

## CJPME

Volume 10, Issue 2, November, 2021

## Help Take our Advocacy to the Next Level!

I don't know if you were aware, but CJPME punches way above its weight! We have only three full-time employees, but our reach and impact suggest a far larger organization.

CJPME's total expenses in 2020 were about \$215,000. This is just a fraction of the two largest pro-Israel organizations: CIJA (\$11 million), and B'nai Brith (\$3 million). These organizations have over 50 employees, and offices across Canada. But despite our disadvantage, we compete very successfully when it comes to getting our message out (see table below).

	Annual \$ Budget	Facebook Fans f	Twitter Tollowers	Insta  Followers
<b></b> CJPME	\$215 K	23,600	8,400	7,800
CIJA	\$11 M	29,100	12,600	3,900
B'NAI BRITH CANADA	\$3 M	11,000	9,400	1,800

#### But with more resources, we could do so much more!

I would like to hire two more people in 2021: an entry-level campaigns coordinator; and a mid-level media and political advocate. This is going to require at least another \$100,000 in annual funding. Can you help make it happen?

If you're NOT a monthly donor, would you consider becoming one? Making job offers and planning strategically is so difficult without regular monthly support. Even a modest monthly amount is super helpful.

#### **CJPME's 2021 Elections Guide**

CJPME was extremely busy in the run-up to the September Federal Election. One of our biggest projects this year was our highly-anticipated "Vote 2021 Elections Guide." This Guide provided summary ratings for each of the five largest federal parties, supported by 60 pages of analysis on ten different issues (at right.) In addition, CJPME was also a coordinating partner in the "Vote Palestine" campaign. The campaign promoted 11 policy points under four policy themes, ranging from Canada's trade with Israel, to Canada's support for international law, to protecting freedom of expression. In the end, dozens of candidates in the election – several of whom were elected – pledged to support our policy points if elected.

CJPME's Vote 2021 Elections Guide



**If you're ALREADY A MONTHLY DONOR**, could you consider one of the following:

- Increasing your gift: If you've been giving the same amount for the past several years, could you consider increasing your gift by 15% or 25%? Let us know by sending an email to info@cjpme.org, or calling us at 438-380-5410.
- Switching to void cheque: If you've been giving by credit card, would you consider donating instead by void cheque? We lose 3-5% from fees on every credit card donation. To donate via void cheque, email us an image, or mail us a cheque with "VOID" written across it. If you don't use cheques, your on-line bank can provide a pre-authorized debit form that you can send to us via email at info@cipme.org.

**CAN YOU HELP?** Use the enclosed slip to make a donation, or go on-line to use a credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay:

- For one-time donations: https://www.cjpme.org/donate
- For monthly donations: https://www.cjpme.org/donate\_monthly

Thanks for your support, and for helping us increase our impact in Canadian politics and media. Sincerest regards,



Thomas & Woodly

Left to right:
Michael Bueckert, VP,
Madeleine Moffatt,
Operations Manager,
Thomas Woodley,
President

#### **CJPME's Vote 2021 Elections Guide**

Summary Ratings		Į.	<b>E</b>	<b>♦ND</b> P	8	
1	Israeli Annexation of Palestinian Land	C-	D	A-	A-	Α
2	Israel's Crimes of Apartheid	F	F	B-	D	C-
3	Escalation of Israeli Violence, May 2021	С	F	Α	B-	B-
4	Canada's Voting at the United Nations	D+	F	В	n/a	n/a
5	ICC Investigation of War Crimes in Palestine	D+	F	B+	С	B-
6	Canada's Aid to Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)	B+	F	Α	В	В
7	Free Speech on Palestine	F	F	B+	B-	В
8	Canada's Response to Islamophobia	В	D-	A-	F	В
9	9 Canada's Arms Trade and the Saudi Arms Dea		F	Α	Α	Α
10	Nuclear Arms and the Middle East	F	F	Α	Α	Α
CJPME Summary Evaluation		C-	F	A-	B-	В

## Our Mission: To empower Canadians of all backgrounds to pro and peace in the Middle East, and here at home in Canada

Montreal - Ottawa - Toronto - London - Hamilton - Edmonton - Victor

### How did we do with our Ten BIG Hairy goals?

At the beginning of 2021, CJPME challenged itself with 10 "big hairy goals." "Big hairy goals" are meant to be a stretch, and we're super proud of how much we achieved. Here are some of the highlights:

