Office of the Primate

The Anglican Church of Canada
L'Église anglicane du Canada

November 16, 2026

An open letter to the Canadian Jewish community

Shalom aleichem, fellow Canadians:

Given the alarming upsurge in hate crimes against Jewish Canadians in recent years, especially in the aftermath of the Hamas atrocities on October 7, 2023, the Canadian government has justly stated that it views antisemitism as a crisis and a matter of national security. We know antisemitism also threatens the personal security of the children, young people and adults of the Jewish community.

The Anglican Church of Canada unequivocally condemns antisemitism as a violation of the principles of justice, freedom and human dignity our country upholds and defends. We condemn the targeting of our Jewish neighbours and decry all attempts at the justification of it for any reason.

For nearly seventy years, we have critically reflected on distorted Christian understandings of Jews and Judaism that have contributed to antisemitism. We have been on a journey of repudiating all that has fostered this pernicious manifestation of hate, both within our churches and in wider society.

This commitment to oppose antisemitism in all its forms has been reiterated multiple times over the years, through actions like the removal of problematic texts from our books of prayer, the production of educational resources, resolutions of our General Synod and participation in or endorsements of various ecumenical and interfaith statements.

In recent times, the continued urgency of this cause is painfully evident to us. We are deeply dismayed by the fact that, despite being just 1% of the Canadian population, Jews are the victims of approximately 70% of all religiously motivated attacks and nearly 20% of all hate crimes in Canada, as revealed by police reports.

We especially grieve the knowledge that these statistics are not just numbers on a page but represent real people, families, friends and fellow citizens whose sense of welcome and safety has been profoundly undermined by hurtful words, threats, harassment, vandalism and violence.

While we have advocated for our Palestinian Christian siblings and their civilian Muslim neighbours, we do not advocate against Jews, we fully recognize the State of Israel, and we pray for lasting security and peace for everyone.

As people of peace, we stand up for Canadian Jews and stand against anyone who would diminish their inherent dignity, religious freedom and civic rights. We believe that every Jewish child, young person and adult in Canada has an inalienable right to live without fear of hatred, intimidation or violence.

May every member of your community have deep peace, strength, safety and reassurance as we, together, strive to make our country secure for all its citizens.

In friendship and with kindest blessings,



The Most Reverend Shane Parker
Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada