

Comité de soutien d'
Abdelkader Belaoui

Support Committee for
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DIGNITÉ POUR ABDELKADER



PRESS RELEASE

Community Calls for Status for Man Stranded in Church Sanctuary Abdelkader Belaoui enters fourth year in St. Gabriel's church

January 1st, 2009 marks Abdelkader (Kader) Belaoui's third anniversary of living in sanctuary within the confines of Saint-Gabriel's church. As Kader begins his fourth year in sanctuary, he continues to be denied the freedom to live in his community of Pointe-St-Charles and amongst his hundreds of friends and supporters.

Kader, a non-status Algerian man, entered sanctuary on January 1st, 2006 in Montreal after having been threatened by an unjust deportation order from Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Despite the outpouring of support that Kader has received from all sectors of society during his three years of sanctuary, he has remained a prisoner who is unable to leave the church for fear of being arrested and deported. Over the past three years, Kader and his supporters have organized community events at the church, dozens of marches and demonstrations in Montreal, across Canada and across the world, as well as garnered the support of hundreds of Montreal and nation-wide organizations, politicians, celebrity artists and musicians who have written letters of support.

Despite this, Kader remains stranded in sanctuary. On January 17th, 2009, friends and supporters plan to hold a rally for Kader at the church and then march through his neighbourhood of Pointe-St-Charles in a demonstration of community support. Members of the community, Kader's friends and represented organisations will be demanding that new federal immigration minister Jason Kenney and newly re-elected Quebec immigration minister Yolande James act now to regularize Kader's status with a message loud and clear from Pointe-St-Charles to Ottawa and Quebec: **LET KADER OUT! LET KADER STAY! 3 YEARS IS TOO LONG.**

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Source: Committee to Support Abdelkader Belaoui

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