



1 Courthouse Square. Goderich, Ontario N7A 1M2
www.HuronCounty.ca
huronadmin@huroncounty.ca
Phone: 519.524.8394 | Toll Free: 1.888.524.8394

Mr. Patrick Corvyn,

Thank you for your email expressing your concern over the recent handmade billboard, located on Bluewater Highway north of Goderich. I am aware of this billboard and its content as well as the use and association of the phrase "White Lives Matter" with known neo-Nazi groups.

The County of Huron unequivocally condemns all forms of bigotry, including antisemitism, racism, homophobia, and xenophobia. As an organization, we aim to battle ignorance and bigotry with education, kindness, and inclusion. Huron County is a place where everyone belongs.

While we know that discrimination and bigotry exist in our region and there is still much work to be done, the County of Huron is taking meaningful action to ensure that that Huron is a welcoming and inclusive community.

The Huron County Immigration Partnership works year-round to ensure that newcomers to Canada are not only welcomed in our community but that they have the resources and support they require to succeed locally. In 2021, the Huron County Immigration Partnership worked with a team of Western University researchers to produce a survey and study that investigated discrimination experienced by immigrants, visible minorities, and Indigenous Peoples in comparison to people who are not members of these groups. The resulting [Discrimination Report](#) can be found on our website along with other reports and studies.

Our Cultural Service Department offers a multitude of services, programs, and activities designed to foster inclusion, including hosting the annual Huron Multicultural Festival.

In 2023, the County of Huron hired an Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) Specialist to further inform and empower our Council and staff with knowledge and skills to ensure that all our service areas are taking actions to foster equity, inclusion, and belonging within our organization.

I am not listing the above actions to boast of our good deeds or purport ourselves to be experts in the field of inclusion but rather to demonstrate that we are, in fact, taking this matter very seriously.

Our consistently applied approach has been to take an honest look inward and make changes in ourselves and our organization so that we may better meet the needs of everyone in our community.

We will continue to speak frequently and loudly on the topic of inclusion and celebrate diversity in Huron County, including on our social media channels. We welcome your input and engagement and encourage you to continue to also speak loudly on this matter.

I will be forwarding a copy of your original message along with this response to Huron County Warden Glen McNeil, MPP Lisa Thompson, and MP Ben Lobb.

Thank you again for your message and for your ongoing efforts to end hate in Huron County.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meighan Wark', with a stylized, cursive script.

Meighan Wark
CAO, County of Huron