

# York Regional Police Services Board Meeting with Black Community Organizations

July 27, 2020



# Gratitude

Leadership

Relationship building and Support

BlackLivesMatter

YRP Leadersip

Marches

Protests

Shutting down streets

Logistics

Staff

Continuous communication

# SRO's in schools

## The Black community perspective

***“Is the issue of SRO's in school more important than Black students?”***

If Black parents and students tell you they want police-free schools, listen.

Why do Mayor's feel that the Black community is asking for something unthinkable?

“But the YRP does some amazing work. I've seen the programs.”

Why is the Black community made to feel unreasonable? Why are we the villains for wanting to save our children?”

When the oppressed tell the oppressor, we are oppressed, listen.

Police in Schools began when funding was dispersed to Police Departments

Regardless of the good, consider all the bad

We don't know if there will come a time when the tide changes, leadership changes and we don't have “nice officers” in schools. It is not worth the risk

What could the funding be used for instead? (community programs back to Black organizations to undertake the work, social workers, and youth workers to undertake the work, promotion of Black organizations doing the work)

# Responding to anti-Black Hate Crime

Equitable practices across York Region

What are the stats? Documentation?

2006 – 34% of reported hate crimes incited against Black community

2005 data showed a 30% increase from 2002

What are the latest statistics?

How is hate-crime dealt with across the Region?

Community advocates written record (What is our role?)

Why are Mayors not hearing about anti-Black racism as well as anti-Semitism?

We are on the front-lines of every social determinant of health and well-being

# Un-packing Policy

## YRP Annual Report

### YRDSB/YCDSB & YRP

Annual report – Vanguard Project (gender equity)

School Board and Police Policy

-Please add a statement, policy or commitment to equity, anti-Black racism in the Policy. Currently there is nothing.

Please add time frame for when administrators must reach out to families when Police interact with their children. Currently there is none.

Please provide language around what parents can do when they believe they have been wronged or their child received undue treatment or disproportionate consequences. Where do they go and what do they do?

-Where is the anti-Black racism policy? Who is looking out for this?

# Partnering

We need a community body that offers formalized services for hate incident victims and a program that formally documents incidents of hate in York Region (Canada).

Need for a systemic approach to anti-Black racism

Has there been a deep dive into anti-Black racism in YRP?

Equity Audit of the YRP

(5 Districts + Community Resource Center, Whitchurch-Stouffville Community Substation, Training and Education Facility and the Uniform Recruiting Unit, Ontario Court of Justice, Richmond Hill Traffic Court, Fleet Services, Community Resources Center. Community Safety Village of York Region/Human Rights' Teaching Center)

(workshops, training, alternative supports to SRO's)

# Partnering cont'd

Examples:

“Say no to Hate” – Where are Black Organizations in this document?

“Courage in the Face of Hate” – Great resource with lesson plans.

Can we produce this document from the Black community? How do we create more resources?

“Racism Stop It!” – March 21<sup>st</sup> Elimination or Racial Discrimination student competition

How do we get community organizations involved?

Continued support and new, fresh innovative programs and services