



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Lindsay Mathysen

Member of Parliament
London-Fanshawe

December 1, 2023

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

Dear Prime Minister,

It has been over one month since my NDP colleagues and I wrote to you, as an entire caucus, to ask you to call for a full ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war.

We have not heard back from you.

My New Democrat colleagues and I have been working day in, day out to assist Canadian families in Gaza and to advocate for a full ceasefire, release of hostages and unimpeded humanitarian aid. The effort to evacuate Canadians and their loved ones out of Gaza has been extraordinarily difficult, made worse by inconsistent responses from GAC and IRCC – issues that my colleagues and I have raised with your government many times over the past six weeks and that have yet to be resolved.

For over 50 days, people in Gaza have been experiencing the most horrendous situation of their lives. Israel's bombardment of Gaza is causing horror and untold suffering for two million civilians who are in desperate need of an end to bombing and unimpeded - not restricted - humanitarian assistance. Humanitarian agencies tell us this is the worst they have ever seen.

I have risen in the House several times to express the fear and pain my constituents are experiencing. Every time, your government response fails to grasp the severity of this war and the horror Palestinians are living daily.

In the past week, we have been encouraged by the diplomatic work that has resulted in the release of some hostages and a pause in bombing. The people of the region need hope - and they need action and solidarity from the international community. What they do not need is a return to violence.

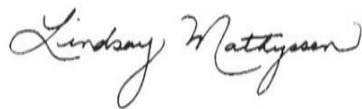
Despite writing to you multiple times, my constituents hear nothing from you but words, while your government refuses to call for a ceasefire that could save hundreds of thousands of lives. At the UN, your government has voted against condemnation of illegal settlements and against solidarity with UNRWA.

I am sharing with you, letters from members of my community of London-Fanshawe, who are pleading once again for your government to recognize that people in Gaza face starvation and horrendous humanitarian crisis. Each day that a full ceasefire is delayed, hundreds of Palestinians die. I support their requests to your government, and I ask that you and your colleagues listen to the many Canadians who want you, personally, to call for a ceasefire.

This situation could be resolved with the political will of Canada and other countries.

While you remain silent on this horrendous humanitarian and political crisis, I urge you once again to call for a full ceasefire and a new political process that must aim for a just peace for Palestinians and Israelis – not continued violence, not killings of civilians, and not violations of international law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lindsay Mathysen".

Lindsay Mathysen
Member of Parliament for London-Fanshawe

Attachments:

Letters from Hikma Public Affairs Council, on behalf of the Muslim community in London