

## Talking points while speaking to Members of Parliament regarding the upcoming NDP resolution on Israel and Gaza.

- The NDP will be bringing forward a motion in the House of Commons on March 18<sup>th</sup> that threatens Canada's values, foreign policy, and support for Israel, while rewarding Hamas with recognition following its murderous attack on Israel on October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The motion calls for Canada's immediate and unilateral recognition of a Palestinian State, contrary to longstanding Canadian policy that calls for a "...Palestinian State, as part of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace settlement." Foregoing bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority will leave critical issues unresolved, including borders, the status of Jerusalem and Palestinian refugees.
- International law has traditionally required that four criteria be satisfied before recognition of an entity as an independent sovereign state can be considered:
  1. The entity must exercise effective and independent governmental control.
  2. The entity must possess a defined territory over which it exercises such control.
  3. The entity must have the capacity to freely engage in foreign relations.
  4. There must be effective and independent governmental control over a permanent population.
- Because the West Bank and Gaza are physically and politically divided between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority, and, because there are no recognized boundaries between Israel and the West Bank, except for the [demarcation line](#) set out in the [1949 Armistice Agreements](#) between the armies of [Israel](#) and those of its neighbours, Palestinians do not meet criteria 1, 2, or 4.
- Unilateral recognition would accord *de facto* recognition of Hamas, a Canadian-listed terrorist organization, as the government of Gaza.
- The motion also calls on the government to reinstate funding to UNRWA, ignoring evidence of UNRWA's role in perpetuating the conflict. Unfortunately, reinstated funding may already be coming, despite revelations about UNRWA employees collaborating with Hamas during the October 7 attacks.
- The motion will also ask for an arms embargo on Israel – at a time when Canada's ally is fighting a defensive war against a terrorist organization that has sworn to destroy the Jewish state. This would be akin to enacting an arms embargo against Ukraine as it battles Russia's invasion.
- To end the suffering in this conflict, Hamas – as the Canadian government has reiterated several times – must liberate the hostages, lay down its arms, and play no future role in governing Gaza.
- Hamas has rejected multiple negotiated offers to provide additional assistance to Palestinians and for a ceasefire between the parties.
- We hope to see an eventual, negotiated two-state solution between Palestinians and Israelis that brings about long-term peace. These policies are nonpartisan and reflect Canada's longstanding tradition of promoting peace and supporting liberal democracies around the world.
- The NDP's motion is inconsistent with these values and poses a direct threat to Canada's longstanding foreign policy.
- An unclear, un-nuanced, one-sided, and divisive motion should not be allowed to change Canada's longstanding foreign policy. There are far better ways to change foreign policy, including a study on the subject currently on the agenda in the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee.
- The Motion risks fueling divisions between the Muslim and Jewish communities in Canada.
- With regard to moving forward toward statehood for Palestinians, Canadian MPs should not be swayed by a motion calling for unilateral recognition but rather urge Palestinian leadership to return to the negotiating table with Israel. This bilateral response is mandated by the Oslo Accords and is in fact the only way to ensure genuine peace in the region. Unilateral measures have never brought peace and stability and will not do so now for either Israelis or Palestinians. We therefore urge **MPs to vote against this motion.**

## Sample Email

Dear X

Vote “NO”

On March 18, the NDP will bring forward a motion in the House of Commons that threatens Canada’s values, foreign policy, and support for Israel, while rewarding Hamas with recognition and support for its murderous attack on Israel on October 7th.

Contrary to longstanding Canadian policy that calls for a “...Palestinian State, as part of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace settlement,” this motion instead calls for Canada’s immediate and unilateral recognition of a Palestinian State. This would mean foregoing bilateral negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority and would leave critical issues, including borders and the status of Jerusalem and of Palestinian refugees, unresolved. Unilateral measures that disregard the legitimate interests of others have never brought peace and stability.

The motion also calls on the government to reinstate funding to UNRWA, ignoring evidence of UNRWA’s role in perpetuating the conflict. Unfortunately, reinstated funding may already be coming, despite revelations about UNRWA employees collaborating with Hamas during the October 7 attacks. The motion will also request an arms embargo on Israel – at a time when Canada’s ally is fighting a defensive war against a terrorist organization that has sworn to destroy the Jewish state.

This motion will not bring peace and stability now, not for Israel and not for the Palestinians.

To end the suffering in this conflict, Hamas – as the Canadian government has reiterated several times – must liberate the hostages, lay down its arms, and play no future role in governing Gaza.

Hamas has rejected multiple negotiated offers to provide additional assistance to Palestinians and for a ceasefire between the parties. We hope to see an eventual, negotiated, two-state solution between Palestinians and Israelis that brings about long-term peace.

These policies are nonpartisan and reflect Canada’s longstanding tradition of promoting peace and supporting liberal democracies around the world.

