

The Geography, Planning and Environment Graduate and Undergraduate Students Federation (GPE Federation) of Concordia University strongly denounce and condemn the terrorist and Islamophobic bomb threats by the Council of Conservative Citizens of Canadians (C4), which targeted Concordia University's Muslim community on March 1, 2017.

This act of Islamophobia against fellow students and colleagues has no place at Concordia University or anywhere else across Canada (Turtle Island). As geographers, environmental scientists, and urban planners, we stand in love and solidarity with members of Concordia's Muslim community in denouncing these acts. We perceive the threats not to only be against the Concordia Muslim community, but our whole community and on the values of equality, diversity, and cultural respect.

We understand these terrorist threats as the continuation of racism and the history of colonization and its violence against marginalized communities within North America. Yet time and time again, we continue to hear from those in power and from across the political spectrum that we, settlers, have a particular claim to the land in which we live on. This claim, which is reiterated within our society and institutions in turn has told settlers that we collectively have the power to define the meaning of that 'right' to this land through our own cultural world-view, which has dominated this continent since colonization began. The GPE Federation strongly condemns this social and political position and reiterates to fellow Canadians that this land we live on is NOT Euro-North American land. We believe, therefore, in the decolonization of Quebec and Canada.

We all have the right to attend school without fear. In knowing that space matters, we are proud that Concordia University provides space for students to to practice their faith. We further believe in the right to access spaces allows for social, cultural, and ethnic diversity within the community to flourish. Universities must remain a safe learning space free of violence, in all of its forms. With this in mind, the GPE Federation proposes to the University to completely reject Islamophobia, and other forms of violence.

WE CALL ON CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TO

1. Fully investigate into the originators of the bomb threat letter and pursue them to the full extent of the [Code of Rights and Responsibilities](#) and demand the police to refer to this criminal case as an act of terrorism and a hate crime as defined under the Criminal Code.
2. Demand the University take action to make Concordia a safer space.
3. To collaborate in dismantling racial boundaries on campus by working toward decolonizing the institution and course content. We believe the University should proceed in this direction by following the example set by the University of Winnipeg to mandate students take Indigenous studies courses to graduate. In being situated in a

city and territory that was historically shaped by slavery, and as an institution historically and presently shaped by Black Montrealers, and call again for the creation of a Black studies program at Concordia.

4. Engage in open discussion between all levels of the university in order to support all members of the community in healing differences, nourishing mental health, and re-educating those who are indoctrinated by hate, racism, and violence.
5. Improve their emergency notification system to be audible to all parts of buildings being signalled for evacuation.