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Sent: February 1, 2026 9:42 PM

To: Mooney, Melanie <Melanie.Mooney@nshealth.ca>; Robin Smith <Robin.Smith@municipalityofshelburne.ca>; Melissa McHugh (she/her/hers) <mmchugh@cpsns.ns.ca>

Subject: Could you please help me with this letter

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Dear friends,

Iranian-Canadian health care professionals are experiencing profound sorrow these days. Despite this, they continue to provide the best possible care for their patients.

Please help them to be seen. I have prepared a letter and would appreciate your help in sharing and distributing it. I believe the kind people of Nova Scotia know how to stand with their Iranian-Canadian care providers during difficult times.

Thank you very much,

Talia Alenabi

An Open Letter of Solidarity with Iranian-Canadian Health Care Professionals

Drafted by: Dr. Talia Alenabi

The Iranian-Canadian community did not begin the new year of 2026 with hope or celebration. Instead, our hearts were shattered.

In the first days of January—January 8 and 9—the world witnessed an unspeakable tragedy. Reports describe **more than 36,500 innocent people brutally killed** by an extremist regime in Iran. The majority were **young lives under the age of 30**, unarmed, peacefully protesting, and shot with bullets to the head and chest. **Hundreds of thousands more were wounded**, overwhelming any remaining medical capacity. Some **anecdotal reports suggest the true death toll may exceed 50,000**. The scale of this violence is horrifying beyond words.

For Iranian-Canadian health care professionals, the pain runs even deeper. Physicians and nurses in Iran were **forbidden to treat the wounded**. Many were **arrested simply for providing care**, and some injured patients were **forcibly taken from hospitals while under treatment—only to be executed**. Hospitals, once sanctuaries of healing, were turned into places of terror. Medical ethics, humanity, and life itself were violated.

Here in Canada, particularly in Nova Scotia, Iranian-Canadian physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals are working through profound shock and grief. With broken hearts and sleepless nights, they continue to care for their patients. They wipe away their tears, offer comfort, and smile—because healing others is their calling, even when their own souls are wounded.

This letter is written to be their voice. Silence in the face of such brutality is not an option. No regime should be allowed to justify fear, terror, and massacre. Faith must never be twisted to excuse violence against innocent people.

Please pray for the **young Iranians whose lives were stolen**, for the **physicians and nurses imprisoned for honoring their oath**, and for the **millions of families carrying unimaginable loss**.

May justice one day prevail. May compassion overcome cruelty. And may Iranian-Canadian health care professionals know that their courage, humanity, and quiet resilience do not go unseen.