



ALBERTA
JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Acadia*

AR 52496

September 28, 2022

Dear Mayor/Reeve:

The Government of Alberta is recognizing and endorsing the following International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of anti-Semitism through an order-in-council.

“Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

Thirty-five countries, including Canada in 2019, endorsed or adopted this definition. Along with Alberta, three other provinces: Ontario (2020), Québec (2021) and New Brunswick (2021) have already endorsed or adopted the definition.

The *Alberta Human Rights Act* prohibits discrimination on the basis of several categories, including race, religious beliefs, colour, ancestry, and place of origin. All forms of racism are unacceptable, and endorsing this definition is just one way Alberta’s government is combating racism, supporting racialized communities, and promoting a safe and welcoming province for everyone.

The Government of Alberta is asking all municipalities across Alberta to consider accepting and amending their bylaws to reflect this definition.

Sincerely,

Honourable Tyler Shandro, KC, ECA

cc: Honourable Ric McIver, ECA, Minister of Municipal Affairs