- ✓ 1. Influence politicians on Canada's diplomatic failure to stand up for Palestinian human rights: Among other actions, CJPME meets regularly with MPs to oppose Canada's knee-jerk diplomatic support for Israel, and we made a huge splash with our 2021 Elections Guide.
- 2. Re-invigorate the BDS movement in Canada: We have made huge progress this year, as over 1000 people signed up for our "Boycott Pillsbury" sticky notes in June; we launched a 6-part Webinar series on BDS; and we're active on several ongoing BDS committees and campaigns.
- **3.** Conduct a Survey on racist attitudes toward Arab-Canadians: In October, CJPME published the sobering results of the EKOS poll it sponsored (see article in this newsletter). We are currently seeking meetings with MPs to address the issue of racism against Arab-Canadians.
- ✓ 4. Challenge the CBC and other media: We were involved in several campaigns to challenge the CBC and others to provide more complete and balanced coverage, especially following Israel's assault on Gaza in May.
- 5. Oppose efforts by pro-Israel groups to conflate criticism of Israel with antisemitism: CJPME does ongoing work and campaigning on this issue around the country. In November, for example, our questionnaire to Montreal's mayoral candidates successfully pressured them to articulate their positions.
- 6. Study Canadian censorship around Palestine-Israel: Throughout the year, CJPME was involved in several initiatives to combat censorship of criticism of Israel. We have been in touch with governments (e.g. provinces, cities, school boards), academic institutions, and companies (e.g. Facebook and Twitter) about their policies on free speech on Palestine.
- **7.** Combat systemic prejudice: In addition to our survey on anti-Arab racism, our many efforts in this area include our recent campaign to support Black activist Desmond Cole.
- 8. Co-sponsor trip to Palestine for 20 Canadian politicians: CJPME had talks on this with several leading politicians, but plans were deferred because of the September election and ongoing travel restrictions. We'll try again in 2022!
- 9. Force vote in Canada's Parliament calling for Palestinian self-determination: No time for this in 2020, but CJPME will try again in Parliament's next session. In the meantime, CJPME helped launch the international "Inter-Parliamentary Task Force to promote Palestinian Rights" group, which brought

together Canadian, American, UK, Irish, and other European MPs to discuss the issue.

10. Challenge the public through cutting edge media and analysis: In addition to its incisive daily analysis presented on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, CJPME has created thoughtful resources to make sense of complicated issues. See, for example, CJPME's "Beyond the Two-State Solution" policy paper published in July.



**CJPME's Pillars:** 

Support for international law Equal expectations for all parties A belief that violence is not a solution

oria - Kelowna

#### Responding to a Crisis: Israel's Assault on Gaza

Not everyone is aware of all the things that CJPME does during periods of crisis, as when Israel's ethnic cleansing in Sheikh Jarrah eventually led to its deadly assault on Gaza this past May. Here's a rundown of many of the things that we did to push Canada and Canadians to intervene positively:

- Even before it became national news, CJPME was protesting the Sheikh Jarrah "evictions" and Canada's failure to intervene effectively.
- Soon after Israel's brutal violence in Jerusalem had begun,
   CJPME launched an email campaign which ultimately enabled
   close to 18,000 people to email their concern to the Prime
   Minister and their own MPs.
- CJPME helped organize rallies against Israel's ethnic cleansing, and over several weeks, worked hard to compile and circulate information on all the rallies taking place across Canada.
- The CJPME Foundation launched its "Gaza Emergency Aid" project which ultimately sent \$62,000 in food aid and medical supplies to Gaza.
- CJPME worked with politicians to get the NDP to call for an emergency debate in Parliament on the situation in Jerusalem and Gaza. We also pushed the Bloc Québécois and the Green

Party to join the NDP's call for an emergency debate. We also helped to push the NDP to call for an end to Canadian arms sales to Israel.

