



February 7, 2017
Arab Jewish Dialogue
c/o Howard Morry
Pitblado Law
2500-360 Main Street
Winnipeg Manitoba R3C 4H6

Dear Howard,

On behalf of the Manitoba Multifaith Council, I am sending you our statement, issued January 30, 2017, in response to the tragic shooting at the mosque in Quebec City. I hope you are able to share it with my fellow members of the Arab Jewish Dialogue who share our vision to work through dialogue and education to create a world where tragedies like this do not occur.

It has been a very difficult weekend as news came from the United States with an executive order on immigration that impacted so many people around the world. Canadians drifted between feelings of horror and disgust to thankfulness for living in this country where diversity is honoured and appreciated.

Then, on Sunday evening, two attackers violated a sacred space in Quebec City opening fire at a mosque while men, women and children were at prayer, resulting in the death of six individuals, and many others injured, some critically.

The rising tide of racist ideologies and the marginalization of minorities have emboldened violent extremists—even in our country. Many have felt—perhaps naively—that we had turned the page on the kind of ugliness that had resulted in an attack on a pregnant Muslim woman in 2015. We must not be complacent: this attack on the mosque is an attack on all Canadians.

On behalf the Manitoba Multifaith Council, we stand in solidarity with our Muslim sisters and brothers, and share in your grief. We offer our heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims alongside our determination to build a world where all lives are valued and diversity is celebrated.

Thanks for your assistance with this.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B Jarniewski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Belle Jarniewski

President, Manitoba Multifaith Council