



Musée Holocauste Montréal
Montreal Holocaust Museum

MHM RESPONDS TO ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY LA PRESSE

Montreal, March 6, 2024

The Montreal Holocaust Museum (MHM) expresses its shock and disappointment regarding the article published by Ms. Lila Dussault in La Presse on March 5th, 2024, titled "Protesters Oppose the Arrival of Israeli Soldiers at the Holocaust Museum."

The MHM wishes to clarify that it neither organized nor participated in any meeting contrary to what was suggested. A perfunctory verification with our institution or with Jewish student associations at Concordia University would have confirmed our non-involvement as a host or a sponsor.

Regarding the protests staged in front of the Museum, a swift review of the organizers would have revealed Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights (SPHR), a group whose fundamental mission is the denial of Israel's right to exist. This entity endorsed a vitriolic speech in Montreal by an imam who advocated for the extermination of Jews. Legal action has been initiated regarding this incident.

For the record, this demonstration was also supported by Montreal4Palestine, who was responsible for distributing sweets in the streets of Montreal during the massacre on October 7, which claimed the lives of more than 1,200 Israelis. This act of celebration amidst the tragic visuals of violence and loss starkly reawakened the traumas of Holocaust survivors, a community we honour and serve at the Museum.

Faced with these troubling actions, the Museum remains committed to opposing hatred, violence, and intolerance and profoundly regrets the loss of innocent lives resulting from this conflict.

Furthermore, any integrity would have prevented Independent Jewish Voices from misusing the Holocaust's memory by baselessly asserting, "It is shameful to host authors of ethnic cleansing in a venue dedicated to honouring genocide victims."

Hon. Jacques Saada, President of the Montreal Holocaust Museum, states, "Such a baseless charge is abhorrent. We firmly reject this defamatory assault that tarnishes the memory of the Holocaust victims, accusing us of betrayal. These unfounded claims further inflame hostility towards the Jewish community."

About the Montreal Holocaust Museum

The Montreal Holocaust Museum educates and sensitizes individuals of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust, antisemitism, racism, hate, and the perils of indifference. Through its permanent exhibition, commemorative programs, and educational efforts, the Museum underscores our shared duty to respect diversity and the sanctity of human life.

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