



Public Service Alliance of Canada Local 901

The Union of Teaching Assistants, Teaching Fellows, Postdoctoral Scholars, and Research Assistants at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario

www.psa901.org

Statement: Hands off Sheikh Jarrah; No to war on Gaza
14 May 2021

On behalf of 2000+ teaching assistants, research assistants, teaching fellows and postdoctoral scholars at Queen's University, PSAC Local 901 firmly condemns the vicious attacks on Palestinians by the Israeli police and military.

Over the past week, the Israeli police has attacked people in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood for defying the forced eviction of hundreds of Palestinians from their homes by settlers. Now we witness a ruthless military attack on Gaza, with numerous airstrikes. The forced relocations are illegal under international law and are sanctioned by racist laws of the Israeli state which grants itself the right to dispossess Palestinian land, homes, and lives. We consider what is happening to be deeply concerning on humanitarian grounds, as constituting a genocide.

Settler colonialism, both here on Turtle Island and in Palestine, violently dispossesses the right to land and life of Indigenous populations, hands the land over towards business interests, and draws profits from the forced impoverishment of the dispossessed communities. As organized workers, and as part of the labour movement, we must continue to stand against colonialism both here and overseas, and reiterate our anti-colonial principles.

We invite members of the Queen's community to join us in condemning the ongoing attacks, and stand in support of the Palestinian right to self-determination.

We invite our members in Kingston to participate in the [Drive-by for Palestine](#) tomorrow at 6 PM. Our members in Toronto may participate in this [protest action](#) organized tomorrow at 7 PM, and those in Ottawa may join [the protest](#) near Human Rights Monument at 1 PM tomorrow. We open ourselves and our resources to our Palestinian members, and mention that your union stands with you.

Hands off Sheikh Jarrah; No to war on Gaza.

Signed,
Executive Committee of PSAC Local 901