

Prime Minister Mark Carney,
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

April 13, 2025 – Palm Sunday

Dear Mr. Carney,

Although I realize that you and the rest of the parliament are in the midst of a federal election campaign I must raise a concern that cannot wait for the slow moving process of establishing a new government. I recently retired from serving as the Primate (senior Archbishop) of the Anglican Church of Canada, a role in which I worked as a colleague with the Archbishop of the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, Archbishop Hosam Naoum. I have visited Israel, the West Bank and Gaza as part of our commitment to support the presence of Christians in that land.

I am horrified by the news today that the government of Israel has again bombed the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, a hospital that serves those suffering the devastating effects of the relentless attacks on the civilians of Gaza and is overseen by the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem and teams of dedicated Palestinian doctors, nurses, and health care workers. We reject the claim by the Israeli government that the hospital is being used by Hamas as a cover for terrorist cells.

The Anglican Church of Canada has stood in solidarity in its work with both Jews and Palestinians in that land (see here how we have spoken:

<https://www.anglican.ca/publicwitness/peace-and-conflict/israel-and-palestine/>). We grieve with the Jewish community at the attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023, the deaths of innocent men, women and children and the taking of hostages, with many still being held by Hamas. That is a war crime. We also grieve with the thousands of civilians killed or displaced in Gaza, the ongoing total destruction of Gaza, and the disregard for international law in the bombing of hospitals and the blocking of aid. This also constitutes violations of the Geneva convention.


I realize that Canada holds modest political sway in this international conflict however we have always been globally respected for our moral voice in the midst of wars and disasters. I have heard very little from our government or opposition leaders in recent months on this continuing

*The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls
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travesty of human rights and dignity for Jews and Palestinians. We must speak up for an immediate ceasefire and urge a settlement that will lead to peace in the region. The current actions will only lead to generation after generation of hatred and continued violence.

I urge you to speak now. Join with other political and faith leaders to speak for peace and for a just settlement of this conflict for both Palestinians and Jews. Find ways to increase the pressure on both Hamas and the Israeli government now. This is not a partisan issue. It is an issue of human rights and the future of global peace and justice.

With sorrow for the suffering that continues unabated and prayers for all who hold positions of leadership in this time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Linda Nicholls". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls
Archbishop & Retired Primate, Anglican Church of Canada

cc. Archbishop Anne Germond, Acting Primate, Anglican Church of Canada
Archbishop Hosam Naoum, Primate of the Middle East and Jerusalem,
Dr. Andrea Mann, Global Relations, Anglican Church of Canada