

## Mississauga Seventh-day Adventist Church

ONTARIO CONFERENCE OF THE  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

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### Official Statement Regarding George Floyd

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On May 25, 2020, the world witnessed the horrific and brutal killing of George Floyd on the streets of Minneapolis, Minnesota. His gruesome death at the hands of Police Officers in that state, is yet another in a spate of senseless race-related killings of black people across the United States.

Our hearts break and we are angered and outraged that this kind of injustice and prejudice continues to happen in our world today. The horror of this incident is not lost on our Church Family. While we delight in our diversity, we also aspire to share in and bear each others' burdens. Our value system here at Mississauga Seventh-day Adventist Church calls for us to connect with God and with our fellow men. Acting on our belief that we are all equal in the sight of God, we are using this opportunity to speak up, and add our voice to the thousands of others denouncing the actions of those arrested and charged in this incident.

Borrowing from a statement released by Andrews University, "Treating a person as less than human because of skin-colour (or social class, gender, job description, education, etc) is wrong, a sin in the eyes of God. Likewise inexcusable is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian observing such acts and turning away, thinking this doesn't concern me, is not a major problem, or that I'm not a part of it."

George Floyd's death concerns all of us. We are a part of it. He represents our husbands, fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, nephews and our cousins.

We embrace our spiritual and moral responsibility to seek justice and rebuke the oppressor and defend the fatherless. Therefore, we stand in solidarity with all peaceful protests by all peoples seeking the execution of justice for the family of George Floyd and the reformation of policies and laws to uplift and protect the human rights and dignity of black people living everywhere.

Most importantly we stand in support of the immediate family of George Floyd and express heartfelt condolences. His life mattered.

To the black community across America, Canada and even here at Mississauga Seventh-day Adventist Church, we see you. We know you are hurting and we are hurting for and with you. We are praying for you. We are praying for a better day. We are praying for all humanity to embody this one command: love your neighbour as yourself, by seeking to relinquish our misguided biases, show compassion for and do the right thing when we witness injustices committed against others. If you are struggling with this our prayer lines are open weekly. We urge you to call us. Visit [www.mississaugasda.com](http://www.mississaugasda.com) for details on our upcoming events.

Today, we pause in remembrance of the life of George Floyd and the lives of many who have also suffered a similar fate. #BlackLivesMatter

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