



GRACEUNITEDCHURCH

The church with a heart, in the heart of the city! ❤️

RECEIVED

September 16, 2020
REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Date: September 16, 2020

To: Chair and Members of Region of Peel Council

CC: Councillor Rowena Santos and Councillor Paul Vicente
Mayor Patrick Brown

From: Grace United Church

REFERRAL TO Human Services

RECOMMENDED

Subject: [REDACTED]

DIRECTION REQUIRED _____

RECEIPT RECOMMENDED _____

Grace United Church in downtown Brampton is known as “*The church with a heart in the heart of the city*”. This is for good reason. Any day you may come by and see some of Brampton’s most marginalized and disadvantaged residents on the church grounds - people who have come to Grace Place at Grace United Church for essential support and community.

The church created Grace Place in 2009 to serve as a gathering place for groups and organizations who make our community better. Much of the church building has been dedicated to Grace Place, and church members volunteer with a number of those organizations.

Chief among the Grace Place organizations is Regeneration Outreach Community, with its mission to marginalized and disadvantaged, but another 20 or so organizations also operate from Grace Place. More than 100,000 visits a year are paid to Grace Place and Grace United Church for the services and community to be found here. Grace Place is a vital community hub for the Brampton downtown area.

However, we are now faced with an impossible challenge in the person of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is homeless and suffers from a degenerative disease. He is in extreme physical condition and living rough on the grounds of Grace United Church. He is aggressive and abusive, and a threat to himself and to the visitors and staff at Grace United Church and Grace Place. He urgently needs a permanent placement in a care facility. Some details of [REDACTED] condition and actions are spelled out in the submission you are concurrently receiving from Grace Place.

■■■■ conduct is so extreme that he has become a threat to the viability of the ongoing operations of Grace United Church and Grace Place. Visitors and church members, neighbours, and even passersby on the street, are appalled to see this desperate human being lying in front of the church door, with garbage strewn around him. And when he is awake, they are rightly concerned about his threatening behaviour.

As a consequence, with a heavy heart we have been obliged to issue a permanent no trespass notice on ■■■■. But this has not stopped him from living rough on the church grounds. All the notice has done is to push the problem onto the police and paramedics, when in reality what ■■■■ needs is care from Peel Region social services.

We therefore solicit your urgent attention to providing a permanent care placement for ■■■■ ■■■■. He needs it, the community needs it, and the church and all the visitors and user organizations of Grace Place need it.

Yours truly,

GRACE UNITED CHURCH



Christopher Moon
Board Chair



Rev. Lawrence Nyarko
Minister