

TODAY AT 4PM: Will Goderich Town Council denounce neo-Nazi ideology?

From Patrick C [REDACTED]
To 'Patrick Corvyn' <[REDACTED]>
BCC [REDACTED]

Date Monday, 21 October 2024 at 12:02

Dear Friends,

This is a reminder that the Goderich Town Council will vote today on the draft motion that I wrote and submitted at the last council meeting on October 7, 2024. I have attached that draft motion here for reference. The draft motion is a simple, straightforward declaration of our community values and a denunciation of Nazi and neo-Nazi ideology. **Today's Goderich Town Council meeting begins at 4 pm.**

I wrote this motion for the members of town council because after 60 days of patiently waiting, they had not signaled an intention of writing one for themselves. For those of us who live on the target list of neo-Nazi hate groups, we do not possess the luxury of time. We do not have the privilege of waiting passively for others to demonstrate leadership.

As we learned this summer, there is hate activity in Goderich and the surrounding area. In August of this year, neo-Nazis from the U.S., Quebec, and across Ontario gathered in Goderich. They clearly have a keen interest in our town.

Here is the link to the Canadian Anti-Hate Network's reporting on this meetup:

https://www.antihate.ca/us_neo_nazis_visit_canada_meeting_white_supremacist_active_clubs

I also have a keen interest in our town. I was raised in Goderich, and I returned to live here again. There are so many things I love about it. My core being continues to be shaped by Lake Huron, by the Menesetung River, by the forests and the trails. My values continue to be inspired by the extraordinary people here.

Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to publicly demonstrate my commitment to the safety and wellbeing of our community members. I have had the opportunity to live and act in accordance with my most cherished beliefs.

Today, history calls upon the Goderich Town Council to demonstrate its character and its beliefs. The outcome of today's vote, I am stunned to say, is uncertain.

If Goderich town council rejects my motion, what message will they be communicating to us, the people they are elected to serve?

If town council rejects my motion, they will join Conservative MP Ben Lobb, the Conservative MPP Lisa Thompson, and the Warden of Huron County Glen McNeil in refusing to denounce neo-Nazi ideology.

August 5, 2024, was the day that I first publicly called on local leaders to denounce neo-Nazi and white supremacist ideology. **That was 77 days ago.**

How did we get here? How could any person of integrity and conscience refuse to condemn the ideologies of Adolf Hitler when called upon to do so?

Neo-Nazis are in our midst. Neo-Nazis are people who seek to commit unspeakable harm against members of our community to achieve their horrific vision of an Aryan nation. These are people who worship Adolf Hitler and seek to complete his work.

Will our elected leaders betray us and our most cherished values at this crucial moment? Will they choose the path of appeasement as others did in the 1930s with devastating consequences?

Will they hand-wave their way into handing neo-Nazis an extraordinary victory? Will they delay, distract, equivocate?

Or will they show genuine leadership? Will they show that the safety and wellbeing of our community truly matters to them?

Will they "strive for a world in which all people are free to pursue joyous lives without fear of harassment, cruelty, or violence?"

Over a million Canadians fought against Nazism in the Second World War. Tens of thousands were wounded or killed in combat.

On this day, Goderich's Town Council will enjoy the extraordinary privilege, freedom, and opportunity to fight Nazism in our generation with very little effort required of them. I even wrote the motion for them.

All they need to do is literally lift a single finger to vote in favour of that motion. Will they? Or will that prove a bridge too far?

I will be in the Council chambers today at 4pm to find out. I hope you will join me.

Sincerely,

Patrick Corvyn

23.69 KB 1 file attached

2024 10 07 Draft Official Statement - Town of Goderich.pdf 23.69 KB