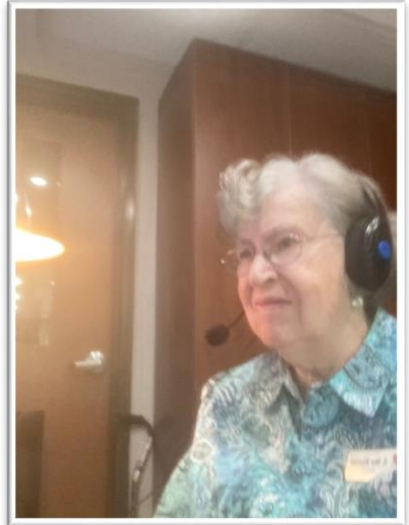


Peace Activists including Sr. Mae Kierans Meet Over Zoom With Anthony Rota, Local MP. to Discuss Cease Fire in Gaza.

On Friday November 17, 2023, members of the North Bay Peace Alliance including Sister Mae Kierans, the North Bay Labour Council and The Muslim Society of North Bay held a Zoom meeting with North Bay and Timiskaming MP Anthony Rota. This was a follow-up to the Sunday peace rally held in front of Anthony Rota's office at which over 100 people showed up to urge Canada to press for a cease fire in Gaza **NOW**.



The images of violence, death and destruction are beyond distressing. The death toll in Gaza including women and children is now over 14,000. Hospitals are becoming graveyards. It is unanimously felt that the Canadian Government's response is too muted and muffled, much like that of the USA and the UK.

At our Zoom meeting, Anthony Rota affirmed that he shared our concerns. He said the situation has become "political" and that the best strategy now was for Canadians to flood the mailboxes of the Prime Minister (justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca) and the Minister of International Affairs (melanie.joly@parl.gc.ca) with our insistence that the Canadian Government take a stand for peace and nonviolence. Ainul Ahmed, President of the North Bay Muslim Society asked Anthony Rota if he would come to the mosque and offer comfort to the Muslim community after next Friday prayers. He said others would also be welcome.

Anthony Rota went to the North Bay Mosque on Friday November 24 to offer comfort and support. He was warmly received and had a moving

and compassionate dialogue with those present who were clearly in distress and suffering. Sister Mae Kierans and Sister Mary Sheridan were also welcomed and sat with the women and children. Afterwards a Muslim woman knelt on the floor to help Mary put her boots back on.

It was a graced moment of “reaching across differences... to embrace the brokenness of our Humanity” (Chapter 2023 Directional Statement).