

**JANUARY 29, 2017 - IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MULTI-FAITH CLERGY PRESS CONFERENCE**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2017 AT 9:30 AM AT JACK POOLE PLAZA  
1085 Canada Place Vancouver, BC (in front of 2010 Olympic Flame)**

**CLERGY ACROSS CANADA CALL ON PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO IMMEDIATELY EXTEND TEMPORARY RESIDENT VISAS OR PERMITS FOR CANADA FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE AMERICAN VISAS IN HAND, AND WHO ARE STRANDED AT AMERICAN PORTS OF ENTRY ONLY BECAUSE OF THE US PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER ON REFUGEES AND IMMIGRATION**

Concerned Canadian Clergy for Refugees call upon the Canadian Government and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to immediately extend temporary resident visas or permits for individuals who have American visas in hand, passed American security clearance, and who are stranded at American ports of entry only.

Canada should favourably consider temporary resident visas or permits to Canada for individuals within this group who have been recognized as refugees by the United States, these individuals, who have passed American security and background checks, should be allowed entry to Canada.

Canada and the USA have agreed to protect refugees. Given that these security-screened refugees would have been able to disembark their flight for new lives in the USA, and are not considered security risks, Canada should help and help them now. A small number of cases are affected.

We are reminded of our nation's history when 'none is too many' was our response to Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi Germany. Since those dark days following World War II, Canada has made great strides to be a beacon of hope to refugees seeking safety from around the world.

As America's light of Lady Liberty has dimmed with the closing of US borders to Muslim refugees we call on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and our national government to immediately grant temporary resident visas or permits to those with American visas in hand who have now been turned away by the Executive Order of US President Donald Trump on Refugees and Immigration. In this moment of humanitarian urgency Canada must shine our light brighter and be a beacon of hope to the huddled masses yearning to breathe free.

**Contact Rabbi Dan Moskovitz 604-401-5153, rabbidan@templesholom.ca**

**Signatures on next page and following**

## SIGNATURES

<p>Rabbi Dan Moskovitz Temple Sholom Vancouver, BC</p>	<p>Rabbi Denise Eger President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis</p>
<p>Rabbi Philip Bregman HillelBC Vancouver, BC</p>	<p>Jewish Refugee Network (JLAN) Maureen Silcoff, Chair Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld, founder of JLAN</p>
<p>Rabbi Elyse Goldstein City Shul Toronto, ON</p>	<p>Rev. Diane Rollert Minister/Pasteure Unitarian Church of Montreal L'Église Unitarienne de Montréal</p>
<p>Rabbi Arthur Waskow The Shalom Center International Philadelphia, PA</p>	<p>Rev Debra Faulk Unitarian Church of Calgary</p>
<p>Rabbi Erin Polansky Neshamah Congregation Thornhill, ON</p>	<p>Rabbi Yael Splansky Holy Blossom Temple Toronto ON</p>
<p>Rev'd Dr Richard Geoffrey Leggett Saint Faith's Anglican Church New Westminster BC</p>	<p>Rabbi Carey Brown Temple Sholom Vancouver, BC</p>
<p>Rabbi Audrey Pollack Solel Congregation of Mississauga Mississauga ON</p>	<p>The Rev. Rob Crosby-Shearer Co-Prior &amp; Deacon The Emmaus Community and the Abbey Church Victoria, BC</p>
<p>Rev. Dr. Jason Byassee Butler Chair in Homiletics Vancouver School of Theology Vancouver, B.C.</p>	<p>The Rev. Meagan Crosby-Shearer Formation Director &amp; Priest The Emmaus Community and the Abbey Church Victoria, BC</p>
<p>Rev Canon Dr John Alfred Steele St Dunstan's Anglican Church Victoria, BC</p>	<p>The Rev'd Craig Hiebert Incumbent, The Church of St Mary the Virgin The Anglican Diocese of British Columbia Victoria, BC</p>
<p>Rev. Dr. Richard Bott Minister of Congregational Development Dunbar Ryerson United Church United Church of Canada.</p>	<p>The Reverend Michael McGee Rector, St Christopher's Anglican Church West Vancouver</p>

