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Securing the Future of Ontario's Jewish Community: 2025 Advocacy Priorities

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) is the advocacy agent of Jewish Federations of Canada, representing vibrant Jewish communities across the country that contribute immensely to Canadian society.

Ontario's Jewish community is a vital part of the province's social, cultural, and economic life. However, antisemitic hate and intimidation have risen sharply in schools, workplaces, and public spaces. Coordinated action is needed to ensure Jewish Ontarians can live safely and freely.

Our current priorities focus on three interconnected pillars:

SAFETY

Ensure secure environments for Jewish communities

Long-term, sustained funding for the Anti-Hate Security and Prevention Grant to meet community needs.

Coordinate with federal partners on community security legislation.

Establish province-wide safe access zones for vulnerable institutions.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Require institutions to protect Jewish Ontarians

Quickly implement Bill 33, to strengthen accountability for school boards and universities. Ensure that the Minister exercise their authorities if a school board fails in its duty to provide a safe learning environment for students and ensure accountability for the use of university student fees.

Strengthen campus safety and transparency under Bill 166.

Require public-sector unions to disclose hate-reporting.

AWARENESS

Embed understanding of antisemitism across public institutions

Promote use of IHRA handbook within the Ontario Public Service to inform approach on cases of antisemitism.

Align antisemitism definitions and training across the broader public sector.

Reject application of Anti-Palestinian Racism (APR) in public institutions.