

## **A Statement of Solidarity from RPFF Staff & Board**

Over the past few weeks, the world has witnessed the ongoing humanitarian crisis and the loss of innocent Palestinian and Israeli lives. Perpetuating harmful narratives aimed to further dehumanize Palestinians and Arabs, as well as growing Islamophobia and antisemitism is unacceptable. Seeing diasporic communities being harmed, harassed, and silenced after speaking out is devastating.

Regent Park Film Festival joins our community as well as [Amnesty International](#), [Jewish Voice for Peace](#), [Doctors Without Borders](#), [Human Rights Watch](#), and countless others in calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, allowing for immediate medical aid, and an end to the occupation. We stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine, Sudan, Congo, Armenia, and all communities experiencing oppression and violence.

RPFF's mission has always been rooted in anti-colonialism and anti-oppression, and we take seriously our responsibility to bear witness, to amplify historically-excluded people and stories, and to bolster collective liberation.

We will not disengage, as apathy and complacency in the face of oppression, indiscriminate violence, and genocide, is violence in itself. We will continue to learn and lead with compassion and understanding, to connect individuals through meaningful dialogue, and to create an intergenerational meeting space for communities to learn and dismantle through film and the arts.

Our friends at [Toronto Palestine Film Festival](#) have provided resources to learn more about the history of the region and how you can help, and we encourage you to follow them to stay informed.