

June 11th, 2021

**To PERC members and friends,**

The PERC membership is heartbroken after learning of the recent senseless attacks on an innocent family in London, Ontario, targeted because of their Muslim faith. Our thoughts are with the affected families and communities. To our Muslim members and friends, we stand with you in solidarity. We must all work together to conquer hate and Islamophobia; every single one of us deserves to be safe.

Additionally, we have equally felt the deep collective grief of last week's discovery in Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc territory (Kamloops) of the 215 Indigenous children on the site of a residential school. We fully endorse the Canadian Paediatric Society's position to stand with Indigenous leadership and implore full implementation of coordinated calls to action, including searching each former residential school site to find and identify every lost child. We honour the memory of these children and offer our deepest condolences to the communities and families affected by this discovery, as well as all survivors of the residential school system.

We recognize this may be a difficult time for you and the people around you. As a national network, please know that we stand with all of you and that we are also here for you. We want our members to always feel comfortable bringing any PERC-related issues or concerns forward, comfortable in the knowledge that we will work with you to address it, in our capacity as colleagues and PERC members.

Events over the past weeks have underscored the critical importance of recognizing, respecting, valuing, and celebrating the diversity of our members and the communities with which we partner. You will soon be receiving a brief PERC equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) survey, the results of which will help further understand the important contributions by those who may be underrepresented or under-recognized in academic settings. Thank you in advance for your participation.

During this time, we encourage you to check in with your colleagues, family, and friends. Be sure to take care of yourselves. PERC aspires to come together in peace and understanding, standing united against all racism and inequity, supporting each other as we move forward.

On behalf of the PERC executive,



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