



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Brendan Hanley

Member of Parliament for the Yukon

Député du Yukon

brendan.hanley@parl.gc.ca

Ottawa

213 Justice Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6
Tel.: 613-995-9368

Yukon

204 Black Street
Whitehorse, Yukon
Canada
Y1A 2M9
Tel.: 867-668-6565
Fax: 867-668-6570

June 25, 2025

Dear Yukoners,

Thank you for your direct and heartfelt letter and for sharing your deep concern and anguish about the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza. The horror, the loss, and the scale of suffering defy comprehension. I know these are not abstract issues for you—or for so many Canadians who are watching in grief and disbelief.

We're a small territory, but I've always believed that Yukoners carry an outsized sense of justice and care for others—both at home and around the world. Like you, I believe silence is not an option. I understand the deep frustration and sorrow that so many Canadians feel, particularly as this crisis continues to escalate, with civilians—especially children—bearing the brunt of violence and deprivation. On a personal level, and particularly as someone with strong humanitarian principles, I feel frustration and sorrow myself every day. I also wonder how it is that these two worlds – one suffering from intolerable violence and injustice, and ours as one blessed with peace and prosperity, can exist on the same planet.

After months of advocacy from myself and many others, I welcomed Canada's joint statement with France, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, and Norway, which took a significant stance by directly calling on the Israeli government to stop its military actions in Gaza and to end its obstruction of vital humanitarian aid. The statement made it clear that the denial of food, fuel, and medical access to civilians is unacceptable and may breach international humanitarian law.

In addition to supporting this joint international stance, I have signed the *Arms Embargo Now* letter, calling for a full arms embargo to prevent further violence and to ensure Canada upholds its responsibility under international law. I have also called, both publicly and in conversations with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, for a permanent ceasefire, for stronger and targeted sanctions—including against Israeli officials who have incited or enabled violence—and for an unimpeded flow of humanitarian aid into Gaza.

I hear your call to keep going—and I will. I'll continue using my voice in Ottawa to push for stronger, swifter action. This is about saving lives, upholding human rights, honouring international law, and standing firmly on the side of peace. That matters deeply to me—and to many Yukoners who have reached out with the same urgent concerns.

We must continue to use every tool available to press for an end to these atrocities and to ensure that international law is respected. And we must stay vigilant—making sure our actions reflect the values we hold in common: peace, justice, and human dignity.

Thank you to all who have written. Your voice is one of many that is shaping this ongoing effort, and I assure you—it is both heard and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Brendan Hanley, Member of Parliament for the Yukon