

To The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau,

On behalf of Citizens for Public Justice, religious organizations, and faith leaders across Canada, we call on you to end Canada's inhumane immigration detention system. Despite Canada's reputation as a multicultural country that welcomes refugees, the experience of people seeking safety or a better life in this country tells a different story. Over the past decade, more than 60,000 people have been incarcerated in immigration detention, including in some of the most restrictive conditions of confinement and without a set release date.

We come together as representatives of a variety of faith traditions out of a shared concern for the dignity and humanity of refugee claimants and other newcomers to Canada. Our diverse faiths urge us to uphold the human rights of those seeking safety or a better life, and to denounce instances of injustice and mistreatment against them.

As part of the [#WelcometoCanada](#) campaign people of faith have joined together to [sign an interfaith letter](#) calling to end the use of provincial jails and other criminal incarceration facilities for immigration detention. Included in this email are cover letters from Aisha Francis, Executive Director of KAIROS Canada, and Stephen Brown of the National Council of Canadian Muslims noting their support for this important campaign.

Since October 2021, four provincial governments have committed to ending immigration detention in their provincial jails by cancelling their immigration detention arrangements with the Canadian Border Services Agency. As people of faith, we denounce and demand immediate action. It is time for the Federal Government to cancel the remaining arrangements and to truly welcome people seeking safety or a better life.

Sincerely,

Emilio Rodriguez (he/him)

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