



Green Party of Canada Endorses Afghan-Canadian Coalition Positions, Joining NDP in Standing Up for Afghanistan

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On August 26, Canada announced that their evacuation operation in Afghanistan is ending. This announcement was met with disappointment and dismay from the Afghan-Canadian community because we know that Canada could have done more to fulfil their moral obligation to Canadians, Afghans who risked their lives to support and stand by us, and those seeking refuge in Canada.

We strongly condemn the series of attacks at the Kabul airport on Thursday and our hearts and our prayers go out to all those who lost their loved ones - people who were simply seeking a better future for themselves and their families. The Canadian Campaign for Afghan Peace reiterates again that the crisis in Afghanistan is extremely time-sensitive. The election must not take away attention and resources from Canada's response to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

As of August 26, Canada had only evacuated 3,700 people in total, abandoning thousands of people in Afghanistan. We are extremely concerned about the fate of those left behind.

On August 26, the Leader of the Green Party of Canada, Annamie Paul, cancelled her original plans for 24 hours in order to meet with the Canadian Campaign for Afghan Peace and consider proposals for how to move forward. We appreciate the Green Party's recognition of the urgency of this moment, the pain of Afghans, and for consulting with the Afghan-Canadian community.

The Green Party of Canada joined the New Democratic Party of Canada in endorsing our open letter positions.

The pledge to take in 20,000 Afghan refugees in the coming months and years is not enough and we have seen that Canada is not even close to reaching that number. We want the government to accept 40,000 resettlements this year and 95,000 over 2 years. Canada must continue to call on the Taliban to allow Afghans and Afghan-Canadians to exit the country on their free will. Canada must provide timely communication and access to diplomatic channels for those still within Afghanistan and those who choose to stay.



On Thursday, Canadian Campaign for Afghan Peace members also met with the Conservative Party of Canada's Shadow Minister of International Development and Human Rights, Garnett Genuis, where we discussed our open letter and solutions related to how Canada should be taking immediate action for the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. Mr. Genuis expressed his support for our campaign's open demands and the plight of those left behind. We urge the Conservative Party of Canada and Erin O'Toole to directly engage with the Afghan community on the crisis in Afghanistan and resettlement policy, including clarifying what the Afghan Resettlement Program would look like under a Conservative government.

On August 28, Canadian Campaign for Afghan Peace members joined hundreds of people at the Toronto protest at Nathan Philips Square calling on the world to stand up for human rights in Afghanistan.

The Canadian Campaign for Afghan Peace is calling on the leaders of Canada's federal parties to commit to making the situation in Afghanistan as the number one foreign policy priority and part of their election agenda. We are calling on all political parties to stand with our open letter solutions and to urgently address Afghanistan's humanitarian catastrophe.

#Canada4Afghanistan