

**Canadian Interfaith
Conversation (CIC)**

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interfaithconversation.ca

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The CIC includes in its membership sixty-two faith communities and institutions. Together, our members represent the vast majority of Canadians.

The Canadian Interfaith Conversation advocates for religion in a pluralistic society and in Canadian public life.

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STATEMENT AGAINST ISLAMOPHOBIA

The [Canadian Interfaith Conversation](#) promotes harmony and religious insight among religions and religious communities in Canada and works for greater realization of the fundamental freedom of conscience and religion for the sake of the common good.

Recently, faith communities across British Columbia were deeply troubled by the reported assault on Imam Ebrahim Ali outside his mosque in Victoria. This followed shocking vandalism of mosques in Aylmer, Quebec, and Mississauga, Ontario. While authorities continue their investigations, these incidents serve as reminders that acts of hatred, intimidation, and violence directed at individuals because of their faith continue to affect communities across Canada. Such incidents create fear and anxiety not only for those directly affected but also for the wider community.

Without reservation, the Canadian Interfaith Conversation condemns these attacks and stands in solidarity with Muslim Canadians in a time of widespread Islamophobia.

Mosques, Islamic schools, community organizations, and Muslim families have faced threats, vandalism, harassment, and violence. Statistics Canada reported a 94% increase in police-reported hate crimes targeting Muslims in 2023, reminding us that Islamophobia remains a serious challenge affecting the safety, dignity, and well-being of Muslim communities across Canada. This month also marks the fifth anniversary of the London, Ontario, attack that claimed the lives of the Afzaal family. The impact of the attack continues to be felt by Muslim communities across Canada.

As people of faith, we recognize that behind every statistic is a human story—a family seeking safety, a child seeking belonging, a congregation gathering in prayer, and neighbours wishing to live free from fear. Our diverse religious traditions teach the sacred worth and dignity of every human being. We affirm that when one faith community is targeted, all communities are diminished.

To our Muslim neighbours and fellow Canadians: you are not alone. We see your concerns. We share your grief. We condemn these acts of hatred. We [stand with you](#) in friendship, solidarity, and hope.



Peter Noteboom
CIC Co-Chair



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