



**Gouvernement du Canada**  
Bureau de représentation du Canada  
auprès de l'Autorité palestinienne

**Government of Canada**  
Representative Office of Canada  
to the Palestinian Authority

Tuesday, March 27, 2018  
Office of the Representative of Canada  
to the Palestinian Authority  
Ramallah, West Bank

RMLAH -

UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Mr. Shehadeh,

Thank you for your letter of 31 January 2018. I regret the delay in responding to you. The promotion and protection of human rights is an integral part of Canadian efforts abroad. Canada has been a consistently strong voice for the protection of human rights and the advancement of democratic values.

Children's rights are a top concern of our foreign policy. Canada is a strong advocate of the effort to end all violations of human rights against children, particularly in situations of humanitarian emergencies and armed conflict. Canada is following the status of children's rights in Israel, the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. We believe that both Israel and the Palestinian Authority must fully respect their commitments under international humanitarian and human rights law. The Representative Office of Canada in Ramallah meets regularly with our Palestinian counterparts to discuss a wide range of issues, and raise our concerns over rule of law as appropriate. Responsibility for Canada's dealings with the Israeli authorities rest with our Embassy in Tel Aviv.

Respect for international humanitarian and human rights law is key to ensuring the protection of civilians, and contributes to the creation of a climate conducive to achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement.



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Both the Representative Office of Canada in Ramallah and the Embassy of Canada in Tel Aviv continue to follow this issue closely. I would be pleased to meet with you to discuss human rights issues.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas Scott Proudfoot  
Representative of Canada to the  
Palestinian Authority