<p>Rabbi Alan W. Bright - Mohel Shaare Zedek Congregation</p> <p>Dr. Kidoor K.N. BHAT, President VVSBC (Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia)</p> <p>Rev. Laurel Dykstra Priest In Charge at Salal + Cedar Anglican Diocese of New Westminster</p> <p>Rev. Jennifer Swanson Ioco United Pt. Moody. BC</p> <p>Rev. Scott Swanson Sunnyside United Church Surrey, BC</p> <p>Fr. Robin Ruder Celiz Vicar of St. Martin's Anglican Church Vancouver, BC</p> <p>Rabbi Stephen F Moch Kolot Mayim Reform Temple Victoria, BC</p> <p>Jaylynn W. Byassee Pastor of Refugee Support Tenth Church Kitsilano Vancouver, B.C.</p> <p>Rabbi Jordan Helfman Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto, ON</p> <p>Rev. Dr .Penelope Witte Alderdice Unitarian Universalist Minister St John's NL</p> <p>Rabbi Andrea Myers Toronto, ON</p> <p>The Rev'd. Stephen Petrie Hospital Chaplain Sainte Anne's Hospital Montreal, Québec</p>	<p>Rev. Laura Imayoshi Community Minister Unitarian Church of Vancouver</p> <p>Rabbi Michal Shekel Congregation Har Tikvah Brampton, ON</p> <p>Rabbi Daniel Mikelberg Temple Sinai Toronto ON</p> <p>Christopher Page Rector St. Philip</p> <p>Rabbi Michael Whitman The ADATH Hampstead, Quebec</p> <p>Rabbi Laura Duhan Kaplan, Ph.D. Director of Inter-Religious Studies and Professor of Jewish Studies Vancouver School of Theology Vancouver, BC</p> <p>Rev Debra Faulk Unitarian Church of Calgary Calgary, AB</p> <p>Dr Robert Oppenheimer Victoria, BC</p> <p>Rabbi Jordan Cohen Temple Anshe Sholom Hamilton, ON</p> <p>Haval Ahmad Royal Roads University</p> <p>Rabbi David Mivasair Ahavat Olam Synagogue Vancouver, BC</p> <p>Acharya Shrinath Dwivedi, President Global Hindu Foundation of Canada</p>
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<p>Rabbi Louis W. Sutker Interim Rabbi Har El Synagogue West Vancouver, B.C.</p>	<p>Arun Chatterjee, Hospital Chaplain, Vivekananda Vedanta Society of BC</p>
<p>Rabbi Mark Glickman Temple B'nai Tikvah Calgary, AB</p>	<p>Rabbi Bill S. Tepper Toronto, ON</p>
<p>Rev. Wendy McNiven Retired Unitarian Universalist Minister Member, Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship</p>	<p>The Rev Gillian Hoyer, Assistant Curate, Anglican Church of St John the Divine, Victoria BC</p>
<p>Rabbi Boris Dolin Congregation Dorshei Emet (Reconstructionist) Hampstead, Quebec</p>	<p>Rabbi Susan Shamash Or Shalom Synagogue (member) Vancouver, B.C.</p>
<p>Rabbi Lori Cohen Temple Shalom Waterloo, ON</p>	<p>Fr. Gilles A. Surprenant Parish Assistant St Gabriel Parish Montreal QC</p>
<p>Rabbi Shalom Schachter Vice President OHALAH The Association of Rabbis and Cantors for Jewish Renewal Toronto ON</p>	<p>Rémi Bourdon Roman catholicisme priest Diocèse Saint-Jean-Longueuil</p>
<p>Rev. Brian Kiely Unitarian Church of Edmonton</p>	<p>Father Paul Geraghty St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Montreal, Quebec</p>
<p>Rev. Wayne Walder, B.A. M.Div. Senior Minister, Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation Toronto, On.</p>	<p>Rabbi Julia Appel Hillel at the University of Toronto Toronto ON</p>
<p>Rabbi Lisa Grushcow Montreal Quebec</p>	<p>Rabbi Edward Goldfarb Holy Blossom Temple Toronto ON</p>
<p>The Reverend C. Ray D Fletcher TELKWA B.C.</p>	<p>Rabbi Hannah Dresner Or Shalom Vancouver BC</p>
<p>Dr Ashok Agarwal, Trustee, Victoria Hindu Parishad And Cultural Center, Victoria, BC</p>	<p>Rabbi Robert Daum, PhD Chair, The Laurier Institution Vancouver, BC</p>
	<p>Rabbi Sherril Gilbert, Executive Director, ALEPH Canada</p>

