

Manitoba College of Social Workers Standing Together

June 11, 2021



The Manitoba College of Social Workers joined the Muslim community in sorrow and solidarity at the vigil held at the Grand Mosque in Winnipeg on June 10, 2021 to honour three generations of the Afzal family and all those who have experienced Islamophobia and hate. As we struggle to find words to express our outrage at continued acts of racism in this country, we lean on the poignant message shared by Sheikh Ismael Mukhtar yesterday evening:

“In a country where we value tolerance, diversity ... a country that’s founded on fairness, justice, inclusion ... this is an assault on our values and principles that make us a nation.”

“What’s at stake here is the soul and the spirit of what makes us Canadians.”

“There is a responsibility on the shoulder of every single one of us to fight hate in whatever shape and form ... Let’s stand together. This is not a fight for Muslims only. This is a fight for the soul and the spirit of our nation, our country, our values and our principles.”

MCSW stands together with the Muslim community and all those communities and fellow Canadians who experience the effects of prejudice, racism and hate. As we continue to grow and learn as a profession and as an organization, MCSW reaffirms our dedication to be strong advocates and to move forward with an intentional anti-racist lens in keeping with our shared principles of equity, inclusion and diversity.

A recording of this vigil is available on the Manitoba Islamic Association website:

<https://www.miaonline.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDZ6G06q1r4>

<https://www.casw-acts.ca/en/association-black-social-workers-and-canadian-association-social-workers-joint-statement-against>