



## Statement on recent events

### On Behalf of the Durham Region Law Association

The Durham Region Law Association is deeply troubled, saddened and alarmed by the recent tragedies in Minneapolis and other communities that underscore the violence against people of colour which still plagues our society. Despite the progress that has been made in recent decades to advance justice and civil rights, so much more needs to change. Bigotry and racism have no place in this world.

Our society and the safety of the people who comprise it rely on the rule of law. But the law must be fairly applied and enforced. All citizens, regardless of race, colour, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, or religion, must have faith that our justice system is fair, and our laws applied equitably, and equally. It is also essential that laws and authority are respected and followed by all, including our law enforcement officers and people in positions of power.

We recognize that the majority of law enforcement officers do their jobs with honour, fairness and integrity, just as the great majority of protestors exercise their constitutional rights to assemble and speak publicly in a peaceful and orderly manner.

Public trust in our justice system is paramount and needs to be maintained and fortified. We must all work together to ensure that right prevails over wrong and to this end the Durham Region Law Association stands unified in the principle of equal justice for all.