

Canadian Universities Antisemitism Report - 2024 -

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Canadian Universities Antisemitism Report 2024

The Abraham Global Peace Initiative

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Editorial Note: This document serves as a provisional and dynamic tool designed for the ongoing surveillance and assessment of instances of antisemitism within Canadian academic institutions. Functioning as an interim report, AGPI diligently scrutinizes all reported incidents occurring within campus environments. The information contained in this report is exclusively derived from publicly accessible, open-source news reports. This document undergoes regular editorial revisions and updates to accommodate emerging information. It is important to note that the document does not claim to comprehensively capture all incidents. AGPI welcomes communication from universities, encouraging them to provide pertinent details regarding measures taken, which could potentially influence the assessment. In the event of any overlooked significant occurrence, we invite readers to contact us at office@agpi.ca.

Executive Summary

This report delves into the alarming rise of antisemitism on Canadian university campuses, shedding light on multifaceted challenges faced by Jewish students and faculty. The surge is particularly notable in the context of debates surrounding anti-Zionism, free speech protections for professors, student union activities, the role of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) departments, and the pervasive sense of insecurity experienced by Jewish members of the campus community.

1. **Anti-Zionism versus Antisemitism – A Controversial Distinction:** One key contributor to the rise in antisemitism on campuses is the contentious debate surrounding the distinction between anti-Zionism and antisemitism. Some individuals argue that criticism of the State of Israel should be exempt from the label of antisemitism, creating an environment where anti-Israel sentiments often spill into outright hostility towards Jewish individuals. The report meticulously explores instances where anti-Zionism serves as a thinly veiled guise for antisemitic rhetoric and actions, contributing to an unwelcome atmosphere for Jewish members of the campus community.
2. **Free Speech and Academic Freedom – Shielding Professors Amidst Controversy:** Another noteworthy factor is the protection granted to professors under the umbrella of free speech and academic freedom. While these principles are vital to fostering a robust intellectual environment, there have been instances where the line between scholarly discourse and promoting antisemitic ideologies becomes blurred. The report critically examines how the safeguarding of academic freedom sometimes inadvertently provides cover for expressions that contribute to the marginalization of Jewish students and faculty.
3. **Student Union Involvement in Pro-Palestinian Initiatives – A Cause for Concern:** The report highlights the role of student unions in organizing or endorsing pro-Palestinian events and spaces, often without due consideration for fostering an inclusive environment for all students. While expressing solidarity with various causes is integral to the university experience, instances of one-sided support for pro-Palestinian initiatives, without an equal commitment to addressing antisemitism, can contribute to a divisive and exclusionary campus climate.
4. **DEI Departments and the Silence on Antisemitism:** The report sheds light on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) departments, which, despite their mandate to address discrimination, have been observed to inadequately confront antisemitism. By scrutinizing the responses of DEI departments to antisemitic incidents, the report underscores the need for a more comprehensive approach to combating all forms of discrimination, including antisemitism.
5. **Persistent Insecurity – The Impact on Jewish Students and Faculty:** Perhaps most disconcerting is the repeated feeling of insecurity among Jewish students and faculty

members on Canadian campuses. Through personal testimonies and statistical analyses, the report paints a vivid picture of the challenges faced by the Jewish community, urging universities to take concrete actions to ensure the safety and well-being of all their members.

6. **Province-by-Province Analysis – Understanding Regional Nuances:** The comprehensive report further dissects the rise of antisemitism by providing a province-by-province breakdown, offering insights into regional nuances and specific challenges faced by universities across Canada. This nuanced approach seeks to guide targeted interventions and foster a collective commitment to combating antisemitism on a national scale.

By examining the intersections of anti-Zionism, academic freedom, student union involvement, DEI department responses, and the impact on Jewish individuals, AGPI sets out to catalyze informed dialogue and action towards creating more inclusive and secure learning environments for all.

Statement of Concerns: The Escalation of Antisemitism and Anti-Zionism on Canadian University Campuses - A Critical Examination of Impacts and Implications

The rise of antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and anti-Jewish hate on university and college campuses in Canada is a matter of growing concern, warranting a thorough academic investigation and examination. This report addresses the impact and implications of such ideologies, particularly how academic and student unions have veiled their antisemitism under the umbrella of anti-Zionism, disseminating misinformation about the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, specifically pertaining to Hamas. Moreover, the report highlights the misapplication of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism, with critics claiming it restricts their criticism of Israel, while failing to acknowledge the evident double standard applied to the only Jewish state and liberal democracy in the Middle East.

1. Campus Atmosphere and Jewish Student Safety:

Jewish students and faculty on Canadian campuses have experienced an alarming increase in incidents that jeopardize their safety and well-being. Instances of intimidation, harassment, and, regrettably, violent behavior against Jewish students and Jewish clubs have created an environment where Jewish individuals feel unwelcome, unsafe, and uneasy. The blatant targeting of Jewish students based on their identity has raised serious concerns about the effectiveness of current Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) policies, as they appear insufficient in safeguarding the rights and security of Jewish students.

2. Misinformation Campaigns and Distorted Narratives:

A crucial aspect of the academic concern lies in the deliberate spread of misinformation regarding the Israeli-Hamas war and the role of Hamas in the Palestinian territories. The conflation of criticism of Israel with antisemitism, coupled with the portrayal of Hamas as freedom fighters, contributes to a distorted narrative that further marginalizes Jewish students and reinforces prejudiced perspectives. The failure to distinguish between legitimate criticism of Israeli policies and discriminatory ideologies contributes to a toxic environment that hinders open dialogue and constructive debate on the complex issues surrounding the Middle East.

3. EDI Policies and the Mischaracterization of Jewish Identity:

Current EDI policies have inadvertently contributed to the mischaracterization of Jewish identity on campuses. Framing Jews as white, colonial, and apartheid oppressors oversimplifies the diverse perspectives within the Jewish community and perpetuates harmful stereotypes. The categorization of Jews in this manner not only erases the rich cultural and historical nuances within the community but also fosters an environment where antisemitic sentiments can thrive unchecked.

The academic report underscores the pressing need for a comprehensive examination of the impact and implications of rising antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and anti-Jewish hate on Canadian university and college campuses. Addressing the challenges faced by Jewish students and faculty necessitates a multifaceted approach, including revisiting and enhancing existing EDI policies, fostering open dialogue on Middle Eastern issues, and actively countering misinformation campaigns. Only through such measures can Canadian academic institutions truly uphold the principles of inclusivity, diversity, and a safe learning environment for all.

University Antisemitism Report Card Criteria

Institutional Policies	
Commitment	Clearly articulated commitment to combating antisemitism in official university policies and mission statements.
Anti-discrimination Policies	Comprehensive and up-to-date anti-discrimination policies that explicitly address antisemitism as a form of discrimination.
Reporting Mechanisms	Well-defined and accessible mechanisms for reporting antisemitic incidents, ensuring confidentiality and swift action.

Education and Awareness	
Diversity and Inclusion Programs	Active participation in diversity programs addressing religious diversity, with specific attention to combating antisemitism.
Awareness Campaigns	Regular and effective awareness campaigns that educate the university community about antisemitism and its consequences.

Faculty and Staff Training	
Training Programs	Ongoing training programs for faculty and staff on recognizing and addressing antisemitic behavior and incidents.
Sensitivity and Inclusivity	Ensuring faculty and staff are well-versed in creating an inclusive environment that rejects antisemitic attitudes and actions.

