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Statement from the Canadian Polish Congress on the Vandalism of a Polish Daycare in Vancouver

The Canadian Polish Congress strongly condemns the senseless act of vandalism recently perpetrated against the Polish community in Vancouver. We expect that perpetrators of this heinous act will be pursued by local authorities and punished to the full extent of the law.

Antifa anarchists chose to deface a Polish day care with slogans and symbols trying to associate Polish Canadians with Nazism.

In fact, the term 'Nazis' refers to members of the National Socialist German Workers' Party of Adolf Hitler, which was supported by the vast majority of German citizens before the war. Poland and the Polish people were the first victims of this immoral and evil ideology, losing over 6 million citizens at the hands of the Nazi German occupiers. Nearly 250,000 Polish soldiers and resistance fighters died in the fight for freedom from Nazi terror.

To try to connect Polish Canadians with 'Nazis' is therefore both ignorant and hateful.

On November 11th, Polish people around the world celebrated the centenary of Poland having regained its independence after 123 years of occupation by its neighbours. In Poland's capital of Warsaw, this celebration took the form of a festive procession of 250,000 people – mostly families with children – proudly waving their white and red flags through the city streets in an expression of true, patriotic love for their country.

Media coverage focusing on the participation of a far-right group on the margins of this celebration and suggesting that it somehow represents all Polish people is beyond reprehensible.

- 30 -

For media inquiries, please contact president@kpk.org