

AGENDA

Board of Directors Meeting # 8a

October 23, 2023 – 7:00 pm



Agenda – October 23, 2023

8a.0	Call to Order	
8a.1	Land Acknowledgement	
8a.2	Adoption of the Agenda 8.2.1 Approve the Agenda 8.2.2 Declarations of Conflicts	1
8a.3	Ratifications and De-Ratifications	
8a.4	Comments from the Chair 8.4.1 Introductions and Pronouns	
8a.5	Approval of Past Minutes	
8a.6	Executive Committee Minutes	
8a.7	Executive Updates	
8a.8	Director Reports	
8a.9	CSA Service Update and Report	
8a.10	Committee Updates and Reports	
8a.11	Business 8.11.1 A Statement on the Current Middle East Conflict	2
8a.12	New Business 8.12.1	
8a.13	Announcements	
8a.14	In Camera Session 8.14.1	
8a.15	Adjournment	6

Item 8a.2.1 (a)
Approve the Agenda

MOTION: that the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8a on October 23, 2023, be approved as printed and distributed.

Moved:
Seconded:

Item 8a.2.1 (b)
Amend the Agenda

MOTION TO AMEND:

Moved:
Seconded:

Item 8a.2.1 (c)
Approve the Amended Agenda

AMENDED MOTION: that the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8a on October 23, 2023, be approved as amended with:

Item 8a.11.1

A Statement on the Current Middle East Conflict

WHEREAS On Wednesday October 18 a statement was approved by the CSA Board of Directors regarding the ongoing conflict in the Middle East;

WHEREAS This statement was extremely one-sided and perpetuates a dangerous narrative for the Palestinian students on campus;

WHEREAS With death tolls increasing, and millions of Palestinians being displaced, it is unjust to only put out a statement pushing one side of the conflict;

WHEREAS to properly represent the campus constituency, another statement needs to be published to ensure students feel supported by their student association;

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statement (statement 1) be approved and shared with the student population on the CSA Instagram account;

AND FURTHER that the following statement (statement 2) be approved and shared with the student population on the CSA website;

Moved: Naomi Amayaevbo

Seconded: Natalie Wilkinson

Statement 1:

The Guelph Palestinian Student Association, Guelph Muslim Society, Guelph Middle Eastern Student Association, Thaḡalayn Muslim Association, Pakistani Student Association, and CSA collectively express strong condemnation for the tragic events that have occurred in the Gaza strip. The Israeli government, which has occupied Palestine for over 75 years, stands accused of a profoundly distressing massacre that involves the targeting of innocent civilians in the most densely populated areas of the region. This situation demands our utmost attention and must not be disregarded.

Furthermore, it is with deep sorrow that we note the loss of 47 families, whose removal from Gaza's closely-knit society has resulted in the erasure of both past and future generations in just over a week. We unequivocally denounce the unlawful targeting of civilians, particularly in cases where there is clear evidence that neither Hamas nor its combatants are present in the affected areas.

We are deeply concerned at the escalation of violence in the region, and we yearn for a day when there is peace in the Middle East - we maintain our hope for the cessation of bloodshed.

Statement 2:

The Guelph Palestinian Student Association, The Guelph Muslim Student Association, The Guelph Middle Eastern Student Association, The Thaḡalayn Muslim Association, The Pakistani Student Association, and some board members strongly condemn the unequivocal and inhumane continuous genocidal targeting of Palestinian civilians residing within the Gaza strip. In which more than 3,400 Palestinians have been killed, including at least 1,200 children, more than 12,000 injured, and over 1,100,000 people have been displaced because of the Israeli strikes. This fate befell a population which has already experienced illegal occupation for 75 years. Gaza has experienced five major wars since 2008 in the context of an unlawful blockade imposed by Israel since 2007, which has been widely condemned by the international community as collective punishment.

As the youth of this world, there is grave responsibility to call-out real time genocide, mass oppression spanning over 50 years, and the unlawful subjection of two million Palestinians into an open-air prison. Coupled with war crimes of illegal blockade of food, water, electricity and any other resources by the Israeli government, and their powers rooted in unethical systemic colonialism, approximately 47 families have also been erased from Gaza's cohesive society, in which past and future generations have been erased.

It calls for this war finally recognizing that the innocent Palestinians are not human shields. They remain on their land and should not be required to leave. They are staying on their land because if 2 million people could not fit in the whole of Gaza, they would not fit in half of it. They are staying on their land, because it is all they have, because it is theirs. This oppression urges the students of UofG to understand this is about freeing 2 million Palestinians to live free again. To see their first day to vote. To see their first day in owning a safe home. To see the first day they are employed with a job that pays a living wage. To see their first day successfully surviving with all members of their family.

We condemn the targeting of innocent civilians, indiscriminate carpet bombings of highly dense civilian populations, multiple hospitals, ambulances, babies, women, children, men, false evacuation drills, the use of white phosphorus which is a war crime, and the complete obliteration of lands that was all innocent people had left, while they faced extreme poverty, suppression, unemployment and isolation from the rest of the world. We condemn the blatant propaganda being pushed out by the illegal state of Israel. Given the nature of the Israeli strikes saturated in the most densely populated area within the Gaza strip, as it is evident that the Israeli government will not be finding Hamas or his fighters among the innocent civilian population. We condemn the hate speech being spewed against Palestinians made by higher officials calling them "children of darkness", calling the land and its community "laws of the jungle". We condemn the desecration of Palestinian bodies done by the IDF soldiers.

Therefore, let us acknowledge and mourn the innocent lost lives in Israel, and the innocent lost lives in Palestine. Let us also understand the illegal occupation and apartheid state in this region, along with global neglect this non-functioning agreement has faced from the world for almost a

century. This occupation was not ethical in the 1949 US and EU backed Nakba, and it is not ethical today. Thus, we believe justice cannot be acquired until freedom, safety, and rehabilitation for all human lives is achieved.

References:

United Nations, UN Expert Warns of New Instance of Mass Ethnic Cleansing of Palestinians, Calls for Action." OHCHR, n.d., [Tuesday October 17 2023, https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/10/un-expert-warns-new-instance-mass-ethnic-cleansing-palestinians-calls](https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/10/un-expert-warns-new-instance-mass-ethnic-cleansing-palestinians-calls).

Mhawesh, Mohammed R. "When a Family Dies under Israel's Bombs, Part of Gaza's History Disappears." *Israel-Palestine Conflict News | Al Jazeera*, Al Jazeera, 13 Oct. 2023, www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/13/when-a-family-dies-under-israels-bombs-part-of-gazas-history-disappears#:~:text=Gaza%20City%20%E2%80%93%20In%20the%20midst,ever%20else%20going%20back%20generations.

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<https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/10/12/israel-white-phosphorus-used-gaza-lebanon>

**Item 8a.15
Adjournment**

MOTION: That the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 8a on October 23, 2023 be adjourned at pm.

Moved:

Seconded: