

January 30, 2017

Statement on shooting at Centre Culturel Islamique de Québec

On January 29th, two gunmen opened fire on evening prayers at the Centre Culturel Islamique de Québec on rue Sainte-Foy in Quebec City. The shooting killed six people and left five in critical condition, with at least 14 others taken to hospital. The Dalhousie Student Union condemns this terrorist attack without reservation. At this difficult time for many of our members, and the Muslim community in Halifax, we stand with those who are grieving, and continue in our efforts to make our offices and our campuses a safer space for Muslim students, faculty, and staff.

While this attack happened in Quebec, the Dalhousie Student Union recognizes that Islamophobia and xenophobia are alive and well across the country, including here in Nova Scotia. We know that our Muslim colleagues and friends experience casual bigotry in their daily lives, and ask all our members to defend the dignity and safety of their neighbours with vigilance. We cannot allow small acts of injustice to go unchallenged any more than we can endorse horrific displays of violence like the one that unfolded in Sainte-Foy on Sunday night. In a time of particularly dangerous divisive rhetoric, the Dalhousie Student Union actively rejects fear mongering and hatred. We are stronger together.

The Muslim Students Association will host a vigil at 4 PM on Monday, January 30th in the Studley Quad. Please join us as we come together in memory of those taken from us on Sunday night. A Halifax-wide vigil is planned for 6 PM, Monday, January 30th at Parade Square (Barrington St.). [Donations can be made to the Islamic Cultural Center of Quebec through CanadaHelps.org.](#)