Incident Response	
Timely Response	Demonstrated ability to promptly address and investigate reported antisemitic incidents, fostering a sense of security.
Support for Victims	Comprehensive support services for victims, including counseling and assistance in navigating legal and academic processes.

Campus Culture	
Inclusive Events	Promotion and hosting of events that celebrate religious and cultural diversity, fostering a more inclusive campus culture.
Interfaith Initiatives	Active involvement in interfaith initiatives that promote dialogue and understanding among different religious communities.

Monitoring and Assessment	
Incident Tracking	Effective monitoring and tracking mechanisms to assess the prevalence and trends of antisemitic incidents on campus.
Regular Assessments	Conducting regular assessments of the campus climate regarding antisemitism and adjusting policies based on the findings.

British Columbia

Royal Roads University

In response to recent events surrounding the Israel-Hamas war, Royal Roads University has unequivocally declared its commitment to combating hate and violence. As a champion of respectful dialogue and diversity, the university places a high value on safety and respect, actively opposing racism and discrimination in all forms. This commitment gains increased significance amid a notable surge in antisemitic sentiment across Canada, including within post-secondary institutions. The rise of antisemitism on Canadian university campuses poses a serious threat to creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for Jewish students and faculty. Reports of anti-Islamic incidents further exacerbate the alarming situation. Royal Roads University asserts that everyone has the right to live, work, and learn free of fear, prioritizing the safety and well-being of its community. That said, the documented increase in antisemitic incidents on Canadian campuses contributes to an unsafe learning and working environments for all Jewish individuals within the university community, compromising core values of openness and respect for diverse perspectives. By addressing this issue, the university aims to cultivate an atmosphere where all community members can thrive without fear of discrimination or harassment. The commitment to providing resources for support, including counseling services and security measures, underscores Royal Roads University's dedication to ensuring the safety and well-being of its diverse community.

AGPI would assign Royal Roads University, an overall grade of **B+**. The university demonstrates a strong commitment to combating hate and violence, actively opposing racism and discrimination. The explicit mention of addressing antisemitism and the commitment to providing resources for support, including counseling services and security measures, underscores their dedication to ensuring a safe and inclusive environment. However, there is room for improvement in some areas, such as the need for more explicit and comprehensive policies and increased focus on education and awareness programs related to antisemitism.

Simon Fraser University

Simon Fraser University (SFU) is contending with a series of concerning incidents that collectively contribute to an unsafe learning environment for Jewish students. Threatening messages, incidents seemingly antisemitic in tone and focus, biased media coverage, and controversial remarks have become pervasive issues. Notably, open petitions at SFU have labeled Israel as a genocidal state and provided a bias lens on the terrorism Hamas perpetrated on Israel on October 7, reflect a concerning trend of antisemitism on campus. Furthermore, Hillel has faced constant challenges, by specifically being denied room bookings due to the Simon Fraser Student Society's (SFSS) BDS stance, while complaints suggest the Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies (CCMS) has continuously hosted anti-Israel events without similar repercussions. These issues underscore a broader issue—the veiled nature of antisemitism at schools with small Jewish populations, where incidents might go unnoticed or unaddressed. The denial of room bookings for Hillel, despite concerns about anti-Israel events hosted by CCMS, exemplifies the challenges faced by

Jewish students in addressing discriminatory actions. The absence of explicit acknowledgment of antisemitism in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) frameworks further compounds the problem, as the complexity of Jewish identities and their ambivalent racialized status remains unaddressed. In response to these challenges, AGPI proposes the establishment of an SFU antisemitism task force. It highlights the essential commitment within the SFU EDI framework to actively condemn and address antisemitism. The recent controversy surrounding Dr. Natalie Knight's remarks at a pro-Palestinian rally, where she seemingly glorified attacks by Hamas, adds further gravity to the concerns. The demand for both Langara College and SFU to sever ties with Knight underscores the need for accountability. The goal is to cultivate inclusivity, understanding, and a more accurate representation of diverse perspectives on the Israel-Hamas war. The increase in reported and investigated incidents, coupled with biased media coverage and controversial remarks, collectively creates an environment conducive to campus antisemitism at Simon Fraser University. AGPI believes that a comprehensive approach is necessary, including explicit acknowledgment of antisemitism in EDI frameworks, the establishment of a task force, and active condemnation of antisemitism by universities. The focus should be on fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students, regardless of their backgrounds or beliefs.

AGPI would assign Simon Fraser University (SFU), an overall grade of **C**. SFU is facing a series of troubling incidents contributing to an unsafe learning environment for Jewish students, including threatening messages, acts of antisemitism, biased media coverage, and controversial remarks. The absence of explicit acknowledgment of antisemitism in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) frameworks is a significant concern, as it may compound the issues faced by the Jewish community on campus. The proposed establishment of a task force is a positive step, but there is a need for more direct confrontation of antisemitic incidents and a comprehensive approach to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment. The controversy surrounding Dr. Natalie Knight's remarks adds further gravity to the situation, emphasizing the need for accountability in addressing such matters.

Thompson Rivers University

AGPI is happy to report that given extensive research and investigation, there were no significant reports of campus antisemitism this year.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of British Columbia

The Israel-Hamas conflict has had repercussions at the University of British Columbia (UBC) campus. 'I (heart) Hamas' stickers found on campus and allegedly attributed to UBC's Social Justice Centre led to increased tension between Jewish and Muslim students on campus. Following an investigation, the UBC Social Justice Centre filed a lawsuit against Hillel and an independent contractor for allegedly distributing the stickers themselves. Contrary to initial information, Hillel BC has adamantly denied any knowledge or involvement in the stickers. While social media backlash against UBC Social Justice Centre members had escalated, claims made by the centre said that these stickers had been endangering the well-being of targeted students and creating an atmosphere of fear and hostility. Despite the UBC Social Justice Centre's denial of involvement, concerns persist about the safety of students amid heightened tensions from the Israel-Hamas war. UBC's response involved removing stickers, implementing increased security measures, and reporting to law enforcement, highlighting the severity of the situation. The lack of communication among UBC, Hillel BC, and the UBC Social Justice Centre underscores the necessity for a thorough investigation and collaborative efforts to ensure a safer environment and protect the academic freedom of racialized students on campus. Furthermore, UBC faces a \$15 million proposed class-action lawsuit for alleged failure to address "antisemitic sentiments" over decades. The lawsuit, representing Jewish students since 1998, cites specific incidents, including an attack on a Jewish student in residence and controversial speaker invitations. Similar lawsuits against other Canadian universities indicate a broader concern about campus safety and handling incidents related to antisemitism amid the Israel-Hamas war, leading to discussions on these issues. The legal action involves representative plaintiffs and targets UBC, as well as entities like the Alma Mater Society of UBC, the Students' Union Okanagan, and the Graduate Student Society.

AGPI would assign the University of British Columbia (UBC), an overall grade of a **D**. The distribution of 'I (heart) Hamas' stickers allegedly attributed to the UBC Social Justice Centre, resulting in increased tensions on campus. The escalation of social media backlash with derogatory comments and attempts to locate residences creates an atmosphere of fear and hostility. UBC's response in removing stickers, implementing increased security measures, and reporting to law enforcement shows recognition of the severity of the situation. However, the lack of communication among UBC, Hillel BC, and the UBC Social Justice Centre raises concerns, and the proposed class-action lawsuit for alleged failure to address antisemitic sentiments over decades suggests systemic issues that need thorough investigation and collaborative efforts to ensure a safer environment.

