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Thousands Sign Letter to Prime Minister in Support of Refugees and Immigrants – as Part of National Week of Action

June 15th, 2026 (Montréal, QC)

Ahead of World Refugee Day (June 20), thousands of people across Canada have signed a letter to Prime Minister Carney in support of welcoming more refugees. Signatories include Asma Faizi, President of the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR), Allan Rock, distinguished lawyer and former Liberal Cabinet Minister and former Canadian Ambassador to the UN, Rita Parikh, Chair of the Board, VanCity Credit Union and over 3000 other people from all walks of life from coast to coast to coast. This National Week of Action comes at a time where governments, including the Canadian government, are walking back support for welcoming refugees and immigrants through funding cuts and policy decisions.

“People in Canada shudder as we watch leaders in other countries stoke hatred toward refugees and newcomers. But here at home, thousands of people have signed an open letter to Prime Minister Carney, sharing that we are proud to live in a country that welcomes refugees and newcomers of all backgrounds,” said Asma Faizi CCR President. “We reject the horror unfolding in the United States, where neighbours are turned against each other and families are violently deported without a hearing. Being welcoming is part of Canada’s legacy as a longtime leader in offering protection to refugees.”

The letter was sent as advocates and communities across Canada gear up for a National Week of Action for World Refugee Day that will bring

communities and over 200 organizations across Canada together in support of newcomers. Running from June 15 to 20th, the National Week of Action includes events, rallies and digital mobilization that will send a clear message to both Canadians and political decision makers that our Canada includes refugees and immigrants.

The National Week of Action is an activation through We're Better Together, a country-wide campaign on refugee and newcomer inclusion, with over 200 participating organizations. Throughout the week, Canadians are invited to participate in events nationwide and amplify the campaign's message online. Events will take place in cities across the country.

"For World Refugee Day, thousands across Canada are joining people around the world in celebrating the inherent value of welcoming refugees to our country. It's a core part of who we are and who we want to continue to be," added Gauri Sreenivasan, CCR Co- Executive Director. "In Canada, we reject the use of 'divide and conquer' tactics to distract us from calling on governments for real solutions for all families to issues like the price of housing and the quality of our healthcare. In this National Week of Action, communities across the country are proudly declaring that our Canada includes immigrants and refugees."

To find an event near you, take action online, or learn more about the We're Better Together campaign, visit <https://bettertogethercanada.ca/week-of-action/>

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