



## **Faith Communities Responding to Hate Based on Religious Identity**

**May 2026**

*In response to the recent acts of violence targeting the Jewish community and the Muslim community in Canada, the Canadian Interfaith Conversation releases the following statement.*

Bullets and graffiti, slurs and insults targeting religious and cultural communities and landmarks in Canada remind us that hate, discrimination and prejudice based on religious identity remain present in Canadian society.

We must not allow conflicts elsewhere to divide Canadians here. Canada must remain a safe home for all who seek shelter, peace, belonging, justice, and community.

The line between good and evil does not run between Canadians but instead lives in the human heart. Our shared divine imperative is to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

May we never waver from calling out and condemning violence against others when we see it.

May we never tire of doing good, and of expressing our empathy, compassion, care, and solidarity with those who are victims of violence, discrimination, and hate.

May faith communities lead in calling for justice, build ties of friendship and affection with one another, and contribute to seeking solutions to conflicts both here and abroad.

May faithful commitments to human dignity, human rights, and right relations with all creation and one another point us toward love and unity.

This is why...

### **We, the Canadian Interfaith Conversation, recommit to:**

- Work for understanding, for justice, and for peace.
- Stand against hate of any kind in Canada. No one should be subject to racism, violence, silencing, or retaliation because of religion, indigeneity, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender, or nationality.
- Reject any glorification of the perpetrators of violence and those who sow discrimination and hatred, especially in our own communities.

- Urge our communities never to allow their faith to become a cause for hatred of another human being.
- Express our ties of solidarity and stand with one another when any of our communities are targets of discrimination, hate, or violence.

The Statement of [Faith Communities Standing Against Hate Based on Religious Identity](#) was prepared by the Canadian Interfaith Conversation and has been endorsed by the leadership of 72 religious, spiritual, and cultural communities in Canada.

**This statement is endorsed by the Members of the Executive Committee of this Canadian Interfaith Conversation.**

As members of the Executive Committee, we recognize that leadership in times of division requires both words and action. We reaffirm our shared responsibility to foster trust, stand with one another, and ensure that no community feels isolated or unheard.

Together, we remain committed to advancing a Canada where dignity, respect, and unity prevail through continued engagement and collaboration.

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