University of Northern British Columbia

AGPI is happy to report that given extensive research and investigation, there were no significant reports of campus antisemitism this year.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to

fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of Victoria

The surge in antisemitism on Canadian university campuses, exemplified by incidents at the University of Victoria (UVic), has created a deeply troubling and unsafe learning and working environment for Jewish students and faculty. Reported events in April depict a distressing pattern of harassment, isolation, and discrimination against Jewish students, faculty, and staff. In one shocking incident, it was reported that students wearing kippot had been physically assaulted, including being spat on, accompanied by derogatory remarks such as “dirty Jews.” Online harassment and discomfort for those attending in-person classes further contributed to an overarching sense of insecurity. Within classrooms, instances of professors and teaching assistants expressing anti-Israel opinions added to an atmosphere where Jewish students admitted to feeling targeted and unwelcomed. The organization of rallies featuring antisemitic chants and calls for boycotts contributed to the hostile environment, with disruptions at a board of governors meeting and the display of provocative posters underscoring the challenges faced by the Jewish community at the University of Victoria. The response from campus authorities, as indicated by Hillel and concerned faculty members, reveals a lack of effective action and support. The failure to address posters advocating violence against Israel, non-committal responses from university officials, and contradictory statements from the society contribute to the perception that the university is not adequately safeguarding its Jewish community. Professor David Zimmerman's comparison to events in 1933 Germany underscores the severity of the situation. The fear expressed by faculty, including Zimmerman himself, and the unsuccessful attempt to contact the university president highlight the urgency of addressing antisemitism on campus. While upholding freedom of expression, the university must balance this with ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for all members, irrespective of their background or beliefs. Concrete actions are imperative to address antisemitism and foster an atmosphere of respect and understanding. Recent disruptions during a board of governors meeting, allegedly advocating for a stronger stance on the Middle East conflict and divestment from companies associated with Israel's military and police, highlight a challenging and polarized campus environment. The university's response, criticized by the student group, emphasizes a perceived lack of clarity and action on global justice matters. UVic's undergraduate student union acknowledges these issues, reflecting broader challenges faced by students from different backgrounds. The upcoming panel on Palestine by UVic professors, shrouded in secrecy due to safety concerns, further underscores the need for additional security measures on campus. The division over the Israel-Hamas war disrupts university governance and fosters an atmosphere of heightened sensitivity and fear among students. The clash between advocacy groups, the university's responses, and reported incidents of harassment highlight the complexity of navigating discussions on contentious global issues within an academic setting. The demand for clearer intentions, honesty, and responsibility in addressing matters of global justice reflects the ongoing struggle to find common ground and ensure a safe and inclusive environment for all members of the university community.

AGPI would assign the University of Victoria (UVic), an overall grade of a **D-**. The surge in antisemitic incidents, including physical assaults, online harassment, and disruptive rallies, creates a deeply troubling and unsafe environment for Jewish students and faculty. The reported lack of effective action and support from campus authorities, non-committal responses, contradictory statements, and a perceived failure to safeguard the Jewish community contribute to the low grade. The fear expressed by faculty, unsuccessful attempts to contact the university president, and disruptions during a board of governors meeting further highlight the urgency of addressing antisemitism on campus. Clear actions and a commitment to ensuring a safe and inclusive environment are imperative to improve the situation.

Alberta

Mount Royal University

In the wake of concerns raised by various Jewish community organizations, Mount Royal University (MRU) faced scrutiny over the 2023 Calgary Peace Prize and its recipient, Mohammed El-Kurd, an anti-Israel activist with a history of antisemitic remarks. In 2023, AGPI called on MRU to disavow the award. MRU responded by attempting to distance itself from the Calgary Peace Prize, asserting that it is not an MRU initiative but rather an independent effort by a faculty member. However, past announcements on the university's website contradicted this claim, stating that the prize was “awarded by the Peace Studies Initiative at Mount Royal University.” El-Kurd's selection prompted criticism for his extreme anti-Israel views, including celebrating suicide bombers, comparing Israel to the Nazi regime, and advocating violence against Jews. Furthermore, AGPI raised concerns, leading MRU to again clarify that the prize is not directly affiliated with the university. MRU emphasized that El-Kurd's views do not represent the institution, expressing opposition to antisemitism. Amidst the controversy, AGPI stressed the need for clarity, stating that MRU's past involvement in the award raises questions. In so doing, to ensure transparency and prevent future ties, AGPI urged the university to explicitly renounce the Calgary Peace Prize.

AGPI would assign Mount Royal University (MRU) an overall grade of a **C-**. While MRU responded by attempting to distance itself from the Calgary Peace Prize and clarifying that it is not directly affiliated with the university, the conflicting statements and past announcements on the university's website raise questions about transparency and consistency. The concerns raised by AGPI, prompting MRU to clarify its stance and express opposition to antisemitism, are positive steps. However, the controversy and the need for repeated clarifications indicate a lack of clear communication and proactive measures in handling the situation. To improve the grade, MRU should work towards ensuring transparency, consistency in messaging, and take proactive steps to prevent future ties with initiatives that may involve individuals with a history of antisemitic remarks.

University of Alberta

The University of Alberta has faced a series of controversies that have heightened concerns about antisemitism on Canadian university campuses. A revelation regarding the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies' endowment fund, named after Yaroslav Hunka, associated with a Nazi-linked military unit, stirred controversy. Dated September 28, 2023, the incident revealed a historical connection to Nazism within the university's framework, creating an unsafe environment for Jewish students and faculty. The university responded by returning the \$30,000 funds to the family, acknowledging unintended harm, and committing to combat antisemitism. The resignations of House Speaker Anthony Rota and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's apology underscored the gravity of the situation. Following the Hunka affair, and just weeks following the October 7 Hamas terrorist attack on Israel, the University of Alberta Sexual Assault Centre made headlines for endorsing a widely criticized and alleged antisemitic open letter from Ontario's ex-NDP MPP Sarah Jama which also questioned whether Jewish women, kidnapped by Hamas were

in fact rapped. While this incident may not directly relate to campus-wide antisemitism, it contributes to a perception that the university associates with antisemitic ideologies. Such perceptions can fuel sentiments of discomfort among Jewish students and faculty, urging the university to address concerns and clarify its stance on antisemitism. Despite these controversies, the University of Alberta demonstrated a proactive response by hosting its inaugural Hanukkah celebration. This move, seen as a response to growing concerns about antisemitic incidents, showcases solidarity with the Jewish community and emphasizes the commitment to an inclusive and safe environment for all students. However, incidents involving antisemitism, such as protests featuring antisemitic slogans and handling complaints related to anti-Israel bias, have contributed to an unsafe environment for Jewish students. The university's responses, deemed inadequate, highlight institutional challenges. Instances of dismissive responses and lack of concrete actions may foster an environment where Jewish students feel isolated and unsafe, impacting their academic experience and well-being.

AGPI would assign the University of Alberta, an overall grade of **C+**. The university demonstrated a proactive response by returning funds associated with a Nazi-linked military unit and hosting its inaugural Hanukkah celebration, signaling a commitment to combating antisemitism and fostering inclusivity. However, controversies involving the endorsement of an alleged antisemitic open letter and incidents like protests featuring antisemitic slogans indicate challenges in addressing and preventing antisemitism on campus. The perceived inadequacy in the university's responses to such incidents contributes to an environment where Jewish students may feel isolated and unsafe. Clear communication, concrete actions, and a continued commitment to combating antisemitism are essential to improving the university's approach.

