What is B’nai Brith?

Introduction

B’nai Brith International is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people around the globe. It is a global leader in advancing human rights; Israel advocacy; ensuring access to safe and affordable housing for low-income seniors and advocacy on vital issues concerning seniors and their families; diversity education; improving communities and helping communities in crisis.

B’nai Brith was present at the founding of the United Nations in San Francisco and has taken an active role ever since as an NGO (non-governmental organization) advocating for Israel and human rights at the U.N. and other international organizations.

No other Jewish organization can point to a longer, more all-encompassing history of service to Jews and all people around the world. B’nai Brith Canada is the Canadian affiliate of B’nai B’rith International

What is B’nai Brith Canada?

B’nai Brith is recognized as a vital voice in promoting Jewish unity and continuity, a staunch defender of the State of Israel and global Jewry, a tireless advocate on behalf of senior citizens, and a leader in combatting antisemitism and racism. We operate the country’s only 24-hour/7-days-a-week anti-hate hotline combatting antisemitism and racism and annually produce the ‘Audit of Antisemitic Incidents’, recognized internationally as Canada’s definitive report on antisemitism. We are the grassroots voice of the Jewish Community.

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How is B'nai Brith Canada different?

Unlike many other groups, we are completely self-funded, and we rely entirely on the generosity of individual supporters and organizations to allow us to succeed. B'nai Brith has ties to all parts of Canadian society and is a champion of democracy and freedom for all.

We are the country's oldest Jewish advocacy organization, with roots going back to 1875. We have been tracking antisemitism trends in Canada for more than thirty years, and have decades of experience and volumes of work behind us. We make decisions based on regular consultations with the community, informed by our experience and expertise. Because of our close ties with the community, it is hard to find a single Jewish family in Canada that does not have a direct connection with our historical legacy.

How is B'nai Brith in Canada related to B'nai B'rith International?

B'nai Brith Canada is the Canadian affiliate of B'nai Brith International (BBI). B'nai Brith International, with members in more than 50 countries around the world, is the world's oldest Jewish service organization. While B'nai Brith is an independent Canadian organization, we work closely with B'nai Brith International. For example, B'nai Brith Canada participates in the annual B'nai Brith International delegation to meet world leaders in New York for the opening of the United Nations General Assembly. We also regularly participate in numerous international functions cooperatively with BBI, in places such as Geneva, Jerusalem and Washington.

What are the Anti-Defamation League and the League for Human Rights?

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) fights antisemitism and all forms of bigotry in the United States and internationally through information, education, legislation and advocacy. It serves as a resource for government, media, law enforcement, educators and the public, with a network of 27 regional and satellite offices in the United States and an office in Israel. B'nai Brith Canada collaborates with the Anti-Defamation League and The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada fulfills the same mandate in Canada.
The League for Human Rights, an agency of B’nai Brith Canada, is dedicated to combating antisemitism and racism at home and around the world. It is the authoritative voice on issues of antisemitism in Canada, best known for its annual ‘Audit of Antisemitic Incidents in Canada’, the premier Canadian study of its kind, recognized by entities such as The United States Department of State, Statistics Canada, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, among others, as the authoritative document reflecting antisemitic trends in Canada. The League operates the Jewish Community's only 24/7 anti-hate hotline.

The League advocates for the human rights of all Canadians by building inter-community relationships, conducting educational programs, and engaging in community action and legal/legislative interventions. The League also advocates for global human rights by working closely with international organizations and agencies, hosting conferences, lectures and educational forums, and engaging government and policy makers at all levels in the combat of human rights abuses.

Reference Materials

A copy of the latest Audit of Antisemitic Incidents in Canada, released in April, 2018, can be found at: https://www.bnaibrith.ca/audit

Information on B’nai Brith Canada is found at: http://www.bnaibrith.ca/

Information on the League for Human Rights is found at: http://www.bnaibrith.ca/league/

Information on B’nai Brith International is found at: http://www.bnaibrith.org/

Information on the Anti-Defamation League is found at: https://www.adl.org/.