For Immediate Release

Scarborough

RE: Solidarity with Palestinian Uprising, General Strike, and Commitment to BDS

May 18, 2021, is marked by Palestinians and the diaspora as a day of uprising, action, and strike. The Scarborough Campus Students' Union advocates for a free Palestine and is in solidarity with the Palestinian uprising. To date, more than 230 Palestinians have been murdered and more than 38,000 have been displaced by Israeli attacks in the last two approximately. SCSU condemns the ongoing ethnic cleansing and violence against Palestinian people and stands in solidarity with our Palestinian family.

On Saturday, May 15, 2021, your SCSU Executives joined thousands of protestors at Nathan Phillips Square. Continuing this momentum of resistance, today, May 18, 2021 protestors will be occupying local embassies and consulates demanding an end to the colonization of Palestine by the 'Israeli' apartheid. A rally will also be held at Celebration Square in Mississauga organized by Palestine House, further details for which can be found <u>here</u>. We encourage our members to peacefully participate in this protest and follow all Public Health guidelines. Wear your mask, socially distance and follow organizer instructions.

In solidarity with ongoing actions, SCSU is re-stating our commitment to Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) of any organization or service that upholds and funds the Israeli genocide of Palestinian people. A comprehensive and ever-evolving BDS list can be accessed <u>here</u>. The SCSU will be introducing our complete BDS policy at our Annual General Meeting in November of 2021 as directed by our membership.

We encourage all of our members to join in local protests and uphold BDS practices within their personal lives. In addition, members are encouraged to contact their members of parliament to demand so-called Canada's official condemnation of Israel and adoption of BDS at an international level. Click <u>here</u> to demand that Justin Trudeau and Foreign Minister Garneau sanction Israel, save Sheikh Jarrah and Free Gaza; email tool courtesy of Independent Jewish Voices.

To stay up to date on solidarity actions and to access an accurate reporting of events, we recommend the following organizations on Instagram:

- <u>@PalestinianYouthMovement</u>
- <u>@TheIMEU</u>
- <u>@AlJazeeraEnglish</u>

Thank you to Palestinian organizers and freedom fighters for their strength and resilience.

None of us are free until all of us are free!

In Solidarity,

SCSU Team