

Statement in Support of the Canadian Jewish Community and the State of Israel

The Messianic Jewish Alliance of Canada stands with all Jews and other Canadians of good will against the flood of hatred and antisemitism unleashed upon the Jewish people of Canada since the start of the war instigated by Hamas on October 7, 2023.

Prologue:

Since Confederation in 1867, Canada for the most part has given the Jewish people a haven from the antisemitism and discrimination so common to other parts of the world. Today the freedoms of the Canadian Jewish community are under assault.

Canada is no longer the haven for Jews that it once was. Since the atrocities perpetrated against the Israeli people on October 7 and the ensuing war, a rising tide of hate speech and antisemitic acts have rocked the Canadian Jewish community.¹ Violence is up 208% year-on-year and in-person and online harassment up well over 120% with more than 16 incidents being reported daily. In August 2024, emailed death and bomb threats against over 100 Jewish institutions across the Dominion have brought this trend to a particularly heinous climax. The malicious and reprehensible language of this threat, that “none of you deserve to keep living,” demonstrates the vile attitudes which are now being projected against the Jewish people. On campuses across Canada, Jewish students have faced intimidation and personal threats to the extent that many are fearful to openly reveal their identity. These incidents have left us, as members of the Jewish community, deeply disturbed and troubled about the welfare and well-being of our fellow Jewish neighbours who faithfully serve this country.

We Resolve:

Anti-Zionism, in almost every case a cloak for antisemitism, must be eschewed by all Canadians. The Jewish people have a right to exist in their historic homeland and have a legitimate claim as an indigenous covenant people. While not sovereign in the Holy Land until 1948, it has ever remained the home of a sizeable Jewish community and the hope of the dispersed Jewish people around the world. Singling out Israel as a colonial state in a post-Holocaust world, where many states have come into being² since World War One, is duplicitous and patently antisemitic.

Canadian Christians have an obligation to the Jewish people that must not be ignored.³ God’s eternal pledge of faithfulness in Scripture to the Jewish people must be reflected in the attitude of the Church.⁴ Israel’s legitimate right to exist demands the defense of its population from hostile militant forces. This does not preclude compassion for civilians caught up in the struggle.

¹ B’nai Brith Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, 2023.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zTVFrS4LevL12uV0sJVi9IURNDfphwWN/view>

² <https://flaggedia.net/lists/formation>

³ Romans 15:27 (ESV) *For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings.*

⁴ Jer 31:35–37.

All Canadians have an obligation to repudiate antisemitism and to confront denial of the atrocities and libels against Israel and the Jewish people. We affirm our Constitution which states:” *Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.*”

We urge the Christian community, our fellow believers in the Messiah Yeshua (Jesus of Nazareth), to speak up boldly, unequivocally, and actively against antisemitism in all its forms within the church and Canadian society. Calls to delegitimize or destroy the State of Israel have become commonplace and must be confronted.

We urge Christian leaders to use their influence to bless the descendants of Abraham according to the promise, remembering that through them “all the families of the earth will be blessed.”⁵ To recall the words of Ruth: “your people shall be my people, and your God my God.”⁶

The Messianic Jewish Alliance of Canada stands firmly in support of Israel’s defensive war against extremist Islamic forces. We are united in our support for Israel and the global Jewish community and urge Christians, the Church, and Canadians of good will to affirm these principles.

We, the undersigned:

1. Rabbi Cal Goldberg, Beth Shechinah- Calgary, MJAC President
2. Dr. Daniel Nessim, Kehilat Tsion, Vancouver MJAC Western Vice-President
3. Ben Volman, MJAC Secretary & Canadian Regional Director of the UMJC, Toronto
4. Rabbi Andrew Zeidman, Rosh Pinah Messianic Congregation Toronto, MJAC Eastern Vice-President
5. Rabbi Jeff Forman, City of David Messianic Synagogue, Toronto, MJAC Treasurer
6. Rabbi Chaim (Charles) Hopkin, Kehilat Ha Tikvah, Winnipeg
7. Rabbi Max DeSouza, Yeshua Tiferet Yisrael, Montreal
8. Rabbi Michael Gertsman, Lion of Judah Ministries, Montreal
9. Messianic Pastor Gennady Livshits, House of David Ministries, Montreal
10. Aden Friedman, Jews for Jesus (Canada), Executive Director
11. Jorge Sedaca, Chosen People Ministries (Canada), Executive Director
12. Marty Shoub, Tikkun Ministries Canadian Director

⁵ Genesis 12:3.

⁶ Ruth 1:16.

13. Rabbi Michael Terrett, B'nai Chayim, Edmonton
14. Rabbi Sidney Speakman, Beth Tefillah Sameach, Lethbridge
15. Alan Gilman, Bible Teacher, TorahBytes, Ottawa
16. Rabbi Angus Marryshow, Congregation Melech Yisrael, Toronto
17. Messianic Leader Jacques Gabizon, Beth Ariel Congregation, Montreal
18. Rev. Joseph Gray, Former National Director of Chosen People Ministries, Canada
19. Dr. Michael Wodlinger, Missionary of Chosen People Ministries, Montreal, Quebec
20. Jeff Futers - Israel Prayer Watch (First Century Foundations)
21. Jeff Shaw, Church Ministries Representative, Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Calgary
22. Pastor Adom Quito, House of David Ministries, Montreal
23. Rev. Giulio L'Orefice Gabeli, Director of the CCI Network of Jews and Christians



Working in Canada to Unite Jewish Believers

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