University of Calgary

In October, a deeply disturbing video surfaced, portraying University of Calgary students engaging in a shocking display where they marched and imitated Nazi soldiers while chanting "Heil Hitler." This distressing incident, shared on Instagram, prompted swift condemnation from university officials, who underscored the gravity of Hitler and Nazi atrocities, including the Holocaust. The University of Calgary's Student Conduct Office launched an immediate investigation, vowing to establish a campus environment free of hatred. Recognizing the severity of the situation, the Calgary Jewish Federation and other community groups were informed, emphasizing the need for collective action against offensive behavior trivializing historical horrors. Regrettably, in November, the campus witnessed another alarming incident when explicit and violent antisemitic messages were vandalized in university bathrooms, stating, "Islam will rule Canada, kill the Jews." This incident further highlighted a concerning surge in antisemitic occurrences on Canadian university campuses.

The University of Calgary responded promptly, condemning the vandalism, and initiating an active investigation. The offensive content was swiftly removed, showcasing the institution's commitment to addressing such concerns. However, these incidents underscore the pressing need for comprehensive strategies to combat antisemitism, emphasizing inclusivity, respect, and tolerance in campus culture. As Canadian universities grapple with these challenges, there's an

imperative to implement educational programs and policies that promote intercultural understanding, fostering an environment where diversity is celebrated, and all members feel secure and supported.

The Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) at the University of Calgary came criticism when another concerning incident unfolded on October 20th. It was reported that a second-year Palestinian student pre-empted a regular lecture, presenting a one-sided narrative titled "8 Calls to Action," filled with tropes and misinformation. Jewish students reported feeling threatened and ostracized as a result. In response, a collective of Jewish physicians formed a working group and met with the Dean to address their concerns. They contended that the professor's allowance of such a presentation violated the code of conduct by creating a threatening environment. The group requested the removal of the professor, but the Dean refused to engage or apologize to the students, citing confidentiality rules. Faced with inaction, the students took their concerns to the Calgary Medical Students Association (CMSA), which initially accepted a petition but later reconsidered in favor of a joint statement yet to be determined. In response to these issues, the CSM is taking proactive steps, incorporating education on antisemitism and social media risks into the curriculum. Additionally, they are examining the possibility of including being Jewish in their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policy, aiming to create a more inclusive environment. Despite these positive steps, the working group's inquiry about the professor's status yielded no information, leaving questions about accountability and transparency. Additionally, a physician associated with the CSM posting vile antisemitic tropes on social media. This individual, who also serves as a preceptor to medical students, faced two students requesting not to be placed with him. Unfortunately, the legal team of the faculty deemed his posts as not crossing a line that would warrant action. Undeterred, a complaint has been lodged with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CSPA), with the intention of reporting the matter to the Calgary Police as a hate crime. The Dean has been informed that external organizations may be approached to seek assistance in addressing this issue, emphasizing the need for accountability and proactive measures against hate within educational institutions.

Assigning a grade to the University of Calgary's handling of antisemitism and the creation of a safe and inclusive space for Jewish students, staff, and faculty involves considering both positive and negative aspects of their response. While the university promptly condemned antisemitic incidents and initiated investigations, showcasing a commitment to addressing such concerns, there are areas where improvements could be made. The lack of transparency regarding the status of the professor involved in the controversial presentation and the legal team's response to the physician posting antisemitic tropes raises questions about accountability and communication. Considering these factors, AGPI would tentatively assign a grade of **C+** to the University of Calgary. The university has taken some commendable actions, such as condemning incidents and initiating investigations, but there's room for improvement in terms of transparency and addressing the concerns raised by the affected community. Ongoing efforts to incorporate education on antisemitism and social media risks into the curriculum and exploring inclusion in the DEI policy are positive steps, but continued vigilance and proactive measures are necessary to create a genuinely safe and inclusive environment for all.

University of Lethbridge

AGPI was extremely concerned with a protest organized in mid-November organized by a University of Lethbridge student, associated with the Lethbridge Public Interest Research Group, calling for Israel to stop its attacks in the Gaza Strip, which in turn raised concerns about contributing to the rise of antisemitism on campus. The event, labeled “Ceasefire Now,” took place at City Hall on a date not specified in the information. The protest, although aimed at the Israel-Hamas war, has been criticized for displaying blatant antisemitism and hate, as reported by Garry Kohn, president of the Lethbridge Hebrew congregation. Kohn expressed outrage, stating that the event lacked an understanding of the historical complexities of the Middle East, and he intends to file complaints with the University of Lethbridge and its Student Union. The protest is seen as contributing to a hostile environment for Jewish students and employees, fostering division and reinforcing negative stereotypes.

AGPI would assign the University of Lethbridge, an overall grade of **D**. The protest, labeled "Ceasefire Now," aimed at the Israel-Hamas war, has been criticized for displaying blatant antisemitism and hate. The reported lack of understanding of the historical complexities of the Middle East and the expressed outrage from the president of the Lethbridge Hebrew congregation highlight concerns about fostering a hostile environment for Jewish students and employees. The intention to file complaints with the University of Lethbridge and its Student Union indicates a need for further investigation and response to address the reported antisemitic nature of the protest.

Saskatchewan

University of Regina

Students and faculty at the University of Regina staged a peaceful walkout in early November, aligning with global solidarity movements, to demand an immediate ceasefire and an end to the blockade of humanitarian aid in Gaza. The demonstration aimed to raise awareness about the severe shortage of essential resources such as food, water, medical supplies, and electricity in the Gaza Strip, exacerbated by the ongoing conflict. The protesters emphasized the need for increased awareness and action regarding the humanitarian crisis. Organizer, Ad Hika, highlighted the importance of pressuring leaders to take meaningful action and called for a campus environment that encourages free expression of feelings, education, and transparent sharing of information on social media. The participants, representing various nationalities, expressed their commitment to organizing similar protests until tangible action is taken to address the crisis in Gaza. In response to a pro-Palestinian demonstration at the Saskatchewan Legislature, Premier Scott Moe accused the NDP of supporting antisemitism, specifically pointing to MLA Jennifer Bowes liking a video featuring the chant "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free." Moe asserted that this chant, heard during the demonstration, was antisemitic and accused the NDP of endorsing antisemitism. The premier also accused NDP Leader Carla Beck of holding a secret meeting with protesters, which Beck denied, emphasizing transparency in their discussions about the Israel-Hamas war. The slogan "From the river to the sea" has different interpretations, with Israel advocacy groups deeming it antisemitic, while Palestinians and some Jewish academics argue it is a call for justice, equality, and human rights for Palestinians. The premier stood by his comments and social media post, intensifying the rhetoric following the demonstration and raising concerns about the safety and inclusivity of the university environment.

Given the information provided about the University of Regina's peaceful walkout and the subsequent response from Premier Scott Moe, AGPI would assign a tentative grade of **B-**. The peaceful walkout itself appears to be an expression of free speech and a call for attention to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, with an emphasis on raising awareness and encouraging action. However, the controversy surrounding Premier Scott Moe's accusations and the differing interpretations of the slogan "From the river to the sea" suggest a need for improved understanding, respectful dialogue, and clarity on the use of language during such demonstrations. While it is challenging to assign a precise grade due to the complexity of the situation, a B- reflects the positive aspect of advocating for a cause and the need for further work on fostering inclusive dialogue and understanding diverse perspectives to prevent misunderstandings and accusations related to antisemitism.

