

B'NAI BRITH CANADA 2019
ELECTIONS GUIDE

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B'NAI BRITH CANADA

B'nai Brith Canada is the country's oldest independent Jewish advocacy organization, maintaining regional offices across the nation. We are committed to combating the racism and antisemitism that threatens our society, advocating on behalf of the Jewish community on a wide variety of issues, and defending against efforts to delegitimize the Indigenous homeland of the Jewish People, the State of Israel. Our wide-ranging educational and social programs, community and volunteer services, and other initiatives offer support to seniors, students facing discrimination on campus and our community's most vulnerable. We are here to serve the entire Jewish community.

Our community services are multifaceted and far-reaching, ranging from advocacy to community sports leagues to affordable housing, and other essential services provided on a daily basis.

Advocacy – B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights operates the country's only *Anti-Hate Hotline*, both via telephone and through our online reporting system on our website, and advocates on behalf of victims of antisemitism. We work with students across Canada to push back against growing antisemitism on Canadian campuses, intervene in legal and legislative issues of concern to all Canadians, provide Holocaust Education programs and host survivors to speak at schools across Canada, and publish the [Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents](#), the authoritative and widely-cited document on antisemitism in Canada.

Community – We are a premier provider of affordable, sustainable, and [secure housing in Canada](#), catering to the needs of low-to-moderate income residents, Holocaust survivors and senior citizens. We provide free educational, fitness, recreational, social, Holiday, Shabbat, and other [programs for senior citizens](#), operate a [Holiday Food Basket Program](#) distributing food packages to our community's most vulnerable, as well as provide clothing items for the needy through our widespread [Clothing Donation Bins](#).

Sports – We run some of the largest amateur sports leagues in North America. The shared camaraderie and social events that are part of this dynamic sports network across Canada form an entry way to engage the next generation in our charitable activities.

The principle we operate by is that of *"people helping people,"* which is rooted in the Jewish principle of Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh B'zeh—all of Israel are responsible for each other.

Wherever the community is, and whatever the community needs, B'nai Brith is there.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR AND CEO

For nearly 145 years, B'nai Brith Canada has advocated on behalf of the grassroots Jewish community from coast to coast to coast. History has proven time and again that the Jewish community needs a strong, proud, and effective voice in the realm of public affairs to ensure that community interests, concerns, needs, and rights are afforded, ensured, guaranteed, and secured no matter what party is in power. This above all is part and parcel of our commitment to securing the Jewish future in Canada, but it cannot be done without you.

B'nai Brith gets its marching orders from the Jewish community. We are an organization that exists solely to better the lives of Canadians nationwide, be it by fighting antisemitism, promoting Holocaust education, awareness and commemoration, providing anti-bias training to schools, police agencies, and others, by bringing Nazi war criminals to justice, providing affordable housing to our most vulnerable, or by promoting social interaction for Jews of all ages through our many sports leagues and seniors' programs, we are committed to fostering a well-rounded and fulfilling Jewish life in Canada both now and well into the future.

Since the 2015 election, the Jewish community has seen a continuous rise in antisemitic incidents in Canada, capping off at a historic record of 2,041 incidents in 2018. We have seen the growth of the antisemitic Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement, and the mainstreaming of antisemitism in the public sphere. However, in that time we have also seen the Canadian government issue a long sought after apology for turning back Jews seeking safe harbour on the MS St. Louis in 1939, as well the federal adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) [Working Definition of Antisemitism](#)—the same definition we use in our [Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents](#).

That is why not only do we need to hear from you about your priorities, needs, and concerns, but so too do our elected officials. It is not only a matter of holding our elected representatives accountable, but rather, is a matter of engagement with them so that our leaders – regardless of party affiliation – are aware of what matters to us as a community, and act in the best interest of the community. That is why we need to take an active role in the election process leading up to Election Day on October 21, 2019.

We therefore urge you to use this guide as a resource that will inform your activism. Whether by writing letters to local candidates and party leaders, or by organizing meetings and town halls, familiarizing yourself with the issues that matter most to us as a community and making it known to today's leaders and our future leaders is as critically important as it ever has been.

As always, B'nai Brith Canada is here to help and we are grateful for your support and attention over the years and urge you and your families to get active in the political process.

Yours truly,



JAY HARRIS
CHAIR OF THE BOARD
B'NAI BRITH CANADA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Harris".