- CJPME also hosted a "What's Happening in Gaza" Webinar featuring Palestinian-Canadian experts, including one from Sheikh Jarrah. Close to 1000 people signed up for the Webinar.
- Throughout the violence, CJPME maintained a "Crisis Report"
  which tracked the stats of the violence, the on-the-ground
  developments, the Canadian political response, and key legal
  points.
- CJPME repeatedly challenged the media especially the CBC –
  on its coverage, pushing for better and more balanced coverage
  of the violence in the conflict.
- CJPME kept the public up-to-date via social media several times
   a day with all the Canada-related developments

The work of CJPME and many others helped to shift the debate in favour of the Palestinians. We are proud of what we accomplished, and hope to be able to do even more next time that a crisis arises.

# **CJPME Foundation Raises** \$219,000 for Palestinians

Throughout the spring and summer, the CJPME Foundation raised \$210,000 in aid for Palestinians. Congratulations and "thank you!" to the many of you who made this humanitarian relief possible!

In May, in response to Israel's reckless bombing of Gaza, the CJPME Foundation sent \$62,000 to Gaza to provide emergency food, medical kits, and medical supplies.

In addition, the Foundation's "Help Gaza Breathe" campaign raised \$157,000 between February and June in order to provide



a medical-grade oxygen generating unit to Gaza's Al-Shifa Hospital. Since the onslaught of COVID and increased hospitalizations, Gaza health care facilities had suffered from a chronic shortage of medical oxygen.

Above: Gaza aid workers unload medical supplies provided through CJPME's "Gaza Emergency Aid" initiative in May.

#### **CJPME Podcast Launch**

We are thrilled to announce that we just launched our "CJPME Debrief" podcast. The podcast, which is livestreamed to YouTube, and posted to all the major podcast platforms (Apple, Spotify, etc.) provides a discussion of current events and issues related to human rights in Palestine and the broader Middle East. Episodes will help to make sense of breaking events in the region and what Canada can do about them. We'll also illuminate the historical, legal and political context surrounding them. We hope to post two episodes a week, so come check us out, join the conversation, give us a (glowing) review, and tell your friends.



# True peace is not merely the absence of tension: it is the presence of justice

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

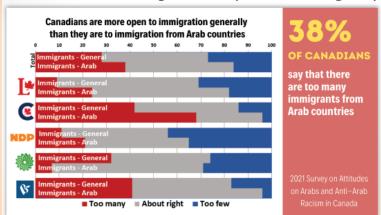
24 MPS AND 2 SENATORS

At the UN, Canada votes "YES" on Palestinian self-determination for third year in a row!

#### CJPME's Survey on Anti-Arab Racism in Canada

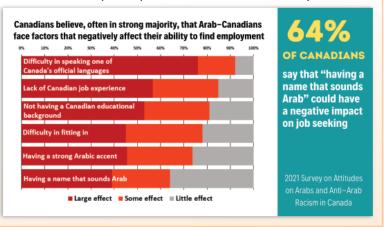
In October, CJPME released the sobering results of its national poll about Canadian-Arabs and anti-Arab racism in Canada. The report, entitled, "Marginalized and Misunderstood: Survey on Attitudes on Arabs and Anti-Arab Racism in Canada," found that an overwhelming 79% of Canadians acknowledge that prejudice against Arabs is a problem.

Canadians also acknowledged that many factors could negatively



affect the ability of Arab-Canadians to secure employment, including "having a name that sounds Arab" (64%), "having a strong Arab accent" (73%), and "difficulty fitting in" (78%).

The survey, co-sponsored with the Canadian Arab Federation (CAF) and the Arab Canadian Lawyers Association (ACLA) revealed many other facets of systemic anti-Arab in Canada – issues that CJPME will take up with politicians in the months and years ahead.



## Do you see everything that CJPME does?

CJPME Supports #JusticeForJavier

NO ACTIONS

Sometimes people assume that CJPME's emails cover everything that we do. This couldn't be further from the truth. Emails to our supporters are almost always focused on specific grassroots campaigns. Behind the scenes, we're doing analyses, developing policy positions, contacting the media, meeting with politicians, strategizing with other groups, and planning campaigns. We also publish dozens of press statements every year that go to over 1200 media contacts and Parliamentarians.

The best way to see more of our day-to-day work is to follow us on social media. Virtually every day, we're providing updates, insights, proposals and perspective. Follow us on your favourite social media platform:

- http://www.facebook.com/CJPME
  - http://www.twitter.com/CJPME
  - http://www.instagram.com/CJPMEOfficial
  - n https://www.linkedin.com/company/cjpme-cjpmo/

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