University of Saskatchewan

AGPI is happy to report that given extensive research and investigation, there were no significant reports of campus antisemitism this year.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Manitoba

University of Manitoba

The University of Manitoba has grappled with incidents of antisemitism, notably the suspension of a nursing student due to her antisemitic social media posts, condemning the Israeli government and making controversial comparisons. This has raised concerns about increasing antisemitism on campus, potentially impacting the sense of vulnerability among Jewish students. The incident has triggered discussions on how universities address discrimination and navigate freedom of expression. The student's appeal, however, introduces legal and ethical complexities, prompting a potential review of university policies. The outcome may affect community relations, shaping the university's reputation, particularly in its relationships with local Jewish organizations. In December, the university faced another antisemitic incident involving defamatory posters targeting Israel Asper. The swift removal of these posters and collaboration with the Winnipeg Police Service for an investigation emphasize the university's commitment to addressing such incidents. The institution strongly denounces racism and antisemitism, underlining a zero-tolerance policy. This event raises concerns about discriminatory acts, emphasizing the ongoing need for vigilance in fostering an inclusive and respectful academic environment.

AGPI would assign the University of Manitoba's response to antisemitic incidents, a tentative grade of **B+**. The university's swift response to the antisemitic incident involving defamatory posters, including their removal and collaboration with law enforcement for an investigation, reflects a commitment to addressing such incidents promptly. The strong denouncement of racism and antisemitism and the emphasis on a zero-tolerance policy are positive aspects that contribute to a safer and more inclusive environment. However, the initial incident involving the suspension of a nursing student due to antisemitic social media posts raises questions about how universities navigate freedom of expression while addressing discrimination. The ongoing discussions on this matter and the potential review of university policies demonstrate a commitment to addressing legal and ethical complexities. Overall, a B+ is assigned, considering the university's proactive response to the poster incident, commitment to a zero-tolerance policy, and ongoing efforts to navigate the complexities of addressing antisemitism on campus.

University of Winnipeg

The incident on February 2 involving the University of Winnipeg Collegiate Junior Varsity Basketball team, facing disbandment due to antisemitic behavior, prompted swift action from Manitoba Sports Minister Obby Khan. The team's disbandment followed an undisclosed antisemitic incident during a game against the Gray Academy Raiders. The specific nature of the gestures remains undisclosed, but the incident was not isolated, with a history of provocative behavior against the Raiders. The Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association (MHSAA) learned of the incident a week later, expressing concerns about the lack of formal reporting. The vague term 'antisemitic gestures' led to an investigation, and while university officials remained tight-lipped, the MHSAA confirmed the team's disbandment. The lack of transparency, delayed

reporting, and subsequent disbandment highlight the urgency for addressing antisemitism and fostering a secure and inclusive learning atmosphere. Following the October 7 attack by Hamas on Israel, the University of Winnipeg issued a statement condemning all forms of antisemitism, Islamophobia, and racism. The statement acknowledges socio-political tensions and emphasizes upholding values of inclusivity, respect, and critical inquiry. Concerns arose regarding a virtual event discussing the “Situation in Palestine”, with the university asserting its commitment to academic freedom while emphasizing the need for events to align with principles of respect, tolerance, and responsible use of freedom. In early November, an event titled “Palestine and Genocide: Reflections on Imperialism, Settler-Colonialism, and Decolonization” raised concerns about antisemitism. Winnipeg South Centre MP Ben Carr expressed worry that the event might fuel antisemitism, criticizing the lack of diverse viewpoints. The University of Winnipeg defended its commitment to academic freedom, stating the event was independently organized by faculty. Manitoba Advanced Education Minister Renée Cable stressed the importance of safety and inclusion for students. Winnipeg South Centre MP Ben Carr, along with four other Liberal MPs, co-signed a letter addressing the rise of antisemitism on campuses. The letter questions how universities are ensuring the safety of Jewish students and staff and whether calls for genocide against the Jewish people violate university codes of conduct. The MPs set a deadline of January 20, 2024, for university presidents to respond. The University of Manitoba stated that calls for genocide on its campuses are unacceptable, receiving support from a group of Jewish students represented by Hillel Ontario, endorsing the MPs' call for action against rising antisemitism on campus.

AGPI would assign the University of Winnipeg's handling of antisemitic incidents, as a **C**. The disbandment of the University of Winnipeg Collegiate Junior Varsity Basketball team due to an undisclosed antisemitic incident, coupled with concerns about delayed reporting and lack of transparency, raises concerns about the university's response to such incidents. The commitment to addressing antisemitism following the October 7 attack by Hamas is positive but concerns about events discussing the "Situation in Palestine" and the event titled "Palestine and Genocide" highlight challenges in balancing academic freedom with the principles of respect, tolerance, and responsible use of freedom. While the University of Manitoba expressed that calls for genocide on its campuses are unacceptable and received support from a group of Jewish students represented by Hillel Ontario, the overall grade is reflective of the challenges and controversies surrounding these incidents and events. The grade suggests that there is room for improvement in fostering a more secure and inclusive learning atmosphere.

Ontario

Algoma University

AGPI is happy to report that given extensive research and investigation, there were no significant reports of campus antisemitism this year.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Brock University

2023 saw a surge of antisemitic incidents at Brock University igniting serious concerns among students, faculty, and the broader academic community. A series of events and controversies had unfolded, shedding light on the challenges faced by Jewish individuals on campus, and raising questions about the university's commitment to a safe and inclusive environment. A pivotal moment in this concerning narrative was the "Panel on Palestine" held in November 2023. The loosely veiled antisemitic viewpoints expressed during the event, particularly the characterization of Israel's actions in Gaza as genocide, had not only sparked distress but had also underscored a lack of balanced discussion. The absence of representation of Israel's perspective had contributed to an atmosphere that appears to prioritize a singular narrative over diverse viewpoints. Adding to the concern, the association of Brock University's President, Lesley Rigg, with the event intensified worries within the community. The Goodman Foundation, echoing the concerns of many, emphasized the importance of institutional neutrality in academia in their November 2023 letter. The Foundation highlighted the need to uphold academic freedom while urging the withdrawal of institutional sponsorship from the panel. Unfortunately, President Rigg's response, while affirming the commitment to the Freedom of Expression Policy, did not directly address concerns about institutional neutrality or acknowledge potential implications for a rise in antisemitic incidents on and off campus.

Beyond academic discussions, controversial Holocaust education workshops also added fuel to the fire. Complaints received by various Jewish community organizations indicated a deviation from the event mandate, particularly during the Q&A sessions. The focus on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in these workshops and subsequent coverage by the independent student news outlet, Brock Press, raised additional concerns about fair reporting and the potential promotion of antisemitic rhetoric. The disturbing pattern continued with an incident on November 2, where a lecture on the history of antisemitism was disrupted by pro-Palestinian students. The disruptive behavior, coupled with subsequent threats and intimidation towards Jewish students, underscores a troubling pattern of harassment. The alleged inaction of the Provost during the disruption and the subsequent reprimand of the speaker for highlighting

facts about antisemitism in textbooks further raises questions about the university's commitment to protecting its students.

