

PETITION

Her Worship Bonnie Crombie

Mayor, City of Mississauga
300 City Centre Drive
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 3C1

Dear Mayor Crombie,

I write this letter to appeal to the Peel Region's latest mandate, dated effective November 9th, 2020, to impose stricter directives to the community, especially those pertaining to religious services, rites or ceremonies. I implore you to reconsider your decision to restrict capacity for religious service to a maximum 50 people per facility and instead apply the current province-wide standard of maximum 30% capacity.

Indicators that track the pandemic in the Peel Region (and provincially) have not shown that places of worship are a source for the spread of COVID-19. Indeed, inspections have revealed a high level of compliance with required regulations and policies. As outlined by Dr. Lawrence Loh, Medical Officer of health, Region of Peep – Public Health, the Region's elevated weekly rates are due to reasons outside of religious services.

Taking "aggressive action now to get the pandemic under control in Peel" must not include the closure of places of worship, which have consistently remained a key, and often the only source for our community's psychological, spiritual, and physical strength and wellbeing. Many are suffering from anxiety, isolation, and mental health distress, which the Region of Peel has been unable to meet with the current supports that they provide; the elderly, the poor, the marginalized are especially vulnerable, with our churches as their only source of community support and sustenance. My parish provides a space that is sustaining my mental and emotional well-being as we navigate these difficult times. Without this space, I am concerned about my own and my community's ability to weather these hard times.

I implore you to reconsider your decision to restrict capacity for religious service to a maximum 50 people per facility, and retain capacity to 30% of current SPACE.

Yours Truly,

Signature:

Name:

Date:

Address:

Email this petition letter to: mayor@mississauga.ca
