

Solidarity Across Borders

Solidarité sans frontières

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STATEMENT OF SUPPORT WITH JAGGI

"... fences are broken. In every house, in every province, in every country, and every continent, the rebels of history who carry forward hope, struggle to break all fences." -- Subcomandante Marcos, EZLN

April 28, 2011: Jaggi Singh pleads guilty to counseling people to tear down the fence during the G20 summit in Toronto in June 2010.

Today, we reiterate our support for Jaggi Singh and his remarks made on June 24, 2010. Like hundreds of people and organizations across Canada, we think that the fence – which separated the global political and economic elite from the population affected by their decisions - deserved to fall. We deeply regret that it remained in place.

Solidarity Across Borders is a Montreal-based group that supports immigrant struggles, primarily within the Montreal area. Our work involves lending immediate support to individuals and families who face the injustices of the immigration system as part of a larger campaign to transform Montreal into a "Solidarity City" in which everyone – regardless of their immigration status - has access to basic services without fear, and can live freely, in justice and dignity. Jaggi is an integral part of this work; the fact that he faces up to six months in prison is not only a extremely disproportionate sentence for him to bear, but ultimately, it is a grave injustice imposed upon the people and communities he works with on a daily basis.

Solidarity Across Borders does most of our work locally, in Montreal. Yet, we see the struggle from the prism that exposes an international migration confined by the walls of global apartheid - empowering the rich to dictate the economic and political living conditions to the poor. We see the faces and we hear the cries of the people who try to escape war, political instability or extreme poverty, and are met with fences, walls, prisons, border police and a militarized security apparatus that makes up Fortress North America.

In June 2010, the city of Toronto was a miniature version of this global apartheid. During the G20 summit, as the world leaders hid behind their security fence, hundreds of people who demonstrated their dissent were brutalized in the massive deployment of police forces throughout the city. We stand in solidarity with all those detained, beaten and arrested during the mobilizations against the G20 Summit.

We will continue to struggle until all borders and all fences fall.

Solidarity Across Borders is a Montreal-based group active since 2003. Our members are migrants, refugees and their allies. Together, we fight for an end to deportations and detentions, the abolition of double jeopardy for migrants with criminal records, and demand the implementation of a comprehensive and inclusive regularization program for all undocumented people in Canada (that is, "Status for All!").

For more information : <u>www.solidaritesansfrontieres.org</u> – <u>solidaritesansfrontieres@gmail.com</u> – <u>514-848-7583</u>