Adding to the litany of concerns is the Bread and Puppet Theatre incident on November 7, 2023. The production presented a biased anti-Israel narrative with antisemitic tropes, leaving Jewish students distraught and feeling ambushed. The lack of a timely official statement from the department involved, distancing itself from the content, further adds to the perception that the university, by endorsing mandatory attendance, tacitly approved the messaging. In our investigation and communication with university administration, AGPI has repeatedly expressed concern that these incidents have created an environment where Jewish students feel targeted and unsafe. The reported lack of action against those violating the Student Code of Conduct, coupled with the alleged indifference to antisemitic slurs, sends a distressing message about the university's commitment to the safety and well-being of its Jewish community. In light of these developments, we urge Brock University to take decisive action against antisemitism on campus. This includes, but is not limited to, a public condemnation of antisemitism, proactive enforcement of the Student Code of Conduct, and transparent communication about steps being taken to address these concerns. It is essential to reaffirm the university's commitment to fostering an inclusive and secure academic environment for all.

AGPI would assign a grade of **D** to Brock University. The incidents throughout 2023, ranging from the controversial “Panel on Palestine” to disruptions during Holocaust Education Week and the biased Bread and Puppet Theatre production, indicate a concerning pattern of insufficient response and potential negligence. The reported lack of a balanced discussion in the panel, association of the university president with controversial events, deviations from the event mandate during Holocaust education workshops, and instances of disruption and threats against Jewish students collectively suggest an environment where the safety and well-being of the Jewish community are not adequately prioritized. While it is important to acknowledge the challenges universities face in managing diverse perspectives, the reported actions, or lack thereof, concerning antisemitic incidents and harassment indicate a need for stronger and more proactive measures to ensure a truly inclusive and secure academic environment.

Carleton University

In response to the surge in antisemitism following the Israel-Hamas war, Carleton University has taken proactive steps to address and counteract this concerning trend. The introduction of the course “Antisemitism, Then and Now” during the winter semester underscores the university's commitment to educating students about the historical roots and contemporary manifestations of antisemitism. Additionally, the revival of the Beinler Family Speaker Series, in collaboration with Indiana University, demonstrates a concerted effort to engage the university community in informed discussions on antisemitism through webinars. The university's official message on October 12, expressing solidarity with all affected students and condemning antisemitism, reflects a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment. By offering resources to

support students during these challenging times, Carleton University acknowledges the need for proactive measures to protect its Jewish student population. Furthermore, the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies organized an online workshop on November 17, addressing antisemitism and guiding interfaith conversations, exemplifying the university's dedication to promoting understanding among students of diverse religious backgrounds. While these initiatives signify positive efforts to combat antisemitism, ongoing incidents and tensions reveal that more work is needed to create a truly safe and inclusive learning environment for Jewish students and faculty on Canadian university campuses.

AGPI would assign a grade of **B+** to Carleton University for its proactive steps to address and counteract antisemitism following the Israel-Hamas war. The introduction of the course "Antisemitism, Then and Now," revival of the Beininger Family Speaker Series, and the organization of an online workshop by the Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies demonstrate a commitment to educating and engaging the university community in discussions on antisemitism. The university's official message expressing solidarity and condemning antisemitism, along with offering resources to support affected students, reflects an awareness of the need for proactive measures. However, the acknowledgment of ongoing incidents and tensions suggests that more work is needed to create a fully safe and inclusive learning environment for Jewish students and faculty.

Lakehead University

AGPI is happy to report that given extensive research and investigation, there were no significant reports of campus antisemitism this year.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Laurentian University

In a recent case at Laurentian University, an arbitrator addressed a professor's grievance against the University for its handling of an antisemitic incident. Dr. Roth, who had criticized the university's actions regarding a financial matter, received an anonymous antisemitic email. Despite forwarding it to the Dean, who then escalated it to the Equity, Diversity, and Human Rights Office (EDHRO), Dr. Roth found the EDHRO's response flippant and insufficient. The arbitrator applied the Marineland Test to assess the adequacy of the university's response, considering factors like providing a healthy work environment, communication, seriousness of the issue, promptness, awareness, and complaint mechanisms. While the EDHRO's language was criticized for being too mild, the arbitrator concluded that the university's overall response was sufficient. The Dean and IT department demonstrated swift and empathetic reactions, meeting

the basic requirements of the Marineland test. The case highlights two key takeaways for employers. Firstly, it underscores the importance of cohesive systems within large organizations to address discriminatory behavior. While the EDHRO's response met minimum requirements, the Dean's sensitive reaction and the IT department's prompt action compensated for any shortcomings. Secondly, the case emphasizes that employers, in the digital age, cannot control what employees receive but can control their response. The Marineland test served as a baseline checklist for addressing discrimination, yet the human element, empathy, and sensitivity play crucial roles in shaping employers' responses. While employers may not be accountable for the words of anonymous strangers, they bear the responsibility of responding appropriately and sympathetically, fostering a safe working environment.

AGPI would assign Laurentian University an overall grade of **B** for its handling of the antisemitic incident involving Dr. Roth. The application of the Marineland Test by the arbitrator and the acknowledgment of the importance of cohesive systems within large organizations are positive aspects. The swift and empathetic reactions from the Dean and IT department are commendable and demonstrate a commitment to addressing discriminatory behavior promptly. While the response from the Equity, Diversity, and Human Rights Office (EDHRO) was criticized for being too mild, the arbitrator concluded that the overall university's response was sufficient. The case emphasizes the significance of the human element, empathy, and sensitivity in shaping employers' responses to discriminatory incidents. The university's ability to compensate for shortcomings and foster a safe working environment is crucial.

McMaster University

McMaster University offered its students various resources to support them during the Israel-Hamas war. On October 23, the university hosted a Zoom workshop called, “How to Think about Antisemitism: Anti-Jewish Racism” that focussed on contemporary antisemitism and how to tackle the Israel-Hamas war. On October 31, the university released a message from University President David H. Farrar about the Israel-Hamas war, stating that they stand in solidarity and are showing support to all affected. Though the university did provide students with resources during this challenging time, there were still incidents of antisemitism that happened on campus. On October 28, students at McMaster University and Western University were caught ripping down posters around campus of Israelis who were kidnapped by Hamas. McMaster University also refuses to denounce PhD candidate Ghada Sasa who has been organizing rallies in Toronto targeting Jewish institutions.

AGPI would assign McMaster University an overall grade of **C+** for its efforts to offer resources and host a workshop addressing antisemitism during the Israel-Hamas war. The university's message expressing solidarity and support for all affected is a positive step. However, incidents of antisemitism on campus, such as the tearing down of posters and the refusal to denounce a faculty member organizing rallies targeting Jewish institutions, indicate challenges in fully addressing antisemitism. The refusal to denounce the faculty member may raise concerns about the university's commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all students. While the university provided resources and hosted educational workshops, the

incidents of antisemitism on campus suggest that there is room for improvement in creating a truly safe and inclusive learning environment for Jewish students and addressing incidents of discrimination.

