



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL POLICE SERVICE BOARD

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The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General of Ontario
Ministry of the Solicitor General
18th Floor, 25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

The Honourable Graham McGregor
Associate Minister for Auto Theft and Bail Reform
Ministry of the Solicitor General
18th Floor, 25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

March 6, 2025

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Kerzner, and Minister McGregor,

As we mark International Women's Day, we take this moment not only to celebrate the strength and resilience of women across Ontario but to confront the harsh and urgent reality that far too many women continue to face violence, exploitation, and injustice in our communities.

On behalf of the Peel Police Service Board and Peel Regional Police, we write to you with a clear and pressing message: we must accelerate action and work together with urgency to address the growing threats to women's safety in Ontario and across Canada.

Our Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Unit at Peel Regional Police has been at the forefront of tackling one of the most pervasive crimes in our society. The statistics are alarming, and the patterns are deeply troubling—we are seeing a disturbing increase in:

- Repeat IPV offenders re-entering communities due to bail policies that fail to account for the ongoing risk they pose to victims.
- Illegal guns being smuggled across the U.S. border and used in IPV-related attacks, enabling abusers to manipulate and control their victims through systemic physical violence.

- A rise in stranger sexual assaults perpetrated by individuals with no legal status in Ontario, raising concerns about oversight, enforcement, and risk assessment.

These are not isolated incidents. They are symptoms of systemic gaps—gaps that place women at risk and challenge our collective ability to protect them.

Peel Regional Police officers witness the devastation of IPV firsthand—women and children living in fear, survivors silenced by a system that too often fails to hold offenders accountable, and repeat offenders slipping through the cracks of a system in need of reform.

We cannot allow this cycle to continue.

Your government has long been a leader in advancing justice and public safety, and now is the time to accelerate action to ensure that our justice system prioritizes the safety and security of women over the convenience of offenders.

The Peel Police Service Board and Peel Regional Police are committed to working with all levels of government, community service providers, and advocacy organizations to break the cycle of intimate partner violence. We stand ready to collaborate and contribute our expertise, frontline experience, and proactive solutions to shape policies that are effective, enforceable, and focused on prevention.

“The reality is clear—too many women continue to suffer in silence, living in fear of abusers who manipulate gaps in our justice system,” said Nando Iannicca, Chair of the Peel Police Service Board. “Peel Regional Police is leading the way with specialized enforcement and support teams, but policing alone cannot solve this crisis. We need a coordinated effort across all levels of government, law enforcement, and community partners to accelerate action and drive meaningful protections for victims while holding offenders accountable.”

Peel Regional Police’s IPV Unit has been at the forefront of tackling one of the most persistent and complex crimes affecting communities. Chief Nishan Duraiappah emphasized that while PRP remains committed to prevention, intervention, and enforcement, addressing IPV requires a system-wide approach.

“Our officers witness firsthand the devastating impact of intimate partner violence, and we know that prevention and enforcement must go hand in hand,” said Chief Nishan Duraiappah. “We welcome the opportunity to work with our provincial and federal partners to explore solutions that enhance victim protection, improve oversight, and strengthen the ability of law enforcement to respond to high-risk cases before tragedy strikes.”

The Peel Police Service Board and Peel Regional Police appreciate the provincial government’s continued leadership and strong advocacy for public safety. The investments and policy reforms undertaken in recent years have played an important role in supporting law enforcement and enhancing community safety efforts. As we move forward, we encourage further collaboration to ensure that our justice system continues to evolve to meet today’s challenges.

We are prepared to work alongside you to:

- Strengthen bail policies to prevent repeat offenders from returning to the same communities and threatening the same victims.
- Enhance border security to curb the illegal trafficking of firearms used in IPV-related crimes.
- Improve oversight and enforcement to ensure that high-risk individuals do not exploit legal gaps that put women in danger.

The safety of women in Ontario is not just a policing issue—it is a societal responsibility. We must all work together—law enforcement, government, and community service partners—to drive real, lasting change.

The Peel Police Service Board and Peel Regional Police stand ready to support and lead in this effort. We welcome the opportunity for continued dialogue and concrete action to protect the most vulnerable among us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nando Iannicca". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nando Iannicca
Chair, Peel Police Service Board

cc: Chief Nishan Duraiappah, Peel Regional Police