

Open Letter to Bill Blair, federal Minister of Public Safety, Marco Mendicino, Federal Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, and Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health

I am writing in solidarity with the people on a hunger strike inside the Laval Immigration Detention Centre and demand their release and the release of all people living in immigration detention institutions immediately.

Incarcerated people cannot possibly protect themselves from Covid19 by the public health measures promoted by Canada such as social distancing, reporting symptoms or seeking adequate medical care. They have a right to freedom and safety during this pandemic and always.

Please listen carefully to the situation as articulated by the hunger strikers and their supporters, and release those detained immediately so that they can protect themselves and their families.

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson  
Michi Saagiig Nishnaabe