

October 4, 2026

Jonathon Leipsic
President, Jewish Federation

Ezra Shanken
CEO, Jewish Federation

Nico Slobinsky
Vice President, CIJA

Karen James
Chair, CIJA BC

Kara Mintzberg
Executive Director, CJPAC

Re: Standing up to antisemitism in British Columbia

Dear Jonathon, Ezra, Nico, Karen and Kara,

Thank you for the work you do every day to support, protect and advocate for British Columbia's Jewish community. As we approach the third anniversary of the October 7 attacks, I know this is a painful time for many families across our province, and I want you to know that you do not stand alone.

Antisemitism has no place in BC. Shamefully, verbal abuse, violence, and vandalism targeting the Jewish community have become normalized, and the NDP has failed to act.

Here is the BC Conservative plan to end the targeting of BC's Jewish community.

Adopt the IHRA Definition of Antisemitism. BC will adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism to set a clear standard across schools, campuses, healthcare, and the public sector.

Protect Campuses and students. BC colleges and universities must enforce codes of conduct and crack down on the targeting of Jewish students as a condition for receiving provincial funding.

Holocaust Education. "Never Again" must mean Never Again. We will strengthen and protect mandatory Holocaust education in BC schools so the vile history of scapegoating and genocide of European Jews is never forgotten.

Expand Anti-Hate Security Funding. We will increase grants available to community organizations available through BC's Civil Forfeiture anti-hate funding stream to \$50,000 per application, helping

communities take concrete steps to prevent and respond to hate-motivated incidents and strengthen the security of vulnerable community spaces.

Establish a western security network. We will provide \$1.5 million over three years — \$500,000 annually — to help establish a western security network that brings community organizations together to coordinate security resources, share threat information, strengthen best practices, and build stronger partnerships with law enforcement and other security agencies.

Uphold Public Order. We will empower police to crack down on the constant hate speech, incitement and disorder we see from agitators in our streets. Free assembly is a right, but it cannot block and threaten British Columbians' daily lives.

Train Police & Prosecutors. We will mandate specialized training for law enforcement and Crown prosecutors to ensure antisemitic hate crimes are properly identified and decisively prosecuted. We will review the BC Prosecution Services policies to understand why there has been a lack of prosecution in high-profile cases of antisemitic crime.

Defund Extremism. Zero provincial funding will reach individuals or groups linked to registered terrorist organizations like Samidoun. We will issue a directive to the Crown to prosecute any material support for terrorism and we will scrutinize bodies that have opposed the funding of Jewish organizations.

The Jewish community deserves more than empty words. It's time for leadership, moral clarity, and decisive action to protect Jewish British Columbians.

That is what a new BC Conservative government will do.



Lorne Doerkson
Leader, Conservative Party of British Columbia