

Canadian Boat to GAZA



TO: Alma Mater Society (AMS) executive members and councillors

December 3, 2010

We are writing on behalf of the Canadian Boat to Gaza (CBG) to advise that the motion passed by the AMS Executive Committee on December 2, 2010 (<http://www.ams.ubc.ca/2010/12/ams-council-passes-motion-on-donation-for-a-flotilla-to-gaza/>) and the statements attributed to AMS President Bijan Ahmadian in the National Post on the same date ('UBC student government checking Gaza donation for terror ties' <http://www.nationalpost.com/m/story.html?id=3919900>), are highly defamatory of the individuals and organizations supporting the CBG, a volunteer-organized humanitarian aid mission with wide support in Canadian civil society.

We require from the UBC AMS executive:

1. A letter of apology to the Canadian Boat to Gaza and associated organizations and individuals.
2. A public statement clearly retracting the accusations and implications that the CBG is or may be linked to and/or financing terrorism and stating that the AMS is not, and was never in possession of any information indicating the existence of such links and activities and that the CBG is a legitimate humanitarian initiative.
3. That your statement and apology be communicated widely to national and local media and published in the National Post.
4. That you immediately cease the 'investigation' referred to in the AMS motion of December 2 and provide CBG with a full report and documentation of all communications made in the course of the 'investigation' to date.

Time is of the essence as considerable damage has already been caused.

We require a reply today. Thank you.

David Heap, Coordinator
Legal-Financial Committee
Canadian Boat to Gaza

Derrick O'Keefe,
Steering Committee
Canadian Boat to Gaza

Irene MacInnes,
Steering Committee
Canadian Boat to Gaza

CC Gail Davidson
Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada