

Emails

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The Right Honorable Lord Mayor The Hon Dr Jane Lomax-Smith AM
Area Councillors Arman Abrahamzadeh OAM and Janet Giles
North Ward Councillors Deputy Lord Mayor Phillip Martin and Mary Couros
Central Ward Councillors Carmel Noon, Simon Hou, David Elliott and Jing Li
South Ward Councillors Keiran Snape, Henry Davis and Dr Mark Siebentritt

City of Adelaide
128 King William Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Elected Members of the City of Adelaide

I write to you today asking for your support at the upcoming City of Adelaide Council meeting on the Tuesday, 14th November at 5:30PM, with regards to a Motion On Notice by Councillor Arman Abrahamzadeh, Supporting our South Australian Community Impacted by the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

The Australian Arab and Muslim communities have made significant historical contributions to not only to South Australia and Adelaide, but Australia as a whole. Our impact spans from the arrival of the Afghan cameleers who were critical in Australia's early development to more recently, the opening of thousands of businesses and organisations, boosting the economic, social and cultural landscape of our cities and states.

Over the last 30 days we have seen too much death and destruction, with over 10,000 innocent Palestinians killed, over 4500 of them being children.

Demonstrators are turning out in huge numbers in Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide pleading with our governments to support a ceasefire so we can stop the merciless killing of so many innocent people.

I want to stress that I condemn the attacks on both sides and reject violence against any person, regardless of their identity or creed. Governments at all levels, Federal, State and Local have also condemned and acknowledged the impact on the Jewish communities by displaying public signs of support, our very own Adelaide Town Hall did exactly that by illuminating the colours of the Israeli Flag. However sadly, no similar support from you to our community where many innocent Palestinians are also being killed and displaced.

The lack of solidarity from our South Australian institutions has left me and others, feeling forgotten, unvalued and dehumanised, especially when the community you are supposedly part of does not protest the killing of your loved ones or acknowledges their suffering. Our community hears of daily reports of friends and family being killed, their homes destroyed, and people left to die due to a lack of food or medical supplies.

Your willingness to honour all the lives and all the communities suffering from this terrible conflict will be greatly valued and meaningful.

I ask you again to support this balanced motion, that is about fairness to all your South Australian community, because being fair is exactly what it means to be an Australian.

Sincerely,