



Julie Dzerowicz
Member of Parliament / Députée
Davenport



Media Statement

Re: Vandalism at My Office on May 28, 2024

I understand that tensions are high as the circumstances in Gaza in the ongoing Israel-Hamas war are very difficult and challenging. Like many Canadians I am also struggling with the ongoing attacks and the tragic human toll. It is a complex, dynamic, and highly charged situation.

But to move forward in finding how Canada can best support a path to peace we have to be able to talk to each other—especially when we might disagree on how best to move forward.

My office has ensured that we are open to all voices, and we continue to reach out to those who disagree with or challenge Canada’s approach. But what happened at my office yesterday crossed the line.

Stating that “Rafah is burning, Toronto will too” is particularly troublesome and threatening language that impacts the sense of safety in my office and how we serve the residents of Davenport. Other MP offices have also been similarly impacted recently.

In a democracy, protests can be messy and even ugly, but they are a critical right. However, that right does not include threats, hate speech, or vandalism. When that happens, it is important that we all take action to ensure that things do not escalate into more dangerous situations like the shooting at the Bais Chaya Mushka School for Girls in North York on May 26.

CORRECTION: This morning, I was asked by reporters about the vandalism at my Toronto constituency office. I had indicated that it was hate speech. I misspoke - I do not believe it was hate speech, but it was threatening language and behaviour.

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