



10 June 2021

To the University of Lethbridge community,

On Sunday June 6th, we were horrified and angry to hear of yet another act of violence and terrorism towards the Muslim Community in Canada. This time the act of violence took the lives of four Pakistani-Canadian-Muslims. The family was going for a walk, when a white supremacist made the choice to act on their hatred towards those of the Muslim Faith and ended the lives of four members of this beautiful family. The mother, father, grandmother and sister leave behind a young 9-year-old boy who is currently hospitalized and is facing a future without his family. This act of hatred is added onto a long list of Islamophobic attacks towards the Muslim community, especially in the last year.

We at the ULSU stand firmly against racism and intolerance, and support and stand in solidarity with our Muslim classmates and community members. While the most recent act of terror occurred in Ontario, we know that Alberta has also seen a rise in hate crimes towards Muslim women, and this is unacceptable. Everyone deserves the right to be able to live their lives, without fear. We must all actively be anti-racist and stand united against the hatred that breeds acts of terror such as the one that took the lives of this family and have harmed people across Canada.

Our campus is diverse, and every person should be respected, and protected no matter their religious belief. The best thing we can do, to support each other, is to continually educate ourselves and each other on our differences. Our differences should be celebrated, and in a campus as diverse as ours, we have a great opportunity to learn and end the cycles of misunderstanding and hatred that often exist without us even knowing it. We can end hate crimes if we make the choice to unite in our differences, instead of letting them divide us. The ULSU is actively working to ensure that our campus and community remains a safe space for all peoples. We send our love and support to the family of those we lost, and we especially send our love and strength to the young boy and hope he can feel it as he heals and continues his life, without his family. We stand in solidarity with the Muslim community and send our love and support as we all grieve this loss. We are here to support you.

If you are feeling unsafe on campus, Campus Security can be contacted at 403 – 329 – 2345. The uLethbridge Safe app is downloadable, and security is easily contactable from that app as well. For mental health support, email health.centre@uleth.ca. Don't suffer alone, please reach out. We are all here to support you.

Yours in solidarity,

Holly Kletke, President

Amy Mendenhall, VP Student Affairs

Madina Ali, Arts & Science Rep.

Rebecca Parkkari, VP Academic

Mark Serebryansky, VP Operations & Finance

Ryan Lindblad, VP External