<p>Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Anne and Max Tanenbaum Senior Rabbi Beth Tzedec Congregation Toronto</p> <p>Cantor Cheryl Wunch Congregation Shaarei-Beth El Oakville, ON</p> <p>Canon Peter Hamel, Rector Emeritus, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Masset, Haida Gwaii. BC.</p> <p>Rev. Nick Brotherhood, Anglican Church of Canada Montreal, QC.</p> <p>Rev. Jack Costello SJ Jesuit Refugee and Migrant Service and Regis College Toronto ON</p> <p>Rev. Heather Wright Landry United on Whyte United Church Edmonton, AB</p> <p>Rev. Helen McFadyen M.Div. Minister, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Kamloops, BC</p> <p>Gareth Sirotnik Zen Buddhist Chaplain University of British Columbia</p> <p>(Rev.) Anne Treadwell Retired Unitarian Minister Kitchener, Ontario</p> <p>Rev. Kristin Wood Burke Diaconal Minister United Church of Canada Neepawa and Area Pastoral Charge</p> <p>Rev. Jim Tenford Moose Jaw, SK</p>	<p>Rev. Linda McLaren Saint Andrew's United Church Williams Lake BC</p> <p>Rev. Valerie Taylor Coordinating Minister West Point Grey United Church Vancouver, BC</p> <p>Rev. Wendy McNiven Retired Unitarian Universalist Minister Member, Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship</p> <p>Reverend Anne Barker Unitarian Universalist Minister at Westwood Unitarian Society in Edmonton Alberta.</p> <p>David Daniel Klipper Rabbinic Pastor</p> <p>Rev. Shawn Newton First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto Toronto, ON</p> <p>Jane Bramadat (Rev) Unitarian Universalist Minister Emerita First Unitarian Church of Victoria, BC</p> <p>(Rev) Barbara Hansen Diaconal Minister, United Church of Canada</p> <p>Rev. Heather Carlson Knox United Church Drumheller, AB</p> <p>Rabbi Irit Printz Toronto, Ontario</p> <p>Rev. Lynn Harrison Minister of Community Engagement First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto</p> <p>Rev. Miriam Bowlby Cochrane Street United Church St. John's, NL</p>
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<p>Sally Meyer (Rev) Serving Lacolle-Clarenceville and Hemmingford Pastoral Charges of the Québec Presbytery in the Montreal-Ottawa Conference of the United Church of Canada</p> <p>Rabbi Phyllis Berman Spiritual Director</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Travis O'Brian Rector, St Barnabas Anglican Church, Victoria, BC</p> <p>Rabbi Noam Katz Dean of Jewish Living The Leo Baeck Day School Toronto, Ontario</p> <p>Samaya Oakley, Minister South Fraser Unitarian Congregation Fraser Valley BC</p> <p>Rev. Rodrigo Emilio Solano-Quesnel from the UU Fellowship of Ottawa</p> <p>Rabbi Edward Elkin First Narayever Congregation Toronto, ON</p> <p>Rev. Margaret J. Roberts Community Minister, Spirit Arts Vancouver, BC</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Steven Epperson Unitarian Church of Vancouver Vancouver, BC</p> <p>Rev. Anne Hoganson St. Paul's United Halifax, NS</p> <p>Rev Wanda Stride Woodville Pastoral Charge, United Church of Canada Kawartha Lakes, Ontario</p>	<p>Rev. Darla Sloan, pasteure Église Unie Saint-Pierre &amp; Pinguet Temple Chalmers-Wesley Québec</p> <p>Rev. Frances Deverell Retired Unitarian Universalist Minister In the Community in Ottawa</p> <p>Rabbi Leana Moritt Roosevelt Island Jewish Congregation</p> <p>Rabbi Leonard Cohen Kehilat Shalom Calgary, AB</p> <p>Rev. Tricia Gerhard United Church of Canada, Regina, SK</p> <p>Rev. Anne Orfald, minister emerita, Unitarian Fellowship of Peterborough, ON Peterborough, Ontario</p> <p>Rev. Sarah Bruer Diagonal Minister MacGregor United Church MacGregor, Manitoba</p> <p>Rev. Greg Smith-Young Project Welcome Centre Wellington Elora United Church Elora, Ontario</p> <p>Rev. Leanne Benoit Esquimalt United Church Victoria, BC</p> <p>The Rev. Trisha Elliott Southminster United Church Ottawa Ontario</p> <p>Rev. Steve Berube St. Paul's United Church Riverview, NB</p>
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<p>Rev. Jane Doull Wesley United Church St Andrews, NB</p>	<p>Rev. Elaine Beattie Minister Manotick United Church Manotick Ottawa United Church of Canada</p>
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**United States Clergy that have signed in solidarity with our cause**

