

## **Carlington Community Health Centre's Statement on Anti-Black Racism:**

### **Black Lives Matter.**

*"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are."  
(Benjamin Franklin)*

Carlington Community Health Centre stands with our Black neighbours in condemning the mistreatment of Black people and joins in the call for change.

The murder of George Floyd by police in Minneapolis has been the catalyst for an unprecedented response to the systemic racism that has led to the disproportionate representation of people from the Black community in matters related to the negative impacts of the social determinants of health.

The chorus of support around the world is a call for justice and accountability. These voices and chants of solidarity are the serving of notice that the harms of white supremacy and legacies of colonization, slavery, structural inequality and systemic discrimination that so deeply impact the lives of Black people can no longer be ignored or swept aside by empty promises.

Systemic racism is not a problem for the Black community to solve alone. In fact, systemic racism is not the Black community's problem, at all – it is a problem that is endemic in non-racialized communities; and that is where the solutions need to lie. We need to continue the conversation, continue to stand up against attitudes, perceptions and assumptions that have culminated in a world where Black people are facing violence and dying because they are Black people.

We join the Black community in their rage; and stand with them in seeking justice and an end to systemic racism.

Carlington supports the following recommendations, put forth by the Alliance for Healthier Communities:

- Declaration of anti-Black racism as a public health crisis.
- Enhanced accountability infrastructure to address police brutality, police violence and harms to Black communities.
- A strengthened Anti-Racism Directorate with a clearly articulated, targeted and systemic anti-Black racism strategy.
- A provincial commitment to the allocation of protected funds to provide culturally appropriate health and wellbeing support within Black communities. A critical component of undoing anti-Black racism is working towards making Black life livable. Culturally appropriate organizations must be given the support they need to continue providing these services.

In solidarity.