



**October 2nd 2024**

**Statement from PACE Society on One Year of Palestinian Genocide and the Urgent Need to Decolonize**

As we mark one year of Palestinian genocide, it is crucial that we acknowledge the gravity of this ongoing atrocity and commit ourselves to the global struggle for decolonization. The relentless violence and systematic erasure of the Palestinian people must be recognized for what it is: a manifestation of colonial power and settler violence that is upheld by the same systems of oppression that target marginalized communities everywhere, including on these stolen lands across Turtle Island.

At PACE Society, we stand in solidarity with Palestine, understanding that the liberation of oppressed peoples is inherently interconnected. The violence we are witnessing—homes demolished, children murdered, entire communities displaced—echoes the brutal history of colonialism and state violence that Indigenous, Black, and racialized people have long endured in Canada and globally.

The colonial project in Palestine is not an isolated incident, nor is it a distant one. It is part of the same global system of white supremacy, settler colonialism, and militarized power that seeks to erase Indigenous sovereignty, dispossess marginalized communities, and reinforce state control over bodies, lands, and lives.

To remain silent in the face of this genocide is to be complicit in the violence. Decolonization is not a metaphor; it requires tangible action. That means challenging the powers that uphold Israeli apartheid, divesting from the military-industrial complex, and dismantling the systems of oppression that enable this violence to continue, whether in Palestine, on these lands, or across the globe.

We cannot talk about justice for sex workers, for Indigenous sovereignty, or for marginalized people in Canada without also talking about the need to decolonize globally. True liberation demands that we fight against all forms of colonialism, violence, and state control. Our struggles are tied together, and none of us are free until all of us are free.

As we reflect on one year of Palestinian genocide, we urge our community, friends and allies to take action in solidarity with Palestine and to recognize the importance of decolonization as an ongoing and collective struggle. Let this be a reminder that we cannot stand by as the state continues its violence—here or abroad. We must fight for a future free of colonialism, occupation, and genocide.

PACE Society stands firmly in support of the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement as a necessary and nonviolent means of resisting Israeli apartheid and the ongoing occupation of Palestine. We call for an immediate end to the occupation, the right of return for



Palestinian refugees, and a total arms embargo on Israel to stop the systemic violence and dispossession of the Palestinian people. As advocates for human rights and justice, sex workers know all too well the harm caused by state violence and criminalization. Our liberation is interconnected with the global fight against colonialism and oppression. Supporting Palestinian freedom is not only a stance against apartheid but a stand for the dignity, self-determination, and safety of all people facing systemic marginalization and violence. Solidarity with Palestine is an essential part of our broader struggle for decolonization and justice everywhere.

In solidarity and struggle,

PACE Society