From: Kate Brown Sent: May 25, 2021 12:53 AM To: Deputy Clerk <<u>deputyclerk@portcolborne.ca</u>> Subject: Non Agenda Delegation

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May 24, 2021

To: Mayor and Members of Council

I understand the the city council will be receiving a request from the BIA in connection with a wider initiative which has been taken on board by various BIA communities in Ontario, i.e. painting of roads with the rainbow crossing, representing the Pride organization. I would protest this, based on the political nature of this organization. This is a quiet backwater of Ontario with a higher elderly population. We are right to welcome LGBGT+ individuals but due to the current 'cancel' culture, those who 'sit on fence' are targeted or silenced by branding as homophobic, I believe this is a negative move until this organization pulls back from it's aggressive and bullying stance. Additionally when the Pride flag was erected in Port, it was attended/ supported by approximately 20 people which does not reflect a good deal of support in the population.

I think we should avoid controversy, as following through with this also means we should maybe be including BLM, and feminist activist groups. Could we be seeing "defund the police" written over our roadways? Had the Conservative party been able to see their logos and flags posted around Canada to the same extent, we would probably see the end of the Liberal Party

The initiative from the BIA is a good one otherwise, and I would hope they can be persuaded to demonstrate a more unifying focus with which we can all identify. That is the green issue and promotion of various aspects of environmental issues : melting of polar ice caps, heating up of the planet and meteorological changes, the extinction of species, the decimation of rainforests, single-use plastic pollution, etc, etc. This is something which is a major issue that threatens us all and one to which we can all identify and work together.

I hope you will consider this

Sincerely

Kate Brown