, when legislating peoples' behaviour you are infringing on rights and freedom. This may start as a drip then a trickle but can get out of hand without a watchful eye of our leaders.

For example, one should not legislate the eating of broccoli, or exercising 20 minutes 3-5 times per week. Just as one should not legislate the wearing of a face mask when in indoor public spaces and unable to spread apart six feet to two metres.

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Second, this is a public health issue not one that politicians should be sharing their opinion on. Based on actions to date Ontario has been extremely successful at containing and controlling this virus to avoid any hospital overload.

Thirdly, to force children to wear masks above the age of two is not recommended by the COVID19 guidelines set out by the Hospital for Sick Children. Again the health professionals should be followed in their recommendations for the health and safety of our children.

I pray that each member of council carefully consider this today in your discussion.

Sincerely,

Melanie Konje

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