

# President's Statement on the Events in Quebec City

<http://www.president.utoronto.ca/statement-on-the-events-in-quebec-city>

**January 30, 2017**

The University of Toronto community has reacted with shock and sorrow at news of the appalling shooting at a mosque in Québec City. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families and friends of those killed or injured. On behalf of the entire University of Toronto community, let me also offer our support to the Muslim communities in Québec, across Canada, and here at home in Toronto.

Our flags will fly at half-mast for a two-day mourning period beginning tomorrow to coincide with the vigils being planned across the University.

As I have said before, outstanding scholarship, teaching, and learning can thrive only in an environment that embraces the broadest range of people and encourages the free expression of their perspectives. As we condemn the tragic and reprehensible attack in Québec City and mourn its victims, let us recommit to promoting inclusion, respect, and civility in our University community and beyond.

As always, we encourage anyone in need of personal support, including counseling or chaplaincy services, to take advantage of our local resources. Students can visit their campus student services websites for information ([St. George Campus](#), [U of T Scarborough](#), [U of T Mississauga](#), [Campus Chaplains Association](#)).

For staff and faculty, free and confidential counseling is available through the University's [Employee and Family Assistance Program](#).