

Your Voice. Your Future.

January 5, 2018

**BY EMAIL:** pm@pm.gc.ca **BY FAX:** 613-941-6900

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau PC, MP Prime Minister of Canada 80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Designating January 29th as the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Islamophobia

On behalf of the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM), I am writing to you about the upcoming first anniversary of the Quebec City mosque attack that will take place on January 29, 2018.

One year on, Canadian Muslim communities are still reeling from the devastating terrorist attack that claimed the lives of six Muslim men worshipping in their mosque - fathers, husbands and sons - and gravely injured many others. For the first time in Canadian history, a place of worship was targeted by a horrific act of violence solely because the victims were Muslims.

The question on so many minds is how do we prevent such a violent hate-motivated attack targeting Canadian Muslims, or any other religious community, from ever occurring again?

With the rise of far-right extremist groups that continue to threaten the safety of Canadian Muslim institutions and congregations, it is critical that our elected leaders stand firmly against Islamophobia and the agents of bigotry who aim to foment hateful division between Canadians and their fellow Muslim citizens. We must not allow voices of hate, even ones that may initially appear to be on the margins, to permeate our public discourse and damage our social fabric.

As you have eloquently stated, in these difficult times we must always remember the bonds of unity as Canadians and protect the diverse and open nature of our society.

To that end, we call on your government to designate, by order-in-council or by proclamation, January 29th as a National Day of Remembrance and Action on Islamophobia, on or before the first anniversary. This call is supported by a host of other Canadian Muslim organizations and community partners, listed below.

Such a designation will enable Canadians to collectively remember the victims of the attack and to enhance public education about the perils of hate, bigotry and Islamophobia.

We look forward to your response to this important issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ihsaan Gardee Executive Director

National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM)

## **Endorsing Organizations**

## **Canadian Muslim Organizations:**

- Afghan Canadian Islamic Community
- Alberta Muslim Public Affairs Committee (AMPAC)
- AMAL-Québec
- Assunah Muslims Association (AMA)
- Aylmer Mosque
- Az-Zahraa Islamic Academy
- Az-Zahraa Islamic Centre
- L'association la Paix
- L'assocation musulmane québécoise (AMQ)
- British Columbia Muslim Association (BCMA)
- Calgary Islamic Centre (SW Masjid)
- Canadian Association of Muslims with Disabilities (CAM-D)
- Canadian Association for Muslim Women in Law (CAMWL)
- Canadian Centre for Deen Studies
- Canadian Council of Imams (CCI)
- Canadian Council of Muslim Women National (CCMW)
- Canadian Council of Muslim Women Montreal Chapter
- Canadian Friends of Somalia
- Canadian Muslim Alliance (CMA)
- Canadian Muslim Lawyers Association / Association canadienne des avocats musulmans (CMLA/ACAM)

P.O. Box 13219, Ottawa, ON, K2K 1X4 tel: 1-866-524-0004 fax: 613-254-9810 email: info@nccm.ca

- The Canadian Muslim Vote (TCMV)
- Centre Al-Jisr
- Centre Culturel Islamique de Québec (CCIQ)
- Le centre Badr
- Le centre Kawtar de Laval
- Collective of Muslim Feminists of Quebec
- DawaNet
- Dar Al-Tawheed Islamic Centre
- Downtown Muslim Professional Network (DMPN)
- Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities (ECMC)
- Federation of Muslim Women
- Islam Care Centre
- Islamic Association of Northwest Calgary
- Islamic Association of Saskatchewan (Regina)
- Islamic Association of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon)
- Islamic Center of South Calgary
- Islamic Centre of Southwest Ontario
- Islamic Circle of North America-Canada (ICNA-Canada)
- Islamic Circle of North America-Canada Montreal Chapter
- Islamic Family and Social Services Association (Edmonton)
- Islamic Foundation of Toronto
- Islamic History Month Canada (IHMC)
- Islamic Institute of Toronto
- Islamic Shia Ithna Asheri Jamaat (ISIJ) of Toronto
- Islamic Society of Cumberland (Bilal Mosque)
- Islamic Society of Gloucester (ISOG)
- Islamic Society of Kingston
- Islamic Society of North America Canada (ISNA-Canada)
- Islamic Society of Sandy Hill
- Islamic Social Services Association (ISSA)
- Jamiatul Muslemeen of Ottawa-Carleton (Jami Omar)
- Kanata Muslim Association
- La Voie Des Femmes
- London Muslim Mosque (LMM)
- Muslim Association of Calgary
- Muslim Association of Canada (MAC National)
- Muslim Association of Canada (MAC Ottawa Chapter)
- Muslim Association of Hamilton
- Muslim Community Foundation of Calgary (MCFC)
- Muslim Coordinating Council of the National Capital Region (MCCNCR)
- Muslim Council of Calgary (MCC)
- Muslim Council of Peel
- Muslim Society of Prince Edward Island
- Muslim Link Newspaper

- Muslim Youth Services
- North American Spiritual Revival (NASR)
- Noor Cultural Centre
- Ottawa Muslim Association (OMA)
- Outaouais Islamic Center Gatineau Masjid
- Own It Institute of Canada Ltd.
- Shia Muslim Community of British Columbia
- South Nepean Muslim Community SNMC Masjid
- Tessellate Institute
- Think for Actions
- United Muslim Organizations in Ottawa Gatineau (UMO-OG)
- Windsor Islamic Association
- Windsor Islamic Council

## **Community Partners:**

- Amnesty International Canada
- Amnistie international Canada francophone
- Arab Canadian Lawyers Association
- Canada Without Poverty
- Canadian Association of Black Lawyers
- Canadian Council of Refugees
- Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)
- Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter
- Comité Solid'ère
- C.O.R. organisme de Communication pour l'Ouverture et le Rapprochement intercultural
- Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers
- Global Shapers Montréal (a youth leadership initiative by the World Economic Forum)
- The International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group (ICLMG)
- InterPares
- Mosaic Institute
- Ontario Federation of Labour
- Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)
- South Asian Bar Association Toronto
- Toronto and York Region Labour Council
- UneFilleUneFamille
- United Food and Commercial Workers Canada
- United Steelworkers, Local 2010
- Urban Alliance on Race Relations
- Vaughan African Canadian Association (VACA)
- YMCA Toronto
- YMCA Canada