

OPEN Letter to be published by local Brampton Media

Regarding Community Concerns in the Alexander/Union Neighbourhood and Regeneration
August 2025

As a follow up to articles recently published about our community, we would like to share our perspective on the matter.

The residents of the Alexander and Union Street neighbourhood would like to share our deep concern regarding the safety, livability, and future of our community. Many of us have lived in this neighbourhood for decades, raising families, building lives, contributing to Brampton's vibrancy, and working closely with the City and Peel Regional Police to maintain a safe, respectful, and thriving environment.

The criminal activity that we as residents and business owners face regularly is unfortunately linked to the operation of services at Grace United Church in partnership with Regeneration Outreach. Let us be clear: we recognize the need for compassionate, and effective services to support Brampton's vulnerable populations. Many residents have actively supported food banks, shelters, and outreach programs. Many of us directly try to help support those in need on our own streets. We have compassion, but we also have legitimate safety concerns.

Institutions like the Knights Table and St. Louise Outreach are proof that it is possible to offer essential aid while maintaining community safety and cohesion. A new site that better aligns with Regeneration's operational needs and allows for greater safety, management, and accountability for clients and residents alike is what we are asking for from the City of Brampton, Peel Region, and from Regeneration Outreach.

Our current situation surrounding the Regeneration program at Grace United Church has escalated beyond what our neighbourhood can endure. Residents have witnessed firsthand a persistent rise in crime, open drug use, weapons, prostitution, and loitering near our homes, businesses, schools, and parks. Families have experienced frightening incidents, including individuals fleeing police into backyards, visible overdoses in public spaces and acts of violence.

Our community includes families with young children, YMCA programs, recreation centres and daycares. No one, especially children should have to feel unsafe and witness these things that occur on a regular basis. When Regeneration closes their doors, their clients are left loitering and unsupervised, causing issues to escalate onto our private property throughout the day and night. This operational model doesn't work in a residential community like ours, or any residential neighbourhood for that matter.

We appreciate recent efforts of the City, as well as an increase in presence from Peel Regional Police, but these measures are reactive. Ultimately, Regeneration must be relocated outside of a residential area and the model must be adjusted to include service for their clients when their doors close.

This area is our home. We love Brampton, and we are committed to its success, not just for ourselves, but for everyone, including those in crisis. But we must balance social responsibility with community safety.

Sincerely,

Concerned Residents of the Alexander/Union Neighbourhood