Nipissing University

AGPI is happy to report that given extensive research and investigation, there were no significant reports of campus antisemitism this year.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

OCAD University

OCAD University released a statement on October 10 regarding the Israel-Hamas war, standing in solidarity with and offering support to the Israeli and Palestinian students affected by it. From October 22 to November 12, OCAD University in collaboration with United Jewish People Order hosted a Jewish Film Festival called "Split Screens: Israeli Filmmakers Confront Colonialism". Every Sunday, the university would show films that highlighted Jewish filmmakers. Sadly, however, as efforts are being made to create and foster a safe learning environment for students, antisemitic posters were placed on campus on November 17. AGPI was happy to learn that shortly after the poster was discovered, they were removed and reported to the police. OCAD University has since collaborated closely with the Toronto Police to find out who was behind it.

AGPI would assign OCAD an overall grade of **B+** for its efforts to stand in solidarity with and offer support to Israeli and Palestinian students affected by the Israel-Hamas war. The collaboration with the United Jewish People Order to host a Jewish Film Festival, showcasing films by Jewish filmmakers, is a positive initiative that promotes cultural understanding. However, the presence of antisemitic posters on campus on November 17 is a concerning incident. The university's prompt response in removing the posters, reporting them to the police, and collaborating closely with law enforcement to identify those responsible demonstrates a commitment to addressing incidents of antisemitism and fostering a safe learning environment. While the grade is generally positive, the incident of antisemitic posters suggests that continuous efforts are needed to create a fully safe and inclusive environment for all students.

Queen's University

Queen's University released an article on antisemitism in January of 2023. The presented their stance against antisemitism, its history in dealing with antisemitic incidents, and announced an event on January 27 for Holocaust Remembrance Day. However, once the Israel-Hamas war broke out, antisemitic incidents erupted on campus. On October 22, a Mezuzah was removed from the door of a Jewish student's dorm. The incident was reported to the Kingston police and an investigation has since been launched. During an off-campus party on October 27, Queen's University students arrived dressed in Hamas attire, one of whom was also carrying a weapon. The incident was reported to the university and the police. While no charges were made, the university did give the students involved a non-academic misconduct. Washroom stalls on campus were seen having had hate speech written on them on November 22. Words like "Satan + IDF" had been seen written in the creases of building cinderblocks. Jewish groups on campus called on the university to address the ongoing antisemitism not only at Queen's University but around Kingston as well. However, due to the ongoing antisemitism on campus, the university released a statement on October 26 calling out the antisemitism that was happening on campus due to the ongoing war. A follow-up statement was released on October 31 emphasizing the importance of safety on campus and expressing zero tolerance for hate. On November 2, Queen's University was issued a lawsuit alongside four other universities in the country of \$15 million through Diamond and Diamond stating that they were unable to provide a safe space for its students due to antisemitism as far back as 1998.

AGPI would assign Queen's University an overall grade of **D-**. While the university released an article addressing antisemitism, announced an event for Holocaust Remembrance Day, and responded to specific incidents, the ongoing occurrences, including the removal of a Mezuzah, students arriving dressed in Hamas attire, and hate speech in washroom stalls, indicate challenges in creating a safe and inclusive environment. The issuance of a lawsuit against Queen's University and four other universities, claiming an inability to provide a safe space for students due to antisemitism dating back to 1998, further emphasizes the severity of the situation. The university's statements addressing antisemitism and emphasizing safety are positive steps, but the ongoing incidents and legal action suggest a need for more comprehensive measures to address and prevent antisemitism on campus.

Ryerson University (Toronto Metropolitan University [TMU])

On October 20, several Lincoln Alexander Law School at Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly known as Ryerson University), students signed an open letter sent to the administration which condoned the Hamas attack on Israel. Three days later, on October 23, the law school administration released a statement openly condemning the antisemitic letter written by the 74 students. Aside from the antisemitic letter by law students, other antisemitic incidents unfortunately also took place on campus. On November 7, a student told a Jewish student "Too bad Hitler didn't finish the job" during a campus protest against the war in front of the university. A swastika sticker was shown during a protest on Gould St on November 29. TMU has condemned the hate crime and has provided students with resources if they are affected by antisemitism on campus. They have also worked with the Toronto Police to investigate this matter. On November

2, TMU joined four other Canadian universities with a lawsuit of \$15 million by alumni through Diamond and Diamond stating that they were unable to provide a safe space for its Jewish students as far back as 1998. AGPI was happy to not that from November 6-9, the university hosted a Holocaust Education Week on campus educating students on antisemitism and what happened during the Holocaust. There were various events students could attend.

AGPI would assign an overall grade of **D-** to Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU) for its handling of the student letter from Lincoln Alexander Law School. While the university condemned the antisemitic letter by law students, responded to antisemitic incidents on campus, and worked with the Toronto Police to investigate such matters, it still failed to come out in front of incidents which in turn emboldened further campus wide incidents. The hosting of Holocaust Education Week is a positive initiative that contributes to awareness and education about antisemitism and the Holocaust. However, the occurrence of antisemitic incidents on campus, including offensive remarks and the display of a swastika sticker, indicates challenges in fully addressing and preventing antisemitism. The university's involvement in a \$15 million lawsuit filed by alumni further emphasizes concerns about the perceived inability to provide a safe space for Jewish students. While efforts have been made to condemn hate crimes, provide resources, and educate students on antisemitism, ongoing incidents suggest a need for continued vigilance and comprehensive measures to create a safe and inclusive environment for all students.

Trent University

In October, The Trent University Faculty Association (TUFA) issued a statement, responding to the Israel-Hamas war, upholds academic freedom but criticizes the Minister of Colleges and Universities for actions that could impede such freedom on Ontario campuses. While TUFA commits to anti-racist initiatives and opposes discrimination, including antisemitism, the statement lacks explicit acknowledgment of potential risks for Jewish students amid the conflict. The call to protect members from targeted attacks is somewhat broad, with limited focus on safeguarding the specific learning environment. This could contribute to an atmosphere that Jewish students may perceive as potentially dangerous, as the statement falls short in addressing the unique challenges they might face during times of heightened political tensions and conflicts involving their heritage.

AGPI would assign Trent University an overall grade of **C-** for its responds to the TUFA statement on the Israel-Hamas war. While the statement upholds academic freedom and commits to anti-racist initiatives, it lacks explicit acknowledgment of potential risks for Jewish students amid the conflict. The call to protect members from targeted attacks is somewhat broad, with limited focus on safeguarding the specific learning environment, which may not adequately address the unique challenges faced by Jewish students during times of heightened political tensions. The statement could benefit from a more targeted approach to ensure the safety and well-being of all students, including those of Jewish heritage.

University of Guelph

The University of Guelph Central Students Association (CSA) faced backlash for an Instagram post condemning Hamas's actions in Israel. The statement has prompted an online petition urging the CSA to reconsider its stance in support of Israel. The CSA's condemnation of antisemitism and commitment to zero tolerance for hate and violence is challenged by those pressing the university to Boycott, Divest, and Sanction Israel.

AGPI would assign the University of Guelph an overall grade of **B+**. While the University of Guelph Central Students Association (CSA) is facing criticism for condemning antisemitism and expressing a commitment to zero tolerance for hate and violence, it might be seen as a positive stance against discrimination. In such a case, a grade of B+ could be considered, indicating a generally commendable effort in promoting an inclusive and respectful environment.

