



MODERATOR OF THE 2019 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Rev. Amanda Currie, B.A.Sc., M.Div.

January 14, 2020

The Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada,
Langevin Block,
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

I write to you on behalf of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, whose 2019 General Assembly met recently in Waterloo, Ontario.

Each year the commissioners to the General Assembly consider international issues of importance to the church. Over the past two years, the General Assembly has noted with deep concern the crisis facing the Rohingya. The persecution of the Rohingya is severe and has lasting consequences. We commend the Government of Canada for placing sanctions on seven Myanmar military officials and for its previous pledge of \$300,000,000 in aid for Rohingya refugees. We also commend the Government of Canada for becoming the first country in the world to declare the actions of the Myanmar military against the Rohingya an act of genocide.

We ask that the Government of Canada continue its good work in this area and consider increasing the amount of aid for Rohingya refugees to the full \$600 million recommended by The Honourable Bob Rae, Special Envoy to Myanmar, in his final report. Such aid is desperately needed and so we also ask the Government of Canada to work closely with the United Nations to provide the necessities of life for the Rohingya refugees and for the Bangladeshi people most affected by their presence.

Empathy and a willingness to pursue effective means of helping those in need are among the most important traits that shape good government. We ask that you consider the significant need of the Rohingya as you make decisions regarding aid. Please be assured that you and your colleagues in Parliament are in the prayers of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Amanda Currie
Moderator
The 2019 General Assembly
The Presbyterian Church in Canada

CC: The Hon. François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Foreign Affairs; The Hon. Andrew Scheer, Leader of the Official Opposition; The Hon. Erin O'Toole, PC Foreign Affairs Critic; Jack Harris, NDP Foreign Affairs Critic; The Hon. Bob Rae, Special Envoy to Myanmar

Clerks of Assembly: The Rev. Stephen Kendall and The Rev. Donald Muir