MICHAEL MOSTYN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
B'NAI BRITH CANADA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Mostyn".

YOUR OPPORTUNITY – AND RESPONSIBILITY -- TO VOTE

In 2019, Election Day coincides with the holy day of Shemini Atzeret. Days set aside for advance voting also coincide with Jewish holidays or fall on Erev Shabbat, complicating the situation for many observant and orthodox members of the Jewish community.

[B'nai Brith Canada](#) was active in seeking a change of the election date, an effort which we successfully argued before the Federal Court on behalf of the Jewish community. We talked not just about voting, but about the implications for the constraints on 'meaningful participation' in the election by our community - including knocking on doors, getting out the vote, and serving as support workers or scrutineers on Election Day.

Those interested as to why a date change was not accepted, and to what is now being done as a result, should read the detailed decision by the Chief Electoral Officer issued on July 29, 2019. This document provides many useful tips on how Jewish Canadians can vote if they are unable to cast a ballot on Oct. 21, particularly in the section '[Action Plan for Observant Jewish Community Voting](#)'.

As we head towards Election Day on Oct. 21, we have been working closely with Elections Canada to maximize opportunities for Jewish Canadians to vote. Elections Canada has sensitized all of its Returning Officers to the importance of reaching out to the Jewish community – particularly in some 54 ridings where there are large numbers of Jewish electors. It is also ensuring they are aware of arrangements for advance voting and use of special ballots ahead of Election Day. Elections Canada will be doing the same with specially appointed Community Relations Officers over the next several weeks.

- Jewish community leaders should know their [Returning Officers](#) and Community Relations Officers, who are acquainted with our community's concerns and are available to assist with alternative voting options.
- It is important that our community engages in a process of dialogue with ROs (and CROs, when appointed) to seek information and convey any concerns we have.
- Voters should know their ridings and their candidates, including candidates from smaller parties and those running as independents. For those who have internet access, go to the

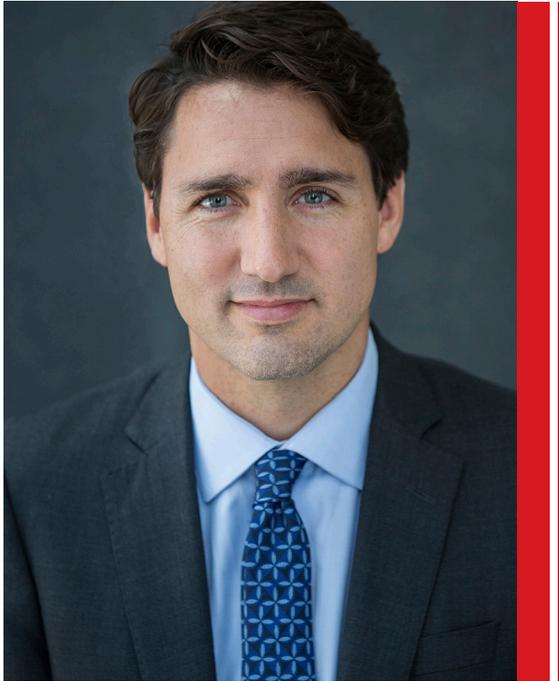
[Elections Canada website](#) and simply enter your postal code.

- Everyone should consult the [Guide to the Federal Election](#) (for Hebrew, Yiddish and Russian, go to the 'Other Languages' button).
- There are [many ways to vote](#). Advance voting can be done by mail at any time after the election writ is made official. The process has been simplified.
- Special voting kiosks will be set-up by Elections Canada in consultation with Jewish Community leaders, as an additional voting opportunity in ridings that have a significant Jewish population. Any elector can register and vote by special ballot at these locations. Watch for details to be furnished by your community leaders and on the Elections Canada website.
- There are additional opportunities to vote on campuses across Canada. Note that the opportunities to 'Vote on Campus' generally do not conflict with Jewish holidays; locations are centrally located and can be used by any eligible voter no matter where their home riding is. Anyone can vote at these on-campus Elections Canada offices, whether they are a student or not. For further information, a [Student Voting Infographic](#) is attached here.
- Be mindful that, in addition to Election Canada's website as a resource, EC is active on all major social media channels – particularly Twitter and Facebook.

We say that the best response for our community, now, is to make sure that our voices are heard louder than ever. We say that every Canadian Jew who is capable of doing so should cast a ballot via advanced polls or special ballots.

