

STATEMENT BY THE
ADMINISTRATION OF OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL,
THE OSGOODE JEWISH LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION, AND
THE OSGOODE MUSLIM LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

June 11, 2021

Members of the Osgoode Hall Law School administration, the Osgoode Jewish Law Students' Association (JLSA), and the Osgoode Muslim Law Students' Association (MLSA) wish to express our joint support for peace and safety in Israel and Palestine and here at home in Canada. We condemn prejudice in all forms, including racial and religious discrimination, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia.

Osgoode's administration, the MLSA, and the JLSA are committed to fostering a safe and inclusive space where students can engage in meaningful dialogue on human rights issues. We encourage these discussions to be grounded in mutual respect and in rigorous research and analysis, and in a manner where student voices are not stifled. Given Osgoode's long history of promoting and protecting human rights, we are committed to providing students with the tools and skills to participate in such dialogue. We believe that as law students, lawyers, and academics, members of the Osgoode community are in an excellent position to serve as leaders in advancing respectful dialogue and sharing of ideas and perspectives. During the upcoming academic year, Osgoode's administration, along with the JLSA and the MLSA, will offer focused opportunities for students and other members of the Osgoode community to further develop these competencies.

We express our joint support for members of the Osgoode community who wish to respectfully engage in dialogue regarding the ongoing situation in Palestine and Israel. We also express our joint support for dialogue regarding anti-Semitism and Islamophobia here in Canada. Over the past several weeks, Osgoode's administration has heard from various members of the Osgoode community who have expressed fear of repercussions for engaging in dialogue about these distinctly important issues. We collectively extend our support to the Osgoode community to engage in difficult and uncomfortable conversations on complex topics, and to assess these issues critically, yet respectfully, both online and offline. The administration will be meeting with the MLSA and the JLSA on a regular basis going forward in order to better understand how Osgoode's administration can support our students and student clubs.

The undersigned are committed to ensuring that all members of the Osgoode community feel welcome, safe, and respected. Any Osgoode students who have concerns for their safety, including concerns about harassment or discrimination related to their race, religion, or engagement with the situation in Israel and

Palestine, are invited to contact Associate Dean (Students) Karen Drake (ads@osgoode.yorku.ca) and/or Assistant Dean, Students Mya Rimon (mrimon@osgoode.yorku.ca). Osgoode's administration looks forward to working with the JLSA and with the MLSA throughout the upcoming year to plan initiatives and events that promote dialogue on topics of human rights, equity, diversity, and inclusion within the Osgoode community as well as within the broader legal community.

Signed by:

Members of Osgoode Hall Law School's Administration

Mary Condon, Dean

Karen Drake, Associate Dean (Students)

Sara Slinn, Associate Dean (Research and Institutional Relations)

Gus Van Harten, Associate Dean (Academic)

Mya Rimon, Assistant Dean, Students

Victoria Watkins, Assistant Dean, Osgoode Professional Development

Osgoode Jewish Law Students' Association

Osgoode Muslim Law Students' Association