The NDP’s motion is inconsistent with these values and poses a direct threat to Canada’s longstanding foreign policy.

I urge you to vote “no” on this motion.

Chad	Collins	Hamilton East—Stoney Creek	Ontario	<a href="mailto:chad.collins@parl.gc.ca">chad.collins@parl.gc.ca</a>
Andy	Fillmore	Halifax	Nova Scotia	<a href="mailto:andy.fillmore@parl.gc.ca">andy.fillmore@parl.gc.ca</a>
Anita	Vandenbeld	Ottawa West—Nepean	Ontario	<a href="mailto:anita.vandenbeld@parl.gc.ca">anita.vandenbeld@parl.gc.ca</a>
Anthony	Rota	Nipissing—Timiskaming	Ontario	<a href="mailto:anthony.rota@parl.gc.ca">anthony.rota@parl.gc.ca</a>
Brenda	Shanahan	Châteauguay—Lacolle	Quebec	<a href="mailto:brenda.shanahan@parl.gc.ca">brenda.shanahan@parl.gc.ca</a>
Brendan	Hanley	Yukon	Yukon	<a href="mailto:brendan.hanley@parl.gc.ca">brendan.hanley@parl.gc.ca</a>
Charles	Sousa			
Chris	Bittle	St. Catharines	Ontario	<a href="mailto:chris.bittle@parl.gc.ca">chris.bittle@parl.gc.ca</a>
Francesco	Sorbara	Vaughan—Woodbridge	Ontario	<a href="mailto:francesco.sorbara@parl.gc.ca">francesco.sorbara@parl.gc.ca</a>
Francis	Drouin	Glengarry—Prescott—Russell	Ontario	<a href="mailto:francis.drouin@parl.gc.ca">francis.drouin@parl.gc.ca</a>
Francis	Scarpaleggia	Lac-Saint-Louis	Quebec	<a href="mailto:francis.scarpaleggia@parl.gc.ca">francis.scarpaleggia@parl.gc.ca</a>
Hedy	Fry	Vancouver Centre	British Columbia	<a href="mailto:hedy.fry@parl.gc.ca">hedy.fry@parl.gc.ca</a>
Helena	Jaczek	Markham—Stouffville	Ontario	<a href="mailto:Helena.Jaczek@parl.gc.ca">Helena.Jaczek@parl.gc.ca</a> ;
Jaime	Battiste	Sydney—Victoria	Nova Scotia	<a href="mailto:Jaime.Battiste@parl.gc.ca">Jaime.Battiste@parl.gc.ca</a>
Heath	McDonald	Malpeque	PEI	<a href="mailto:heath.mcdonald@parl.gc.ca">heath.mcdonald@parl.gc.ca</a>
James	Maloney	Etobicoke—Lakeshore	Ontario	<a href="mailto:james.maloney@parl.gc.ca">james.maloney@parl.gc.ca</a>
Joanne	Thompson	St. John's East	Newfoundland and Labrador	<a href="mailto:joanne.thompson@parl.gc.ca">joanne.thompson@parl.gc.ca</a>
John	Aldag	Cloverdale—Langley City	British Columbia	<a href="mailto:john.aldag@parl.gc.ca">john.aldag@parl.gc.ca</a>
Irek	Kusmierczyk	Windsor—Tecumseh	Ontario	<a href="mailto:Irek.Kusmierczyk@parl.gc.ca">Irek.Kusmierczyk@parl.gc.ca</a>
John	McKay	Scarborough—Guildwood	Ontario	<a href="mailto:john.mckay@parl.gc.ca">john.mckay@parl.gc.ca</a>
Joyce	Murray	Vancouver Quadra	British Columbia	<a href="mailto:joyce.murray@parl.gc.ca">joyce.murray@parl.gc.ca</a>
Judy A.	Sgro	Humber River—Black Creek	Ontario	<a href="mailto:judy.sgro@parl.gc.ca">judy.sgro@parl.gc.ca</a>
Julie	Dabrusin	Toronto—Danforth	Ontario	<a href="mailto:julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca">julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca</a>
Kevin	Lamoureux	Winnipeg North	Manitoba	<a href="mailto:kevin.lamoureux@parl.gc.ca">kevin.lamoureux@parl.gc.ca</a>
Kody	Blois	Kings—Hants	Nova Scotia	<a href="mailto:Kody.Blois@parl.gc.ca">Kody.Blois@parl.gc.ca</a>
Lisa	Hepfner	Hamilton Mountain	Ontario	<a href="mailto:lisa.hepfner@parl.gc.ca">lisa.hepfner@parl.gc.ca</a>
Maninder	Sidhu	Brampton East	Ontario	<a href="mailto:Maninder.Sidhu@parl.gc.ca">Maninder.Sidhu@parl.gc.ca</a>
Mark	Gerretsen	Kingston and the Islands	Ontario	<a href="mailto:mark.gerretsen@parl.gc.ca">mark.gerretsen@parl.gc.ca</a>
Mike	Kelloway	Cape Breton—Canso	Nova Scotia	<a href="mailto:Mike.Kelloway@parl.gc.ca">Mike.Kelloway@parl.gc.ca</a>
Parm	Bains	Steveston—Richmond East	British Columbia	<a href="mailto:parm.bains@parl.gc.ca">parm.bains@parl.gc.ca</a>
Patricia	Lattanzio	Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel	Quebec	<a href="mailto:Patricia.Lattanzio@parl.gc.ca">Patricia.Lattanzio@parl.gc.ca</a>
Peter	Fragiskatos	London North Centre	Ontario	<a href="mailto:peter.fragiskatos@parl.gc.ca">peter.fragiskatos@parl.gc.ca</a>
Peter	Schiefke	Vaudreuil—Soulanges	Quebec	<a href="mailto:peter.schiefke@parl.gc.ca">peter.schiefke@parl.gc.ca</a>

