

January 27, 2025

International Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony
Monday, January 27, 2025 – Ottawa
Ceremony marking the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz

B'nai Brith Canada (“B'nai Brith”), founded in 1875, is the country’s most senior human rights organization. Our organization is dedicated to eradicating antisemitism, racism, and hatred in all its forms, championing the rights of the marginalized and serving as the voice of Canada’s grassroots Jewish community.

The name B'nai Brith is derived from Hebrew scriptures and refers to the covenant between God and the Jewish people. It represents a fundamentally Jewish conception of social responsibility that animates everything we do, from vital community support programs to communal and legal advocacy. These sacred values teach us to be good people and good citizens – aspirations embodied in our motto, “people helping people.”

This year, as B'nai Brith marks its 150th anniversary, we remain steadfast in pursuing this mission. We plan to celebrate our history through community gatherings and other special events across the country. We will not only commemorate our advocacy and community initiatives but honour B'nai Brith’s role in challenging racism, hatred, and discrimination in Canada, upholding Canadian values and creating a more inclusive society.

This milestone for B'nai Brith coincides with the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. The occasion, of profound significance to the Jewish people, is at once both a celebration of our collective resilience and a reminder of the millions we lost during the Shoah. At a time when antisemitism is rising in Canada, this anniversary must also bring awareness to the fact that the Holocaust is receding from popular memory. The convergence of B'nai Brith’s anniversary with this important day in Jewish history reaffirms the need for our organization’s leadership in preserving the legacy of the Holocaust, combating racism and hatred in all its forms, and working to foster a diverse and democratic society in Canada.



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