For the future, we say that every Canadian Jew should ask their local candidates one key question: Will you support amendments to the Canada Elections Act, backed by B'nai Brith Canada, to ensure that future election days no longer fall on major Jewish holidays?

MEET THE PARTY LEADERS




Liberal

JUSTIN TRUDEAU
LEADER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA

Elected in 2015, Prime Minister Trudeau serves as Canada's 23rd Prime Minister, and has served as the leader of the Liberal Party of Canada since 2013. Mr. Trudeau was initially elected as the Liberal Party candidate of the Montréal riding of Papineau in 2008 and has been re-elected to represent that riding ever since.

Mr. Trudeau is the son of former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, and worked as a teacher prior to his entry into public service.



 **Conservative**

ANDREW SCHEER
LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF CANADA

Since 2004, Mr. Andrew Scheer has served as the Member of Parliament for the Saskatchewan riding of Regina—Qu'Appelle. Mr. Scheer has served as the leader of the Conservative Party of Canada since 2017, and worked as an insurance broker prior to his entry into public office.

In 2011, Mr. Scheer was elected speaker of the House of Commons, and became the Official Opposition House Leader in 2015 prior to obtaining the leadership position of the Conservative Party.



JAGMEET SINGH
LEADER OF THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Since October 2017, Mr. Jagmeet Singh has served as the leader of Canada's New Democratic Party, and is currently the Member of Parliament for Burnaby South in British Columbia. Mr. Singh began his political career as an Ontario Member of Provincial Parliament between 2011 and 2017, prior to taking up the leadership position of the federal NDP.

Prior to Mr. Singh's entry into public life, he earned a law degree from Osgoode Hall at York University and practiced as a criminal defence lawyer.



ELIZABETH MAY
LEADER OF THE GREEN PARTY OF CANADA

Since 2011, Elizabeth May has served as the Member of Parliament for the Saanich-Gulf Islands riding in British Columbia, and was the first member of the Green Party of Canada to be elected to Parliament.

Prior to seeking the leadership position of the Green Party of Canada, Ms. May served as the Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada from 1989 to 2006.

COMBATTING ANTISEMITISM

Combatting antisemitism is at the core of the work that B'nai Brith Canada undertakes. Without focusing on securing the Jewish community first and foremost, we cannot expect that Jewish life in Canada can thrive and flourish to its greatest potential.

B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights operates Canada's only Anti-Hate Hotline to report antisemitic incidents, tracks and documents antisemitic incidents across Canada in our internationally-cited [Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents](#), and regularly intervenes legally and legislatively in matters of public interest to the Jewish community.

Canada remains one of the safest countries in the world for its Jewish citizens. However, Canada is not immune to the global rise of antisemitism. In fact, 2018 marked the first year since our *Audit* began recording incidents in 1982 that the rate of incidents not only increased for a third straight year in a row, but exceeded over 2,000 incidents culminating in 2,041 total recorded incidents across Canada. Moreover, the *Audit* demonstrated that antisemitism has changed in its form, growing by leaps and bounds in online forums, and emerging with an unprecedented force in Atlantic and Western Canada where previously it had been kept to a relative minimum compared to Ontario and Quebec.

The question remains, what should elected officials and candidates do to aid in combatting antisemitism?

Here are our recommendations:

1. **Develop and implement a national action plan**, involving all levels of government, based on B'nai Brith Canada's [Eight Point Plan to Tackle Antisemitism](#) (see page 17).
2. **Urge the adoption of the [IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism](#)** at all levels of government, within government-reporting agencies, post-secondary institutions, elementary and secondary schools, and at all levels of civil society.
3. **Advocate for the laying of charges** against promulgators of antisemitism that violate the Criminal Code of Canada.
4. **Standardize anti-bias education** across Canada to ensure that secondary schools have a common understanding of antisemitism and all other forms of bigotry, and how best to combat the phenomenon.
5. **Expose antisemitism when it appears** and have public officials avoid and condemn individuals that engage in hate.
6. **Prevent antisemitic activities** from taking place on public grounds and levy fines against organizers of events, as appropriate in accordance with relevant bylaws and policies.
7. **Create a National Coordinator/Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism** both domestically and globally, in accordance with B'nai Brith Canada's [Eight Point Plan to Tackle Antisemitism](#).
8. **Enhance security commitments** to Jewish institutions such as synagogues, schools, and community centres.

