MP Dzerowicz Supports Adding Proud Boys and White Supremacists to List of Terrorist Entities

Davenport Neighbours and Friends,

Like you, I was appalled by the events in the US Capitol last week. Since then I have received many letters asking our government to designate the Proud Boys as a terrorist organization. I agree with you: our federal Liberal government should urgently add the Proud Boys to Canada’s list of terrorist entities.

More than that, I strongly believe we need to bring in better regulations against online hate and misinformation. Social media plays a huge role in spreading both hateful content and the sorts of misinformation and conspiracy theories that direct people to extremist groups like the Proud Boys.

In the last election we promised to bring forward requirements that all social media platforms remove illegal content, including hate speech, within 24 hours or face significant financial penalties. This will also include other online harms, such as radicalization, incitement to violence, exploitation of children, or creation or distribution of terrorist propaganda. This commitment is included in Minister Guilbeault’s mandate letter, and this is priority legislation for the Minister to introduce as soon as possible.

Keeping Canadians safe is the greatest responsibility of our federal Liberal government, and we have already taken some important steps to stamp out hate and end violence in our communities. In 2019, for the very first time, two white supremacist and ideologically motivated violent extremist groups, Blood & Honour and Combat 18, were added to Canada’s list of terrorist entities. More information can be found here. The listing demonstrates that our security agencies are alert to evolving threats and will not hesitate to take necessary action. The listing process is always ongoing, and when an organization has been found to meet the Criminal Code threshold, it will be added.

Our government has also quadrupled funding for the Security Infrastructure Program which provides organizations and communities who are at risk of hate-motivated crime with support to make security improvements that will enhance their security infrastructure and create safer, more secure, gathering spaces for members of their communities. I have actively shared this information with various cultural and faith groups in the riding.

The bottom line is that there is no place for white supremacists in Canada, and our government will continue to denounce them and take steps to stop racism and extremism.
Again, thank you for writing on this vitally important topic. Engaged citizens like you help us build a better, safer, more tolerant Canada.

Very best,

Julie Dzerowicz  
Member of Parliament  
Davenport