

### Family and Intimate Partner Violence Initiatives and Gender-Based Equity Efforts at the City of Brampton

October 9, 2024

Presented by:

Lucy Kaite Nyarwai – Equity Advisor Cindy-Ann Williams – Coordinator, Equity Office

# Family and Intimate Partner Violence in Peel: The Epidemic

#### **Key Statistics from 2023:**

- ➤ 13,933 survivors accessed community support services.
- > 3,132 crisis calls and self-referrals were placed by survivors.
- ➤ 2,075 referrals for survivors were made.

#### Regional Response (February 2020):

Peel Regional Council unanimously passed a motion to create awareness campaigns in collaboration with Brampton, Caledon, Mississauga, and law enforcement.

#### **2024 Campaign Highlights**

#### 2024 Campaign Launch:

- ➤ Marks the fifth year of Family and Intimate Partner Violence awareness.
- ➤ Launch Date: November 25, coinciding with the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.
- ➤ Campaign Objectives:
  - Increase public and bystander awareness.
  - Encourage conversations and challenge misconceptions about gender-based violence.
- ➤ Campaign Reach:
  - Over 20 marketing tactics, translated into the top 6 languages spoken in Peel.
  - Currently @ 15,000+ webpage views.

# Addressing Misconceptions and Providing Resources

#### **Campaign Information Available:**

- Misconceptions and statistics about family and intimate partner violence.
- ➤ Resources across Peel Region.
- ➤ Peel Family and Intimate Partner Violence Resources

https://www.peelregion.ca/family-intimate-partner-violence/

#### City of Brampton Advocacy for Gender-Based Violence Solutions

#### **Collective Advocacy:**

- ➤ Working with Peel's Community Safety and Well-Being Family Violence Action Table.
- > Advocacy for legislation and funding to address the epidemic.
- ➤ Participation in the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

#### City of Brampton's Gender-Based Initiatives

#### Recognition as a path to healing

➤ In 2019, Brampton recognized survivors of intimate partner violence/GBV in a banner that hung in the atrium at City Hall, including Reha Rajkumar among others.

#### Progress through advocacy

➤ In 2021 the Red Movement delegation called upon the City of Brampton to provide free tampons and pads for all city facilities.

#### City of Brampton's Gender-Based Initiatives

#### Menstrual Health Day

- ➤ Proclaimed May 28, 2024
- ➤ Menstrual product dispensers in all public women's and gender-inclusive washrooms at City facilities.

# <u>Gender-Based Violence & Intimate Partner Violence Motion</u> (2023)

- ➤ Declared gender-based violence (GBV) and intimate partner violence (IPV) an epidemic.
- ➤ Advocated for increased support through AMO.

#### **Women's Empowerment Initiatives**

#### Women's Advisory Committee (2023):

➤ Developed the Terms of Reference with this inaugural committee being established in 2024.

<u>International Women's Day</u> <u>Event (2024):</u>



#### **Supporting Parents and Families**



#### **Breastfeeding Friendly City:**

- ➤ 2023 motion for breastfeeding spaces in City facilities.
- ➤ Implementation of breastfeeding pods for public and staff use.
- ➤ Awareness stickers at Brampton Entryways (add a photo of the stickers at the main entrance to City Hall)

#### **Supporting Parents and Families**

#### **Expecting Parent Parking:**

➤ Designated parking spaces at all City facilities since 2023.

#### Improved Maternity Leave Benefits (2023):

➤ Top-up increased to 81% from 75%, aligning with other municipalities.

### Other Gender-Based Violence Awareness Campaigns

#### Breaking the Silence Campaign (2024):

➤ Led by CSWO Amanda.



#### Moose Hide Campaign Day (May 16, 2024):

- > Proclaimed in Brampton, part of a grassroots Indigenous-led movement.
- > Aims to end violence against women and children.

#### Red Dress Campaign (May 2024)

➤ Inaugural art installation in Ken Whillans Square to spread awareness about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit People

#### **Internal Gender Equity Initiatives**

#### Women Empowerment Network (2023):

- > Established to empower women into leadership.
- ➤ Launched formally on International Women's Day (2024).
- Two events held for internal staff to celebrate International Women's Day.

#### **GBA+ Training:**



➤ Mandatory Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) training implemented for City staff and Advisory Committees starting in December 2023.

#### **Calls to Action**

Encourage further participation in GBV/IPV advocacy and equity initiatives.

Promote continued learning through GBA+ training for committee members.

Recruit and include advisory members representing other marginalized genders (e.g., transgender women)

# Questions or suggestions?

THANK YOU!