

*The new law I have decided to propose hits very close to home, as someone who experienced first-hand antisemitism on campus and in my city streets, which got exponentially worse after October 7, 2023. It was very frustrating to see the federal government and local law enforcement do very little to put a stop to this hate. Similar to what we saw at the US congressional hearings in December, 2023, I believe the crux of the issue is the legal ambiguity as to what constitutes antisemitic hate speech and incitement of violence towards Jew. Thus, while some universities or municipal governments may condemn certain demonstrations, or may not condemn them, as in the case of the Harvard president, they may have very little legal power to put a stop to it, since the definition of hate speech when it comes to Jews remains unclear.*

**New Canadian Law:  
Bill C-18: The Protection of Jewish Communities and Prevention of  
Antisemitism Act**

Whereas Canada is committed to fostering an inclusive and tolerant society, free from all forms of hate, discrimination, and bigotry, including antisemitism; and

Whereas the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism is recognized by liberal democracies globally as a framework for identifying and combatting antisemitism, including by Canada in 2019 as part of our broader Anti-Racism Strategy; and

Whereas acts of hate, including antisemitism, undermine the dignity, safety, and human rights of individuals and communities, posing a threat to the democratic fabric of our society; and

Whereas Canada recognizes the unique enduring harm that antisemitism has caused Jewish communities and seeks to prevent such acts in all forms.

**Section 1: Title**

- This act will be called the *Protection of Jewish Communities and Prevention of Antisemitism Act*

**Section 2: Implementation of the IHRA Definition of Antisemitism**

- The Government of Canada adopts the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism as a legally binding reference for identifying antisemitic conduct, speech, and actions within Canada.
- This definition shall be used by law enforcement agencies, educational institutions, and all authorities to assess incidents of antisemitic speech, conduct, or behavior.

**Section 3: Hate Speech and Incitement of Hate**

- Any act, speech, or demonstration that violates the IHRA definition of antisemitism — including but not limited to the promotion of hatred against Jews, denial of Israel’s right to exist, or incitement of violence—will be subject to criminal charges under the Criminal Code of Canada, including for hate speech and incitement of violence.

#### **Section 4: University and Educational Institution Responsibilities**

- Universities and other educational institutions shall be required to adopt policies and practices consistent with the IHRA definition, to ensure that any antisemitic actions, speech, or incidents on campus are addressed promptly and in accordance with the law.
- Demonstrations, such as staged “walk-outs” or encampments on university lawns, which violate the IHRA definition, such as calls for “intifada” or “death to Zionists”, must be reported immediately to law enforcement for investigation.

#### **Section 5: Enforcement and Penalties**

- Any person or entity found guilty of violating this act will be subject to face these penalties as determined by the courts:
- A fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$500,000 for organizations; a prison sentence of up to 5 years; a permanent injunction prohibiting the individual or organization from engaging in further antisemitic speech, behavior, or demonstrations; orders for the removal of hate symbols or materials; and mandated attendance for weekly anti-hate lectures for up to 1 year.