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London
CANADA

Office of the Mayor

September 30, 2013

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, PC, MP

Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: John Greyson and Dr. Tarek Loubani

As Mayor of London and on behalf of Londoners, I am writing to offer support and assistance to affect the safe and timely release of Mr. John Greyson and Dr. Tarek Loubani from their imprisonment in Egypt.

I am confident the Canadian government is working diligently through its diplomatic service to ensure John and Tarek receive the maximum support from their country. We understand the challenges and protocols that exist and the delicate navigation that is required when dealing with the judicial and political system of another nation. The process requires specific expertise, calculated negotiation and, unfortunately, carries an undetermined timeline.

As I am certain you are aware, Dr. Loubani is an emergency room physician in London. He has many friends, colleagues and family members who are extremely concerned about his well being. He and Mr. Greyson travelled to Egypt as friends to document Tarek's work in overseas hospitals. Their imprisonment was unexpected and the news of their detention devastating to all who know them. We, who wait for news of their release, are concerned for their health and well being. We offer our sympathy and compassion to their families and friends and we can only imagine their fears.

Thousands of Canadians have signed a petition calling for John and Tarek's release and this week hundreds of Londoners marched through Victoria Park in a demonstration aimed at bringing attention to their plight. Is there more we can do to help?

I understand the Honourable John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is fully aware of this situation. I am confident he is personally ensuring that officials within his department are doing everything possible to secure the return of John and Tarek to Canada, to their homes and loved ones.

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I want to offer Londoner's sincere appreciation to the Canadian government and its diplomatic staff as they work tirelessly to find a way to bring John Greyson and Tarek Loubani home.

Sincerely,



Honourable Joe Fontana
Mayor

cc: Susan Truppe, MP London North Centre
Joe Preston, MP Elgin-Middlesex-London
Ed Holder, MP London West
Irene Mathyssen, MP London-Fanshawe