<p>Rabbi Tamar Malino Temple Beth Shalom Spokane, WA</p> <p>Rabbi Scott M. Sperling Beth El Congregation Winchester, Virginia.</p> <p>Rabbi Molly Karp New City, NY Rabbi Rachel Barenblat Co-chair, ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal</p> <p>Rabbi Diane Elliot Wholly Present, A Center for Embodied Judaism Director, ALEPH's Embodying Spirit Program El Sobrante, CA</p> <p>Rabbi Peg Kershenbaum New City, NY</p> <p>Rabbi Barbara Thiede Temple Or Olam Concord, NC</p>	<p>Rabbi Mara Nathan Temple Beth-El San Antonio, Texas</p> <p>Rabbi Ken Chasen Leo Baeck Temple Los Angeles, CA</p> <p>Rabbi Steven Altarescu Bronx, New York Rabbi Laurie Levy Bronx, New York</p> <p>Rabbi Sarah Meytin Silver Spring, MD</p> <p>Rabbi Debra Kolodny Portland, OR</p> <p>Rabbi Katy Z. Allen Wayland MA</p> <p>Rabbi Jan Salzman Congregation Ruach haMaqom Burlington, Vermont</p>
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## Those Present at Press Conference

<p>Rabbi Dan Moskovitz Temple Sholom Vancouver BC <a href="mailto:rabbidan@templesholom.ca">rabbidan@templesholom.ca</a> 604.401.5153</p> <p>Rabbi Philip Bregman HillelBC Vancouver BC <a href="mailto:rabbibregman@hillelbc.com">rabbibregman@hillelbc.com</a></p> <p>Dr. Kidoor K.N. BHAT, President VVSBC (Vivekananda Vedanta Society of British Columbia) <a href="mailto:k1893bhat@gmail.com">k1893bhat@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Richard Bott (Rev. Dr.) Minister of Congregational Development Dunbar Ryerson United Church United Church of Canada <a href="mailto:richard.bott@gmail.com">richard.bott@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Haval Ahmad Royal Roads University <a href="mailto:haval099@hotmail.com">haval099@hotmail.com</a></p> <p>Arun Chatterjee, Hospital Chaplain, Vivekananda Vedanta Society of BC Minister and Convener, Interfaith Homeless Food and Clothing Ministry <a href="mailto:arunavc@hotmail.com">arunavc@hotmail.com</a></p>
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