



Council of Agencies Serving South Asians (CASSA)

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Statement on the attack on the Muslim family in London, Ontario

June 7, 2021

It is with profound grief, shock, and sadness that we write this statement to absolutely condemn the horrifying terrorist attack on a Muslim family in London, Ontario today, which left 3 adults and 1 teenager dead and orphaned an nine-year-old boy.

The [Council of Agencies Serving South Asians \(CASSA\)](http://www.cassa.on.ca) along with the [Anti-hate Community Leaders' Group](#) has been working to bring attention to hate-motivated crimes and create policies and programs to combat all forms of hate crimes and hate speech since 2019. Following the Quebec Mosque massacre of 2018, we resolved to do whatever we can to ensure such a terrorist act is not repeated in Canada. After today's attack, we know much more is to be done before we can rid ourselves of hate in this country.

Today's incident hits too close to home for CASSA, as the deceased family was related to one of our staff members. Our thoughts, prayers, and support go out to the survivors of the family, especially the nine-year-old boy who has lost his entire family because of blind hate and Islamophobia. Today, tens of thousands of Muslims families across Canada are alarmed, scared, and fear for their safety.

We, as members of the Anti-hate Community Leaders' Group and other social justice organizations:

- Demand the harshest punishment for the terrorist who committed this crime to bring swift justice to the deceased family.
- Call on all levels of government to work with community organizations to address Islamophobia and racism of all forms, and to build a society truly based on justice, equity and human rights for all.
- Call for increased community-informed anti-racism and anti-hate education in public schools to ensure our children grow up with respect for all communities and faiths.
- Renew our call to implement the [recommendations we made in 2020](#) for stronger restrictions on online hate and penalties for social media platforms that fail to monitor and take down online hate.

We also extend our support to organizations such as the National Council of Canadian Muslims as they navigate this crisis and work with law enforcement and policy makers to ensure justice is served.



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In solidarity,

Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services

Across Boundaries

Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention (ASAAP)

Bangladeshi-Canadian Community Services (BCS)

Canadian Anti-Hate Network

Canadian Arab Federation

Canadian Arab Institute

Canadian Association of Jews and Muslims (CAJM)

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture

Canadian Council of Muslim Women (CCMW)

Canadian Muslim Vote

Catholic Crosscultural Services (CCS)

Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic (CSALC)

Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice (CCNC-SJ)

Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter (CCNC-TO)

City of Toronto - Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit

Colour of Poverty - Colour of Change (COP-COC)

Council of Agencies Serving South Asians (CASSA)

Gibraltar Leadership Academy (GLA)

Hispanic Development Council (HDC)

Islamic Foundation of Toronto (IFT)

JSpaceCanada

Midyanta Community Services

National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM)

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion

Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)

Ontario Human Rights Commission

Penny Appeal Canada

Punjabi Community Health Services (PCHS)

Roots Community Services

Salaam Canada

Social Services Network (SSN)

South Asian Covid Task Force

South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario (SALCO)

Tamil Canadian Centre for Civic Action (TCCCA)

TNO – The Neighbourhood Organization

United Way of Greater Toronto

Urban Alliance on Race Relations (UARR)

World Sikh Organization

YWCA Canada