

RELIGIOUS SOCIAL ACTION COALITION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

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Jews, Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and others committed to ending the injustice of poverty.

March 15, 2019

Dr. Syed Pirzada
President, Muslim Association of Newfoundland and Labrador

Dear Dr. Pirzada:

Assalamu Alaikum

It was with a sad and angry heart that I received the news of the terrorist attacks, killing 49 people with a number of others injured, at the Al Noor mosque in Christchurch and at the mosque in the suburb of Linwood in New Zealand.

On January 29th of this year, through your thoughtful invitation, a number of us non-Muslims stood and sat with you in solidarity on the 2nd anniversary of the Quebec City massacre, killing 6 Canadians from the Muslim community. I felt honoured to be invited to speak at that difficult time. We sincerely prayed that “never again” would people die because of violence, prejudice, hatred and fear. Unfortunately, another hateful tragedy has occurred. Certainly God/Allah weeps and we weep also.

This tragic assault on women, men and children of the Muslim community is, indeed, an assault on all of us who seek to honour our shared humanity, celebrate our diversity and live in respect and peace with one another. The Religious Social Action Coalition is committed to those values as a way of life for all people, believing that such violence has no place in our cultures and communities. Please accept our deep sympathy. Please advise if there is further helpful action that you would request of us.

Assalamu Alaikum

Marion Pardy (Very Rev. Dr.), Coordinator, Religious Social Action Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador (RSAC)

