

Graduate Geographers and Planners of University of Toronto
in Solidarity with Canada's Hunger Striking Immigrant Detainees

On Monday, July 11th, 2016, 68 immigrant detainees held in two maximum security prisons in Ontario initiated a hunger strike. The strike continues two and a half weeks later, despite intimidation, threats of deportation, and placing strike leaders in isolation.

As critical geographers and progressive planners we envision a world that fosters equity, creativity, mobility and the freedom to move, stay and return. This includes an end to the immobilization and detention of refugees, asylum-seekers, and border crossers. We therefore stand in solidarity with the hunger striking detainees at Central East Correctional Centre in Lindsay and the Toronto East Detention Center in Scarborough.

We echo the demands of hunger striking detainees, which include meeting with the Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale to discuss immigration detention conditions, an end to detention of children, an end to incarcerating refugees and immigration detainees in Canada's prisons, and an end to immigration detention over all.

We encourage all Geography and Planning students and faculty to send love and support to the hunger striking detainees:

- Sign the detainees' petition: <https://www.change.org/p/no-more-deaths-no-more-detentions>
- Take a moment to call, tweet and/or email Minister Ralph Goodale and ask him to meet with the hunger strikers – 613-947-1153 / @RalphGoodale / ralph.goodale@parl.gc.ca
- Visit this website to listen to detainee recordings, messages, and peruse the media coverage of this 2016 hunger strike and Canada's immigration detention problem: <https://endimmigrationdetention.com/>

In love, rage, and solidarity,

Graduate Geography and Planning Student Society (GGAPSS) Equity Committee
and University of Toronto GGAPSS members:

Benjamin Butler
Aviva Coopersmith
Bryan Dale
Leah Montange
Cynthia Morinville
Léa Ravensbergen
Mercedes Sharpe Zayas
Nicole Van Lier
Laura Vaz Jones
Isabel Urrutia