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**Subject:** FW: Notice of Motion: A Statement Against Racist Speech and Violence Related to the COVIDx19 Pandemic

**Subject:** Re: Notice of Motion : A Statement Against Racist Speech and Violence Related to the COVIDx19 Pandemic

This is the revised version of the statement:

“In Richmond, we are a community that can celebrate a rich history of culture, diversity and heritage linked to the arrival and influence of immigrants that began over a century ago.

We can also celebrate the contributions which our immigrant friends and neighbours have made to our city. It is troubling to see incidents where individuals take exception to that heritage and make comments or, even worse, negative actions and behaviors based on race, colour or language.

The City of Richmond does not – and never will – condone or tolerate racist behaviour in any form. Such attitudes and actions do not reflect our community's cultural diversity or the spirit of inclusion that we are all proud of.

Events of the past few months have created uncertainty, frustration and fear for some. But that is no excuse to cast blame on others. COVID-19 should not be blamed on any single culture or country and it is certainly not the fault of anyone in our community.

Now, more than ever, we must stand together and be true to our shared values of diversity, inclusion and respect. Racial and discriminatory responses and actions have no place in Richmond. They have no place in our society.

Richmond is a safe and resilient City. We are one community together. Racism is not a part of who we are or the community we all want to call home.”

Sent from my iPad

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Claudia,

I am asking to add to the agenda of the next GP meeting a discussion on the City's response to the recent spike of COVID-19 related hate speech and violence in the community.

The picture below was taken in the parkade of Hilton Hotel on January 31. Several people have also told me that they had been yelled at in public places for wearing face masks. The recent incident in Steveston is the latest example of hate speech and violence.



I think we should consider issuing a statement against such racist behaviour and affirming that the Chinese-Canadian community should not be blamed for the pandemic.

I have found that Vancouver Coastal Health had issued the following statement on May 7, which we can use as a reference for the City's statement.

<http://www.vch.ca/about-us/news/news-releases/vch-statement-on-anti-asian-incidents>

Thanks!  
Chak