

## About the women-life-liberty collective

Agitated by the murder of Jina (Mahsa) Amini, the people of Iran initiated the Women, Life, Liberty movement to protest against the decades-long oppression of Iranian women. The Iranian community of Montreal, consisting of individuals and organizations, with various backgrounds and beliefs, has united to support the people of Iran and broadcast their voice to the outside world. The women-life-liberty collective consists of a variety of people and groups, including cultural, societal and political activists, with various thoughts and beliefs, having a broad spectrum of political views.

During the past few months, the protests of the Iranian community in Montreal, which support the Women, Life, Liberty movement led by the people of Iran, have been organized by various groups and have taken various forms, reflecting the diversity of the Iranian diaspora and showing that this movement has resonated with multiple groups. The overarching goal is to overthrow the Islamic Republic rather than giving political power to a particular party or a person. We believe political power can be granted to an individual or a political party only via a free, democratic election inside Iran.

The women-life-liberty collective is a democratic, nonprofit, volunteer-based institution. Inspired by the Women, Life, Liberty movement, we reject all sorts of authoritarianism; instead, we aim to practice democracy by consulting one another, in order to accurately reflect the voice of the people of Iran. We welcome debates, criticism, diversity of thought, and listening to one another, but reject verbal and physical violence. While we accept that our members can have their own opinions and speak and act independently of the collective, we emphasize that the members' opinions do not necessarily reflect the collective's.

## Our goals

- 1. Establish a secular democratic government in Iran, with a new constitution that grants all Iranians equal rights, regardless of their belief, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation.
- 2. Abolish all sexist laws and acknowledge the role of women in the recent movements in Iran.
- 3. Maintain the unity of Iran as a country while appreciating the diversity of cultures and peoples within its borders, accepting multiculturalism, and eliminating double standards.

- 4. Seek justice for all victims of the Islamic Republic and abolish torture, capital punishment, and criminalizing political activists.
- 5. Support children, worker unions, and vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, low-income families, and retired people.
- 6. Establish peaceful diplomatic relationships with all nations and condemn all kinds of military intervention.
- 7. Support activities to save and protect the environment.

## Our actions

- 1. Broadcast the voice of the people of Iran and build solidarity with Canadian and other countries' citizens by organizing protests and marches, communicating with scientists, politicians, and other influencers in Canada, publishing statements and supporting petitions, performing arts events, and organizing other cultural activities in Montreal.
- 2. Improve the community's political knowledge by creating a free, open space to dialogue, debate, and practice tolerating different opinions.
- 3. Show solidarity with the marginalized community and empower those whose voices have been silenced or censored, enabling them to speak up.
- 4. Help the Women, Life, Liberty movement to achieve its goals such as communicating with municipal, provincial, and federal politicians, sanctioning those in power in the Islamic regime and their relatives, and preventing them from investing in or travelling to Canada or becoming a Canadian citizen.
- 5. Raise awareness about the oppression, torture, and murderous acts of the Islamic regime in order to reduce the cost of protesting for the people inside Iran.
- 6. Create space for artists and support them to create protest art.
- 7. Actively support those political groups in Montreal that are led by Iranian women.