



The Centre for Israel
and Jewish Affairs

Le Centre consultatif des
relations juives et israéliennes

The Canadian Holocaust Monument serves as a symbol of the importance Canadian Jews place on education, civic responsibility, and public service. The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) is honoured to have had a role in its creation, preserving the memory of those lost and the enduring contributions of Jews to the world. We share in the important commemoration this year that marks 80 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and stand with all Canadians in offering our profound respect to all those who fought for freedom and justice.

With the passage of time, it has become increasingly important to preserve memories of the Holocaust, because Holocaust education is not just about the past. At this time of rising hate and antisemitism, it is critical that we come together to renew our collective commitment to the Canadian values of human rights and democracy. There are many ways to illustrate our shared pledge of #NeverAgain, among them important commemorations such as today's recognition of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and of those who lost their lives to the hate of Nazism. CIJA is honoured to be a part of this important event.

As the advocacy agent of Jewish Federations of Canada-UIA, representing Jewish Federations across Canada, CIJA's mission is to preserve and protect Jewish life in Canada through advocacy. Among our main priorities are combatting antisemitism and ensuring the security of the Jewish community and its institutions. 80 years after the Holocaust, antisemitism has reared its ugly head again in Canada – on campuses, in school classrooms, in workplaces, union meetings, and elsewhere – and CIJA continues our work to identify, address, and eradicate hate in all its forms.

As the Canadian affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, and as Canada's representative to the Claims Conference and to the World Jewish Restitution Organization, CIJA is also connected to the wider Jewish community internationally.

This monument where you are now standing is a testament to our work to educate Canadians – young and old – regarding the importance of Israel to Canadian Jewish identity and the dangers of antisemitism to all Canadians.

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) is the advocacy agent of Jewish Federations of Canada-UIA, representing Jewish Federations across Canada.

Le Centre consultatif des relations juives et israéliennes (CIJA) est l'agence de représentation de Fédérations juives du Canada UIA, représentant les fédérations juives à travers le Canada.