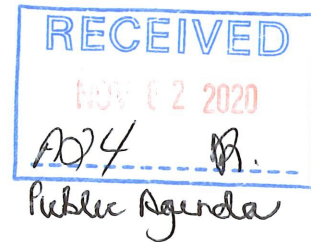




**HALTON
POLICE
BOARD**
EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE



To: The Regional Municipality of Halton
The City of Burlington
The Town of Halton Hills
The Town of Milton
The Town of Oakville
Canadian Police Boards

From: Rob Burton, Chair, Halton Police Board

Date: October 30, 2020

Re: International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Definition of Antisemitism

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

On June 25, 2019, the Hon. Pablo Rodriguez, PC, MP, then-Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism, announced that the Government of Canada would adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism as part of *Building a Foundation for Change: Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2019-2022*.

The IHRA's definition, explained further at its website <https://www.cija.ca/ihra/>, is as follows:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

Accordingly, at its meeting of October 29, 2020, the Halton Police Board adopted the following resolution:

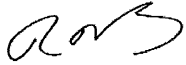
THAT the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism as adopted by the Parliament of Canada be endorsed by the Halton Police Board, and;

THAT the Board Chair write a letter to the Councils of the Regional Municipality of Halton, the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, the Town of Milton, the

Town of Oakville and all Police Boards in Canada encouraging them to endorse the IHRA definition.

I invite you to consider adopting a similar resolution at your respective Councils and Boards in order to demonstrate support for Canada's Jewish Community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Burton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rob Burton
Chair, Halton Police Board



NATIONAL POST

A global rise in anti-Semitism could turn back the clock – even in Canada

Opinion: If Jews feel they do not belong in Europe seven decades after the Holocaust, can any Diaspora community afford complacency?

2018 IS THE NEW 1939

Concerned that your kids are growing up in a world where antisemitism is on the rise?

Then you want the IHRA Definition.

Learn more at [cija.ca/ihra/](https://www.cija.ca/ihra/)

Why is the IHRA Definition Important?

Jun 20, 2019 | Antisemitism, The IHRA Definition

Peddlers of antisemitism must be held accountable.

Now, authorities can clearly and consistently identify acts of Jew hatred. CIJA has been calling on all three levels of government to use the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism. The IHRA definition – which has been adopted by dozens of democratic countries, now including Canada – is a vital tool in countering the global rise in antisemitism.

The adoption of the IHRA definition is a major milestone in the struggle against antisemitism. The IHRA definition sets a strong example and offers a practical tool for authorities – from police and prosecutors, to school principals and campus officials – as they work to tackle antisemitism on the ground across Canada.

The IHRA definition is especially crucial in cases of antisemitism masquerading as criticism of Israel. It declares that hatred of Jews includes applying antisemitic

tropes to Israel, singling out and denying Jewish people's legitimate right to self-determination, accusing Israelis of blood libels, and holding Israel to double standards. The IHRA definition clearly exposes how the demonization of Israel is antisemitism, pure and simple.

The time has come for Canadian authorities at all levels to adopt and use the IHRA definition to fight antisemitism, and the federal government has taken a giant leap of progress.

The IHRA Definition:

In the spirit of the Stockholm Declaration that states: "With humanity still scarred by ...antisemitism and xenophobia the international community shares a solemn responsibility to fight those evils" the committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial called the IHRA Plenary in Budapest 2015 to adopt the following working definition of antisemitism.

On 26 May 2016, the Plenary in Bucharest decided to:

Adopt the following non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism:

"Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

To guide IHRA in its work, the following examples may serve as illustrations:

Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for "why things go wrong." It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.

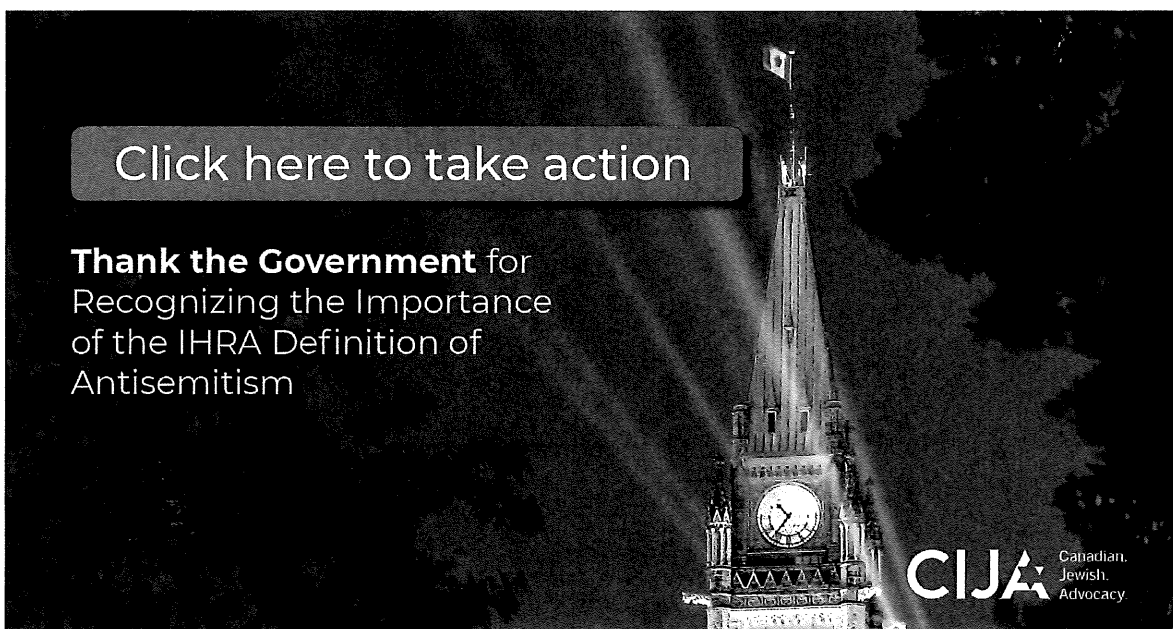
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property — such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries — are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

Please take a moment to thank the Government of Canada for taking action to fight antisemitism here.



Stay in the know!

Get all the latest information from our Newsletter *CIJA: Week in Review*.

Name*

First

Last

Email*

Postal Code*