CONFRONTING HATE CRIMES AND HATE SPEECH

As of 2018, the Jewish community remains the most targeted community in Canada in terms of hate crimes on a per capita basis, despite making up less than 1% of the total population in Canada with nearly 1 in 5 hate crimes being directed against the Jewish community. Shockingly, barely a day goes by without a hate crime being perpetrated against Canadian Jews.

However, hate crimes in general have increasingly impacted the lives of other minority communities both in Canada and around the world. Much of these crimes are precipitated by hate speech which falls below the criminal threshold for prosecution, but are indicative of increasingly hateful attitudes that flourish on various social media networks and – disturbingly – ever more in the mainstream.

Aside from ensuring that hate crimes laws, when breached, are properly enforced and charges are laid leading to fairly adjudicated convictions, it is imperative that law enforcement agencies record antisemitic incidents that fall below the criminal threshold in order to better understand and monitor antisemitic trends taking hold among certain sectors of Canadian society.

With this in mind, our recommendations to elected officials and candidates on combatting hate crimes and hate speech in Canada, include:

1. **Utilize the universally-recognized [IHRA Working Definition](#) of Antisemitism as part of the [‘Uniform Crime Reporting System’](#) used by law enforcement agencies across Canada.**
2. **Instruct Statistics Canada and law enforcement agencies to record and report antisemitic incidents**, and other forms of hatred, including those that fall below the criminal threshold, to more accurately gauge the state of antisemitism and hatred in Canada.
3. **Ensure that law enforcement agencies in major municipalities across Canada have dedicated hate crimes units** with adequate and standardized training curricula and protocols to recognize and react to hate crimes.
4. **To regularly liaise with communal organizations**, such as B’nai Brith Canada, in order to maintain contact with affected communities and enhance the exchange of information.
5. **Work with social media companies and internet service providers (ISPs)** to better monitor the phenomenon of hate crimes online, in conjunction with all levels of government, to both prevent and combat the promulgation of illegal hate-related activity on the Internet.

HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION AND EDUCATION

Holocaust commemoration and education is an important part of the work of B'nai Brith Canada, especially in the context of its ongoing efforts to combat contemporary antisemitism in Canada.

Understanding the Holocaust, and its unique nature as an internationally coordinated form of industrialized genocide, is essential to the recognition and prevention of genocides around the world, as well as subsequent punishment where appropriate. Moreover, as more Holocaust survivors pass away, the less opportunity

the next generation will have to hear their first-hand testimony, leaving the door open even further for contemporary Holocaust deniers to exploit the situation for their own nefarious ends.

Currently, Holocaust education in Canada is not standardized, with provincial bodies enjoying significant latitude over the quality and character of such education. This uneven level of education poses disadvantages to those students that are exposed to inadequate Holocaust education which can lead to the growth of Holocaust Denial, which we have seen emerge as a significant problem not only in Canada, but in the United States and elsewhere around the globe.



As such, and provided Canada's recent recognition of the [IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism](#) as part of the federal [Building a Foundation for Change: Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2019-2022](#), B'nai Brith Canada recommends that elected officials and candidates commit to:

1. **Advocating for the adoption of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism** by all provincial ministries of education and school boards as part of their internal policies and curriculum materials.
2. **Advocating for the standardization and mandatory inclusion of Holocaust education materials and curricula** across Canada in cooperation with recognized Holocaust scholars, the IHRA – of which Canada is a member state – and civil society organizations like B'nai Brith Canada.

ANTI-ISRAEL BIAS AT THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES

For decades, various Member States within the UN have successfully utilized the forum as an instrument through which to discriminate against and delegitimize the State of Israel and expound antisemitic views and policies. Through its various agencies, the UN is regularly misused in a manner which threatens its own credibility and extends far beyond the scope of its subsidiary agencies' mandates.

By way of example, B'nai Brith Canada has long expressed its concern over the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC)'s standing ['Agenda Item #7'](#) which singles out Israel for unfair critical attention—an item not applied to any other country in the world. Similarly, the World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization has a similar standing [Agenda Item #14](#) singling out Israel.

Additionally, the United Nations Economic, Social, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) denies the Jewish People's historical ties to key sites such as the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron, Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem, the Wailing Wall and the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. These examples are not exhaustive, but merely illustrative, of a deeply biased trend at the UN.

Given these realities, we recommend that elected officials and candidates ensure that:

1. **Canada publicly repudiate** and call for the permanent removal—alongside likeminded countries which have already done so—of the UNHRC's [Agenda Item #7](#) and the World Health Assembly's [Agenda Item #14](#).
2. **Openly denounce UNESCO resolutions** that seek to deny the Jewish People's historical ties to their indigenous and ancestral homeland.
3. **Reject any politically motivated abuse** of international forums to single out Israel for unique and unfair criticism not similarly levelled against any other Member States.
4. **Utilize any leverage** following a potential election by Canada to the UN Security Council to counter antisemitism internationally and institutional anti-Israel bias within the UN system as a whole.
5. **Speak out** to ensure that no further Canadian funding provided to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) is misappropriated towards terrorist activities or any other activity that is beyond the specific scope and mandate of the organization, and that any further funding is conditioned on UNRWA schools refusing to implement a curriculum that inculcates hatred towards Israel and the Jewish People.
6. **Call for greater oversight and transparency** over Canada's 'enhanced due diligence' process to generate greater transparency over Canada's contributions to UNRWA in accordance with the commitments agreed to in Point #5.
7. **Call for an international discussion** among UN Member States to gradually devolve UNRWA services to host governments, or other international or local NGOs as appropriate.

BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT AND SANCTIONS (BDS)



B'nai Brith Canada believes that criticism of the State of Israel, akin to criticism levied against any other country, is not necessarily antisemitic. However, the global BDS movement is inherently antisemitic in that it delegitimizes, demonizes, and employs a double standard against the State of Israel.

Its objective is not the advancement of peace, but rather the destruction of the State of Israel and employs dangerous false narratives to achieve that goal. Moreover, the BDS movement rewards Palestinians for

their refusal to engage in constructive dialogue with Israel and puts off any possibility of peaceful resolution.

The BDS movement has increasingly been criticized and recognized for the pernicious and dangerous force that it is by elected officials of all stripes, both in Canada and around the world. Where the BDS movement thrives, we see that invariably—and without exception—Jewish students and communities suffer increased antisemitic harassment, vandalism, and in some cases, violence. The direct connection between BDS and other expressions of antisemitism is undeniable, and the countenance of BDS is therefore incompatible with any meaningful effort to combat antisemitism.

As such, we recommend that all elected officials and candidates:

1. **Reject BDS as a movement** that prevents good faith negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians and a just and equitable peace agreement that is to be negotiated between the two parties.
2. **Support the [2016 motions](#)** passed in the House of Commons and Ontario's Legislature condemning the BDS movement and calling for such motions to be adopted in all provinces and territories.
3. **Support the adoption and implementation of legislative initiatives** preventing racist boycott activities such as BDS.
4. **Work to prevent BDS-related activities** from taking place on public property.
5. **Prevent the allocation of public funds** to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or academic institutions that advocate for or support BDS, both domestically and internationally.

IRAN'S DESTABILIZING INFLUENCE

The Iranian regime is the world's largest state sponsor of global terrorism.

For decades, the regime has not only underwritten the operations of listed terrorist organizations such as Hizballah, but has used Hizballah, Hamas, and other terrorist organizations to wreak havoc across the Middle East, Europe, and even as far away as Latin America, where Hizballah—at the behest of the Iranian regime—orchestrated and carried out the attack against the [AMIA Community Centre in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1994](#), murdering 85 innocents and injuring hundreds of others.

The regime has repeatedly threatened the State of Israel with annihilation, orchestrated attacks against foreign Israeli and Jewish targets, as well as Iranian dissidents and their relatives and associates abroad in a campaign of intimidation intended to strengthen the regime's stranglehold on the country.

B'nai Brith Canada has long been a supporter of implementing the strongest possible sanctions on the regime, including designating the entirety of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist entity and applying Magnitsky-like sanctions where warranted until the regime relinquishes the use of terror as an element of its foreign policy, and abides by international norms and laws.

