



## MESSAGE FROM THE ONTARIO TEACHERS' FEDERATION

October 17, 2022

The Ontario Teachers' Federation stands in solidarity with Iranian women and the Iranian people fighting for an equitable and just Iran.

Teachers, educators, and trade unionists have been targets as they advocate for their students, their communities, and their rights as workers. Since May, over a dozen teachers have been imprisoned for participating in peaceful demonstrations over teachers' poor wages and an inadequate education budget. Many are still imprisoned as their fundamental rights to organize are breached.

Additionally, in the last few weeks, the world has witnessed unprecedented and heroic scenes of protesting in Iran. Protests broke out following the death of Mahsa (Jhina) Amini, a 22-year-old woman, in police custody on September 16, three days after she was arrested by the "morality" police for allegedly wearing her headscarf loosely.

Despite violent crackdowns against protestors who have consistently expressed demands for change, protestors are loudly chanting the Kurdish motto of "Women, Life, Freedom!" across the country.

We understand an intersectional feminist movement is one that fights for the sovereignty and autonomy of all women and people—this is the fight that is happening in Iran specifically but felt across the world from missing and murdered Indigenous women in Canada to women and girls in Afghanistan fighting for their right to attend school.

We stand in unequivocal solidarity with the Iranian people both in Iran and in the diaspora.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nathan Core', written in a cursive style.

**Nathan Core**  
*President*