

Constituency Office

2201 Finch Ave. West Unit 25 Toronto, Ontario CANADA M9M 2Y9

> 416-744-1882 ph 416-952-1696 fx

judy.sgro.c1@parl.gc.ca

Parliament Hill Office

Valour Building Room 1180 House of Commons Ottawa, Ontario CANADA K1A 0A6

613-992-7774 ph 613-947-8319 fx

judy.sgro.a1@parl.gc.ca



As one of the Co-Chairs of the Falun Gong Parliamentary Friendship Group I stand in solidarity with the Canadian Falun Gong practitioners on the occasion of 4.25.

This day recognizes the peaceful appeal aimed at exercising the basic human rights enshrined by the UN International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights.

I am disheartened that during such a difficult time that persecution continues to occur when the COVID-19 pandemic is sweeping across the world.

In Canada, Falun Gong practitioners have the right and ability to practice their faith and rituals in peace and security. Unfortunately, this is not the case everywhere and sadly too many non-violent and devout practitioners live in darkness and under the constant threat of persecution and even death.

As Canadians, we must do our part to help bring about the changes needed to right these terrible wrongs.

I commend the Falun Gong practitioners for their unwavering commitment to safeguard the universal principle of "**Truthfulness**, **Compassion**, **Forbearance**."

Canada has been a consistent strong voice for the protection of human rights and the advancement of democratic values in the international arena.

Today we raise our voices in a united call for openness, tolerance and freedom of conscience and religion.

Sincerely,

Hon. Judy A. Sgro, Privy Council, MP

Humber River – Black Creek