

Claim

Claim: "



This image shows a traffic sign in Montreal in July 2024 which displays a 'Free Palestine. Escalate now' message and was authorized by Montreal's Mayor Valérie Plante."

Actions

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geolocate(![image 13] (media/15.jpg))  
reverse_search(![image 13] (media/15.jpg))  
web_search("Montreal Free Palestine sign")  
web_search("Valérie Plante Free Palestine")
```

Evidence

Evidence from **geolocate**

The most likely countries where the image was taken are: {'Palestine': 0.85, 'Canada': 0.07, 'Germany': 0.02, 'Austria': 0.01, 'Israel': 0.01, 'Poland': 0.01, 'Slovenia': 0.01, 'South Korea': 0.01, 'Albania': 0.0, 'Andorra': 0.0}

Evidence from **reverse_search**

The image (



) shows an electronic traffic sign in Montreal displaying "Free Palestine. Escalate now." According to a CBC News article from July 25, 2024, and a Globe and Mail article from July 24, 2024, the signs were hacked to display the pro-Palestinian slogans. The City of Montreal called the incident an act of vandalism, and a group called Clash Mtl claimed responsibility. The original messages were restored.

The CBC News article can be found here: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/montreal-traffic-signs-pro-palestinian-slogans-1.7274809>. The Globe and Mail article can be found here: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-montreal-traffic-signs-apparently-hacked-to-display-pro-palestinian/>.

Evidence from web_search

The Montreal Gazette reported on July 24, 2024, that electronic message boards at two construction sites in Montreal displayed pro-Palestinian slogans, including "free Palestine" and "escalate now" (



). The city called the incident an act of vandalism, and a group called Clash Mtl claimed responsibility. The Maple published an article on September 5, 2024, discussing the City of Montreal's removal of pro-Palestine signs, and that the city is facing legal action for removing the signs.

The Maple article also mentions that Jeremy Levi, the mayor of the Montreal suburb of Hampstead, called on Montreal Mayor Valerie Plante to "take a stand" regarding the signs. The articles can be found here: <https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/montreal-traffic-signs-apparently-hacked-to-display-pro-palestinian-political-slogans> and <https://www.readthemaple.com/city-of-montreal-illegally-seized-pro-palestine-signs-activists-allege/>.

Evidence from web_search

The Suburban published an article stating that Mayor Valérie Plante was served by bailiff regarding electronic signs used by pro-Palestinian activists, with messages such as "Free Palestine. Valérie Plante needs to take concrete action."



The Montreal Gazette reports on a pro-Palestinian protest in Montreal on September 30, 2024, where demonstrators vandalized Concordia University and luxury stores. Mayor Valérie Plante described the protest as "unacceptable."



CBC News published an article on November 25, 2024, about an anti-NATO protest in Montreal, mentioning Montreal Mayor Valérie Plante condemning the actions of protesters.



The articles can be found here: https://www.thesuburban.com/news/city_news/plante-served-over-pro-palestinian-electronic-signs/article_e0143fdc-d532-5ecf-9a66-095ad0ee8ab9.html, <https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/four-arrested-after-protesters-attacked-concordia-threw-molotov-cocktails-at-police>, and <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/plante-anti-nato-protest-1.7392719>.

Elaboration

The image shows a traffic sign in Montreal displaying a "Free Palestine" message. The evidence confirms that the signs were hacked and displayed pro-Palestinian slogans in July 2024. The City of Montreal called the incident an act of vandalism. The evidence does not support the claim that the message was authorized by Montreal's Mayor Valérie Plante; in fact, she condemned the actions.

Final Judgement

The claim is misleading. While the image is real and the signs did appear in Montreal, the

claim misrepresents the context by stating the message was authorized by the mayor. The signs were the result of hacking and the city condemned the action. misleading

Verdict: MISLEADING

Justification

The image depicts a traffic sign in Montreal displaying a "Free Palestine" message. However, the sign was hacked and the city considered it an act of vandalism, not authorized by Mayor Valérie Plante, who condemned the action, as reported by the [CBC News](#) and [The Globe and Mail](#).