Given this position, B'nai Brith Canada recommends that in order to curb Iran's international influence, elected officials and candidates resolve to:

- 1. Support Canada's refusal to establish diplomatic relations with Iran** until it fully recognizes Israel's right to exist, refrains from materially, logistically, and ideologically supporting international terrorism, and desists from using its diplomatic power to intimidate the Iranian-Canadian community and the Canadian Jewish community.
- 2. Accept the [series of benchmarks](#)**, as proposed in recent legislative initiatives in Canada, to be applied to Iran's behaviour and evaluated on an annual basis as a means to guide Canada's possible reengagement with Iran.
- 3. Refrain from supporting the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)** unless broadened in scope and strengthened to deal with challenges posed to global security by Iran's pursuit of nuclear weapons capability and other threatening activities such as development of ballistic and cruise missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons.
- 4. Publicly endorse** the listing of the IRGC, in its entirety, as a designated terrorist entity.
- 5. Support using Canada's [Magnitsky Act](#)** sanctions against Iran's human rights offenders.

DEALING WITH WAR CRIMINALS AND NAZI GLORIFICATION

B'nai Brith Canada believes it is essential for the continual investigation and prosecution of Nazi war criminals, and where circumstances require it, to strip such war criminals of their citizenship and immediately remove them from Canada.

To support such action, B'nai Brith Canada has called for greater access to Canadian historical records and files dealing with war criminals in Canada, including the records of the *1986 Report of the Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals* (also known as the [Deschenes Commission](#)), which remain unavailable to the public. We have also called for the immediate removal of Nazi Helmut Oberlander from Canada—a process which has yet to take place despite the exhaustion of all legal appeals by Oberlander to stay his deportation.

Additionally, B'nai Brith Canada has openly called for Canada to condemn manifestations and parades which seek to glorify Nazi sympathizers and supporters—including by individuals, institutions, and governments who were complicit in the deaths of Jews during World War II. These calls have been met with a positive response, but we believe that more must be done.

To that end, we recommend that all elected officials and candidates resolve to:

1. **Make public all closed Canadian records** dealing with war criminals, including files of the War Crimes Unit of the Department of Justice, with specific exceptions for active cases and personal information about informants and confidential sources.
2. **Make public all of the confidential proceedings** of the *1986 Report of the Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals* ([Deschenes Commission](#)), with specific exceptions for active cases and personal information about informants and confidential sources.
3. **Call for the immediate removal** of Helmut Oberlander from Canada.
4. **Call for Canada to vigorously speak out and condemn** events that serve to glorify individuals, military units, and governments who sympathized with or supported the goals of Nazi Germany, particularly its efforts to destroy world Jewry during World War II.



Hatzolah of Kiryas Tosh
4.2 ★★★★★ 5 reviews • ⏱ 3 min
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CANADA-ISRAEL RELATIONS

B'nai Brith Canada believes we have a moral and humanitarian imperative to strengthen the Canada-Israel relationship. Israel is the sovereign homeland of the Jewish People, providing both a refuge from persecution and the sole opportunity for the Jewish People to exercise their right to national self-determination in their indigenous and ancestral homeland.



Israel is a vibrant, fully functioning democracy, where diverse opinions compete actively in the marketplace of ideas and the rights of all of its citizens are protected by a robust and independent judiciary. Our role is not to judge the outcome of such debates, nor favour particular voices in them, but rather to ensure that Israel remains safe so its people can make the often-tough decisions about peace and security.

B'nai Brith Canada believes that Jerusalem is the country's undivided capital and that the Canadian embassy should be relocated there. Additionally, B'nai Brith Canada believes that the [Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement](#), recently modernized, provides an essential underpinning to the bilateral relationship, supporting as it does the [Canada-Israel Strategic Partnership Memorandum of Understanding](#).

As such, we recommend that all elected officials and candidates resolve to:

1. **Commit to the concept and content** of the need for a close bilateral relationship with Israel, as set out in the Canada-Israel Strategic Partnership Memorandum of Understanding.
2. **The full and complete implementation** of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement.
3. **Reject any discrimination between goods and services** trade with Israel, including those involving firms operating in territories controlled by Israel since 1967.
4. **Recognize Jerusalem as Israel's undivided capital** and endorse the moving of the Canadian Embassy to Jerusalem.
5. **Recognize Israeli sovereignty** over the Golan Heights.
6. **Become members** of the [Canada-Israel Parliamentary Group](#).

SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE ENVIRONMENT



Since 1979, B'nai Brith Canada has been a respected and leading provider of sustainable affordable housing in Canada. We began our [Affordable Housing Program](#) in an effort to provide and maintain affordable, secure, and welcoming housing for low-to-moderate income residents.

