

January 19, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

Next week, on the second day of Parliament's return, you will have the opportunity to address the nation on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, honouring the six million Jewish victims and the millions of others who faced Nazi persecution.

This year's commemoration comes at a time when many Canadians are deeply concerned about the global resurgence of antisemitism—a harbinger of rising polarization, instability, and extremism impacting our democracy. We know the Holocaust did not begin with death marches or gas chambers; it unfolded over many years of hateful propaganda, demonization, and violent mobs, while too many otherwise good people remained silent.

Today is not 1942, but nor is it 2022. The post-October 7<sup>th</sup> explosion of antisemitism has fundamentally changed the threat landscape globally. Recently, in Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States, we have seen the deadly consequences of unchecked hate and radicalization. Calls for “Intifada” and other incitement to violence have been followed by acts of terrorism with innocent lives taken and families and communities shattered.

Here at home, Canada's Integrated Threat Assessment Centre (ITAC) warned that the same drivers that led to the massacre in Sydney are also present here, and that a similar attack in Canada “remains a realistic possibility.”

As we have discussed together, the fight against violent Jew hatred is not just about the safety of one community. It impacts all Canadians. In the words of the late Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks: “Antisemitism is about the inability of a group to make space for difference. And because we are all different, the hate that begins with Jews never ends with Jews... it matters to all of us, which is why we must fight it together.” This is especially important in a diverse, multicultural society like Canada.

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, I urge you to not only remember the past, but to resolve to safeguard our present and future.

Specifically, I am asking our government to commit to five critical measures:

1. **Expedite federal support for community security.** In addition to expediting progress, a clear timeline for reforms and increased funding is required. While reinforcing community confidence, such a timeline would also benefit Jewish security agencies as they plan for the needs of the community. Every day of waiting, unfortunately, risks delaying potentially life-saving security upgrades and measures at synagogues, schools, and community centres.
2. **Prioritize enforcement to disrupt this growing threat to Canadians.** There is a need for federal authorities to lead a dedicated, proactive, well-resourced, and cross-jurisdictional enforcement effort, with a focus on radical Islamist activity, neo-Nazi movements, and other forms of violent extremism. A wide array of legal tools should be deployed not only to disrupt those directly involved in violent plots, but the hate preachers and propagandists indoctrinating youth and stoking violence.
3. **Advance legislative and policy changes to address violent extremism and radicalization.** CIJA has joined with five Jewish organizations to issue a joint call for MPs of all parties to work together to pass a modified and impactful Bill C-9. We believe consensus is especially critical, as a divisive outcome would send a damaging message to all Canadians about the need for unity on an issue that speaks to the fundamental promise of Canadian society. However, while C-9 addresses a number of key issues, there remains an urgent need to examine a wider range of tools to tackle violent extremism and radicalization.
4. **Ensure clear and consistent public leadership.** At a moment of heightened threat, it is essential that our public leaders reinforce the unequivocal message that exploiting a foreign conflict as a pretext to target Canadian Jews, or any other community, will not be tolerated in our country. Just as all Canadians must be free to practice their faith and express themselves in safety, the right of Canadian Jews to express our identity—including our connection to the people and land of Israel—must be protected not only in law but in our day-to-day lives. Vocal affirmation of this principle is more important than ever in making the distinction between legitimate political protest and lawlessness disguised as dissent.
5. **Strengthen ties between Israelis and Canadians.** At a moment when Canada–Israel relations are at a low point, it’s time to rebuild this partnership that has benefited Canadians and Israelis alike for more than 80 years. Anchored by the Canada–Israel Free Trade Agreement—Canada’s first trade deal outside North America—this relationship has driven advancements in trade, academia, security, and innovation. As a global leader in science, medicine, cybersecurity, and AI, and



Canadian.  
Jewish.  
Advocacy.

an essential player in regional peace and stability, Israel advances priorities that closely aligned with Canada's economic and foreign policy interests. Re-engaging at the highest levels is essential to restore this mutually beneficial and strategically important alliance.

In addition to these five critical imperatives, the federal government has a leadership role to play. This requires consistent and sustained cooperation among relevant federal, provincial, and municipal officials to drive impact across the country, recognizing that government leaders at all levels have a personal responsibility to meet this challenge.

In Australia today, many of the measures I've described above are now underway. These measures are, tragically, of no consolation to the 15 innocents slain at Bondi Beach. Canada should learn from this cautionary tale and take urgent, proactive measures now that have the power to save lives in future.

Thank you again for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Noah Shack', is written in a cursive style.

Noah Shack  
CEO, Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs