

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mount Royal Faculty Association Condemns US Travel Ban

The Mount Royal Faculty Association (MRFA) strongly condemns the United States government's Executive Order that prevents individuals from seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the country for 90 days. This order affects research partnerships, international studies, academic conference participation, field visits and family relationships of our university students, faculty and staff and creates fear and anxiety for many in our community. The MRFA shares the deep concerns expressed by Universities Canada, and joins the Canadian Association of University Teachers in denouncing this act as discriminatory.

The Mount Royal Faculty Association will work to create a welcoming environment for students, faculty and staff from around the world, including those seeking refuge from violence and hardship. We are committed to assisting any who are affected by the ban and the climate of fear created by the executive order.

We also call on the Canadian government to repeal the Safe Third Country Agreement, which prevents those who have been denied refugee status in the United States from gaining entry to Canada. This agreement currently prevents Canada from fulfilling the Prime Minister's promise that the country will be a safe haven for those "fleeing persecution, terror and war."

As well, the Mount Royal Faculty Association condemns rhetoric that serves to divide us from one another, and to inflame xenophobia. We extend our deepest sympathies to the victims of Sunday's violence in Quebec, and to their families. We redouble our commitment to protecting and advancing human rights for all peoples, regardless of race, religion, place of origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, disability, colour, age, or other protected grounds.

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