Justin P.J. Trudeau



Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada Chef du Parti libéral du Canada

July 7th, 2015

Lana Robinson Canadian Friends Service Committee 60 Lowther Avenue Toronto, ON M5R 1C7

Dear Ms. Robinson,

Thank you for taking the time to write to me with the Canadian Friends Service Committee's questions regarding the situation in the Middle East.

I, and the entire Liberal caucus, believe that the ongoing Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement, much like Israel Apartheid Week, is not about our shared Canadian values of respect, openness, and engaging with each other. This movement makes Jewish Canadians feel unsafe, and as such, it is something that we have to take a firm stand against.

Stability in the Middle East can only happen when a safe and secure Israel exists in peace beside a viable, secure and democratic Palestinian state. The Liberal Party of Canada remains committed to a two-state solution, and believe that direct negotiations, with the help of the international community, are the only way to resolve the many complex issues of the conflict and build peace. When violence broke out in the summer of 2014, Liberals immediately called for a ceasefire to prevent the continued loss of lives in both the Gaza Strip and Israel. Canada must do more to work with our international partners to establish a lasting peace in the Middle East, and the current situation must not be allowed to become a partisan issue here at home.

Thank you once again for taking the time to write to me with the Canadian Friends Service Committee's questions regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,

Justin P.J. Trudeau

Member of Parliament for Papineau

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