

Letters of condolences were sent out to Imam Owais and Imam Anver of Jami Omar Bells Corners and to Imam Dr. Zijadi and Imam Delic, Chair Raheemuddin Syed of South Nepean Muslim Community (SNMC) Barrhaven after the shootings at ChristChurch. Rev. Carla and Mary Byford (Council Chair) signed these letters on behalf of BUC in support of their community and to show that we stand with them against this horrible act of violence.



Barrhaven United Church

called to worship sent to serve

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Ottawa, ON
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It is with a heavy heart that I write to you this day. Once in a lifetime is too often but it sadly seems that writing to express our condolences is something that is becoming all too common.

Please know that we here at Barrhaven United Church (BUC) stand with you and wish to continue working alongside you as we endeavor to build a society that doesn't feel the need to turn to violence and terror to prove a point or to express a differing opinion.

Through prayer, self-reflection and education, we will continue to work for a society that doesn't see the "other" as a threat but as an opportunity to see the world from a different perspective. With God's help, I pray that it will be so.

My promise is that we will continue to build awareness in our community about those with differing faiths and share the ideal that we are all connected on this Earth, we are one family that is called humanity.

I can't begin to comprehend how your community must be experiencing life in the aftermath of the Christchurch shooting but please know that we stand with you and look forward to further dialogue and relationship building between our two communities.

God's peace be upon you and yours during this time and always.

Your Christian brothers and sisters,