Ryan	Turnbull	Whitby	Ontario	<a href="mailto:Ryan.Turnbull@parl.gc.ca">Ryan.Turnbull@parl.gc.ca</a>
Stéphane	Lauzon	Argenteuil—La Petite-Nation	Quebec	<a href="mailto:stephane.lauzon@parl.gc.ca">stephane.lauzon@parl.gc.ca</a>
Steven	MacKinnon	Gatineau	Quebec	<a href="mailto:Steven.MacKinnon@parl.gc.ca">Steven.MacKinnon@parl.gc.ca</a> ;
Taleeb	Noormohamed	Vancouver Granville	British Columbia	<a href="mailto:taleeb.noormohamed@parl.gc.ca">taleeb.noormohamed@parl.gc.ca</a>
Terry	Sheehan	Sault Ste. Marie	Ontario	<a href="mailto:terry.sheehan@parl.gc.ca">terry.sheehan@parl.gc.ca</a>
Terry	Duguid	Winnipeg South	Manitoba	<a href="mailto:terry.duguid@parl.gc.ca">terry.duguid@parl.gc.ca</a>
Tim	Louis	Kitchener—Conestoga	Ontario	<a href="mailto:Tim.Louis@parl.gc.ca">Tim.Louis@parl.gc.ca</a>
Valerie	Bradford	Kitchener South—Hespeler	Ontario	<a href="mailto:valerie.bradford@parl.gc.ca">valerie.bradford@parl.gc.ca</a>
Viviane	Lapointe	Sudbury	Ontario	<a href="mailto:viviane.lapointe@parl.gc.ca">viviane.lapointe@parl.gc.ca</a>
Wayne	Long	Saint John—Rothesay	New Brunswick	<a href="mailto:wayne.long@parl.gc.ca">wayne.long@parl.gc.ca</a>
Alexandra	Mendès	Brossard—Saint-Lambert	Quebec	<a href="mailto:alexandra.mendes@parl.gc.ca">alexandra.mendes@parl.gc.ca</a>
Anna	Gainey	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Westmount	Quebec	
Annie	Koutrakis	Vimy	Quebec	<a href="mailto:Annie.Koutrakis@parl.gc.ca">Annie.Koutrakis@parl.gc.ca</a>
Ben	Carr	Winnipeg South Centre	Manitoba	<a href="mailto:ben.carr@parl.gc.ca">ben.carr@parl.gc.ca</a>
Rachel	Bendayan	Outremont	Quebec	<a href="mailto:Rachel.Bendayan@parl.gc.ca">Rachel.Bendayan@parl.gc.ca</a>
Sherry	Romanado	Longueuil—Charles-LeMoyne	Quebec	<a href="mailto:sherry.romanado@parl.gc.ca">sherry.romanado@parl.gc.ca</a>
Angelo	Iacono	Alfred-Pellan	Quebec	<a href="mailto:angelo.iacono@parl.gc.ca">angelo.iacono@parl.gc.ca</a>
Julie	Dzerowicz	Davenport	Ontario	<a href="mailto:julie.dzerowicz@parl.gc.ca">julie.dzerowicz@parl.gc.ca</a>
Yvan	Baker	Etobicoke Centre	Ontario	<a href="mailto:Yvan.Baker@parl.gc.ca">Yvan.Baker@parl.gc.ca</a>
Michael	Coteau	Don Valley East	Ontario	<a href="mailto:michael.coteau@parl.gc.ca">michael.coteau@parl.gc.ca</a>
Shaun	Chen	Scarborough North	Ontario	<a href="mailto:shaun.chen@parl.gc.ca">shaun.chen@parl.gc.ca</a>