



June 1, 2020

### **CIARS, CLD and Equity Studies Statement of Solidarity**

The Centre for Integrative Anti-Racism Studies, The Centre for Leadership and Diversity and Equity Studies stand in full solidarity with global Black communities. We support the struggles of Black, Indigenous, racialized protestors and critical friends demanding justice for victims of police brutality. Black lives matter, stop the violence. Those who enforce the law, must not be seen above the law and we demand genuine accountability and full transparency in the investigation of these deaths. The police cannot be trusted to investigate itself. These are systemic issues that go beyond our police force.

As the world faces a devastating pandemic revealing profound historic and systemic inequalities, impacting Black and racialized communities disproportionately, the latest deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Ahmaud Arbery, Regis Korchinski-Paquet, D'Andre Campbell, and Jason Collins further demonstrate the dehumanizing and outrageous effect anti-Black racism and violence have on Black bodies globally. The ongoing dehumanization of Black lives is appalling and must end. It is a deep scar on us all. There is a lot of pain, suffering, justifiable anger and rage. Anti-Black racism is real. Voices must be heard, and concrete action must be taken forcefully to address systemic racism, white supremacy and other forms of oppression. We hope this moment becomes a turning point.

As a community of scholars, learners and educators who are committed to centering racial justice in our intellectual and political work, we hope to see a critical imagining of new futures that support Black communities and their 'living well' locally and globally.

In solidarity,

The Centre for Integrative Anti-Racism Studies, The Centre for Leadership and Diversity and Equity Studies

