

The Jane Goodall Institute of Canada's Statement on Racial Inequality and Discrimination

In light of recent events exposing the senseless racial injustices across North America, and internationally around the world, JGI Canada has taken time to pause and reflect on our role as an environmental conservation organization and the importance for us to stand in solidarity against the racism and discrimination that oppresses Black, Indigenous and people of colour everywhere.

As a chapter of a global organization focused on improving the lives of animals, people and the environment, JGI Canada is fortunate to work with a diverse and multicultural staff team, board of directors and volunteers. Our programs in Africa and Canada are community focused, strengthening JGI's holistic model of conservation. We work with, and learn from professionals, and passionate activists; including doctors and nurses in the Democratic Republic of Congo; Tanzanian field researchers and primatologists; educators across Canada; Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth who are challenged by the issues at the forefront of today's conversations.

Despite this, we acknowledge that the learning must continue. We acknowledge that there are systems and biases in our sector, in our communities, in our country and beyond that discriminate directly and indirectly against Black, Indigenous and people of colour. As CEO and Chair of Board of Directors, we are committed to using this pivotal moment to learn and to listen, to do better and be better as an organization. We will have honest discussions to create meaningful change, by identifying, addressing and dismantling the racial biases that affect our work.

Our founder, Dr. Jane Goodall has said, "The greatest danger to our future is apathy." While this rings true for environmental activism and the need to protect our natural world, it also applies to the state of current affairs and the urgent need to acknowledge and, more importantly, address systemic racism. If society remains apathetic to the racial inequality that surrounds us, then we put our collective humanity and a shared, sustainable future in jeopardy. Silence is not an option.



Andria Teather
Chief Executive Officer



Carlos D. Colorado
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