



June 2, 2020

## **RE: Anti-Black Racism**

Dear UTM students,

Over the past few weeks, there has been a rampant increase in anti-Black racist attacks, notably the heinous murders of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and - much closer to home - Regis Korchinski-Paquet, a Torontonion. The University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union (UTMSU) sends its sincerest condolences to the family, friends, and community members impacted by these senseless and vicious acts of violence.

The UTMSU would like to extend its full support and solidarity to the Black people on and off-campus who have faced and continue to face various forms of oppression. This includes but is not limited to police violence, over-policing, mass-incarceration, carding, and the criminalization of blackness in the media. The UTMSU condemns all forms of racism and systemic injustices.

We would like to reaffirm our commitment to supporting the Black and non-Black allies at UTM, across the U of T campuses and within our community. On the behalf of the African Students' Association, Caribbean Connections, and the Black Students' Association, the UTMSU would like to make a donation of \$500 to the family of Regis Korchinski-Paquet to support them in their fight for justice.

The UTMSU understands how difficult this time is and encourages all students and community allies to seek out resources to better understand how systems of oppression greatly impact Black people. We also encourage those deeply affected by these tragedies to prioritize their well-being through self-care and by seeking help when necessary.

To actively support the Black community, here are some actions you can take:

### **Donate:**

- To Organizations serving the Black community such as CAFCAN (Caribbean African Canadian Social Services) <https://cafcan.org/donate/>
- To the family members of Regis Korchinski-Paquet <https://www.gofundme.com/f/justice-for-regis>

### **Reach Out to these Local Representatives To Demand an Immediate Inquest into the Death of Regis Korchinski-Paquet:**

*Monica Hudon, Lead Investigator, SIU*

Telephone: 416-622-2342 or 1-800-787-8529 ext. 2342, Email: [monica.hudon@ontario.ca](mailto:monica.hudon@ontario.ca)

*Gord Perks, City Councillor For Ward 4, Parkdale-High Park*

Telephone: 416-392-7919, Email: [councillor\\_perks@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_perks@toronto.ca)



University of Toronto Mississauga  
Students' Union  
LOCAL 109 OF THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

*Bhutilla Karpoche, MPP for Parkdale-High Park*

Telephone: 416-763-5630, Email: [bkarpoche-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:bkarpoche-co@ndp.on.ca)

*Arif Virani, MP for Parkdale-High Park*

Telephone: 613-992-2936, Email: [arif.virani@parl.gc.ca](mailto:arif.virani@parl.gc.ca)

*Your Member of Provincial Parliament*

Find your MPP using this link: <https://www.ola.org/en/members/current/contact-information>

**Sign these petitions:**

- <https://www.change.org/p/justice-for-regis-korchinski-paquet>
- <https://www.change.org/p/mayor-jacob-frey-justice-for-george-floyd>

**Watch educational tv-series/movies/documentaries such as:**

- When They See Us
- 13th
- The death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson
- LA 92 (Rodney King documentary)
- The Negro Soldier (WWII)
- Who Killed Malcolm X
- Against All Odds: The Fights for a Black Middle Class
- When Silence Becomes Betrayal (MLK documentary)

In solidarity,

African Students' Association

Caribbean Connections

Black Students' Association

University of Toronto Mississauga Athletic Council

The University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union

For additional support and resources please contact Noha Farawi at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).