B'nai Brith Canada's Affordable Housing Residences provide seniors, community members, and persons with disabilities from all walks of life an opportunity to live with independence and dignity while still residing within their communities, close to family and friends.

B'nai Brith Canada has long believed that social service agencies are critical to the delivery of many of the programs and services provided by the federal

government. These include seniors care, disability services, and many social activities.

B'nai Brith Canada takes seriously its obligation to be a responsible steward of the environment. To that end, we engage in recycling and waste diversion programs, such as the collection and distribution of gently used clothing from those who might otherwise dispose of it in landfills.

To further our work in the field of social service provision and environmental stewardship, we recommend that elected officials and candidates commit to:

- 1. Integrating the local views of Jewish organizations** into approaches to the delivery of social services, including consulting with organizations such as B'nai Brith Canada, when considering regulations governing the charitable sector.
- 2. Ensure that providers of affordable housing have a voice** in developing and implementing a long-term housing strategy emerging from your prospective government.
- 3. Support social and environmental initiatives** such as those undertaken by B'nai Brith Canada through its clothing donation program.

B'NAI BRITH CANADA'S EIGHT-POINT PLAN TO TACKLE ANTISEMITISM

- 1 INSTITUTE DEDICATED HATE CRIME UNITS IN EVERY MAJOR CITY**

The lack of investment in hate crime-specific units contributes to both a perceived sense of impunity for the purveyors of hate crimes and generates frustration on the part of affected communities. Dedicated hate crimes units could produce more substantive results in the field.
- 2 PROVIDE ENHANCED TRAINING FOR HATE CRIMES OFFICERS**

What often appears to be a clear-cut case of a hate crime can be interpreted differently among police services. A standard understanding of what constitutes a hate crime is critical, as well as proper liaison functions between police services and civil society organizations representing affected communities, such as the [League for Human Rights](#).
- 3 PUBLISH THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S GUIDELINES FOR SECTIONS 318 AND 319**

The Attorney-General's decision-making process on hate propaganda prosecutions is not public and therefore open to charges of political bias. B'nai Brith believes revealing the internal guidelines elucidating this process will help the public know when to submit complaints to law enforcement, and clarify what is and is not legal.
- 4 DECLARE A ZERO-TOLERANCE APPROACH TO GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF ANTISEMITISM**

Government funding has again found its way to organizations that have promoted antisemitism in the past. Government must be vigilant when dispensing public funds to such organizations, and take swift action when such instances come to its attention, including an immediate withdrawal of all publicly-provided funds.
- 5 INTRODUCE ANTI-SLAPP LEGISLATION IN ALL PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES**

Only B.C., Ontario and Quebec have enacted legislation against [Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation](#), or "anti-SLAPP" legislation, which is meant to prevent frivolous libel lawsuits designed to dissuade groups engaging in issues of public interest by using lawsuits to intimidate and deter critique or inquiry. B'nai Brith encourages all provinces and territories to enact this legislation so this protection can be extended to the benefit of all Canadians.
- 6 HOLD UNIVERSITIES ACCOUNTABLE FOR CAMPUS ANTISEMITISM**

Universities recently surfaced as significant breeding grounds for antisemitism in Canada, including through an increase in far-left activism against Israel and far-right intimidation. Universities must do more to combat antisemitism, as do provincial ministries of education, including enforcing existing anti-discrimination policies and ensuring that appropriate disciplinary measures are employed.
- 7 ADOPT A NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR ANTISEMITISM**

Canada must adopt a [National Action Plan to Combat Antisemitism](#), as have France and Norway, in recognition that adequate resources must be offered to strategically combat antisemitic forms of harassment, vandalism, and violence. Such a plan would involve all levels of government, which could help law enforcement, communities, and schools prevent and respond to antisemitism.
- 8 DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN TO COUNTER ONLINE HATE**

B'nai Brith believes that the federal government, along with social media platforms and other stakeholders, can work in tandem to establish a viable strategic plan to counter online hate. Government must examine how to strengthen laws against perpetrators of online hate and improve law enforcement training in how to respond.



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@bnaibrithcanada



**B'NAI
BRITH
CANADA**



League for
Human Rights of
B'nai Brith Canada
Ligue des droits
de la personne