University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)

AGPI is happy to report that given extensive research and investigation, there were no significant reports of campus antisemitism this year.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of Ottawa (Université d'Ottawa)

AGPI has expressed concern in October with the University of Ottawa following an event, featuring members of the UN commission blaming Israel for Middle East issues, for fostering anti-Israel sentiments and downplaying Israel's security concerns. The event and panel failed to address Hamas' refusal to acknowledge Israel's right to exist and its attempts to harm Jewish Israelis. Moreover, the event contributed to an unsafe environment for Jewish students by perpetuating biased narratives, ignoring contrary views, and exhibiting a form of “polite” antisemitism where crucial perspectives are disregarded. In addition to creating a space to host anti-Israel activists, the University of Ottawa made headlines following the suspension of Dr Yipeng Ge, a University of Ottawa medical resident, who claims he was suspended for posting pro-Palestinian messages critical of Israel on social media. Dr. Ge's posts, expressing support for the Palestinian cause, were brought to attention by an associate professor at the university, who labeled them as “antisemitism.” Screenshots of Ge's posts, including references to Gaza and the statement “from the rivers to the sea, Palestine will be free,” were shared online. The university, citing complaints about a breach of professional standards, has imposed interim measures pending an investigation. Sadly, an online petition, with over 65,000 signatures, calls for Ge's reinstatement, an apology, and a thorough investigation.

AGPI would assign the University of Ottawa with an overall grade of **C**. While the University has faced concerns related to fostering anti-Israel sentiments and issues surrounding the suspension of Dr. Yipeng Ge, the university's handling of events and the suspension has been seen as a positive move in protecting marginalized students from antisemitism. Considering these aspects, a grade of C could be considered, indicating room for improvement in fostering an environment that supports open dialogue and considers different viewpoints while upholding professional standards.

University of Toronto

This has been an extremely trying time at the University of Toronto with several key events overshadowing the academics. In December 2022, Professor Ayelet Kuper published a personal reflection on her experiences of antisemitism at Temerty Faculty of Medicine in the Canadian Medical Education Journal. In her scathing reflection, Kuper described antisemitic statements and viewpoints she had personally experienced and wrote that families often needed to conceal their Jewish heritage when not in Jewish settings. To begin 2023, Kuper's article forced the institution to condemn the use of demeaning language, expressing solidarity with Jewish colleagues and learners, however, as witnessed throughout 2023, there remained a rise in intolerance on campus, leading to a stronger need to stand together, educate, and challenge dehumanizing words. The Faculty declared a commitment to combating ancient tropes and hatred, pledging to evolve programs for inclusivity and while addressing historic quotas limiting access to Jewish medical students, the recognizes the persistence of harmful attitudes. While the institution vowed to listen, validate, and actively enhance programs, striving to create a safer, more welcoming environment, little has authentically been done to foster a safe and caring learning and working environment for faculty and students. That said, more than 550 Jewish physicians affiliated with the University of Toronto's Temerty Faculty of Medicine (TFOM) expressed distress over selective criticism of Israel, double standards, and silence regarding the recent massacre of Jews on October 7. They highlight the core issue of targeting Israel solely for being a Jewish state, impacting the Jewish physician community. Some colleagues faced accusations of perpetuating antisemitic tropes, aligning with historical patterns. The physicians asserted their right to openly identify as Zionists without censure, defining antisemitism on their terms and resisting attempts by anti-Zionists to dictate this definition. They firmly oppose colleagues promoting anti-Zionism and other forms of antisemitism, emphasizing their commitment to supporting Jewish faculty and learners. The group calls for equal consideration and protection, expecting the TFOM to extend the same rights and safeguards provided to other minority groups. Sadly, following the October 7 attack on Israel, the University's President, Meric Gertler, provided a statement after considerable public pressure, acknowledging the atrocities committed by Hamas against Israeli civilians. However, the University of Toronto Faculty Association (UTFA) failed to issue a clear statement condemning the violence perpetrated by Hamas.

AGPI would assign the University of Toronto, an overall grade of **F** for its response to antisemitism, as reflected in Professor Ayelet Kuper's experiences and the concerns raised by Jewish physicians. The University of Toronto falls short in demonstrating a robust commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment. While there are declarations and pledges, the

gap between these statements and tangible actions raises questions about the university's effectiveness in addressing antisemitic incidents. The delayed response to the October 7 attack on Israel, coupled with the University of Toronto Faculty Association's failure to issue a clear condemnation of violence by Hamas, reveals a lack of consistent and proactive measures to combat antisemitism on campus. The university needs to prioritize concrete actions to ensure the well-being of its Jewish faculty and learners.

University of Waterloo

The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) released a statement on October 10 that condemned all Islamophobia and antisemitism happening considering the Israel-Hamas war. They mentioned that they stand in solidarity with all those affected and provided resources for them. Due to the war, Hillel Waterloo, a Jewish group on campus started working with the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association and Waterloo Regional Police Service in October to ensure the safety of all the Muslim and Jewish students on campus. President Goel revealed that he sat down with Jewish and Muslim students on campus during the week of November 20 to hear how they have been affected by the war. He then released a statement on November 29 standing in solidarity with those students and offering support to all who are affected.

AGPI would assign the University of Waterloo, an overall grade of **A-** for showing a commendable efforts in addressing Islamophobia and antisemitism during the Israel-Hamas war. The release of statements condemning discrimination, solidarity with affected communities, and collaboration with groups like Hillel Waterloo and the Waterloo Regional Police Service demonstrate proactive steps towards creating a safe and supportive campus environment. President Goel's engagement with Jewish and Muslim students to understand their experiences and subsequent statements further highlight a commitment to inclusivity and support. However, continuous monitoring and sustained efforts will be crucial to maintaining a positive and inclusive atmosphere on campus.

University of Windsor

Following the October 7 Hamas attacks, the University of Windsor's Student Association issued a statement, expressing unequivocal solidarity with Palestine, which has raised concerns about its potential contribution to a rise in campus antisemitism and the safety of Jewish students. While emphasizing human rights and justice, the statement condemns the Israeli government's actions, framing them as severe violations of international humanitarian laws. The unequivocal denouncement of oppression is coupled with a rejection of antisemitism, yet the association of these sentiments in the context of the Israeli-Hamas war may create an atmosphere where criticisms of Israel could be misconstrued as antisemitic. The commitment to the safety and rights of Jewish students is stated, but the strong stance against Israel's policies might inadvertently contribute to an environment where anti-Israel sentiments could escalate into antisemitic incidents, potentially endangering Jewish students on campus.

AGPI would assign the University of Windsor an overall grade of **C+** for how it managed the Student Association's statement expresses solidarity with Palestine, emphasizing human rights and justice while condemning the Israeli government's actions. While the statement and the University reject antisemitism and commit to the safety and rights of Jewish students, the strong stance against Israel's policies in the context of the Israeli-Hamas war may raise concerns about potential contributions to a rise in campus antisemitism. The association of these sentiments may create an atmosphere where criticisms of Israel could be misconstrued as antisemitic, potentially endangering Jewish students on campus. There's room for improvement in balancing support for human rights with clarity to prevent unintended consequences.

Western University (University of Western Ontario)

On October 27, an incident at Western University was reported when posters depicting Israelis being held hostage by Hamas were forcibly removed by unidentified individuals. Jewish students expressed concern about the incident, which they reported to the university's Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. The situation arose from tensions related to the Israel-Hamas war. The university acknowledged the challenging atmosphere on campuses due to the conflict and emphasized its commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment. The incident raises concerns about the suppression of speech and expression on campus, contributing to a climate where Jewish students feel targeted and unsafe. The university is working to address these issues and ensure peaceful expression of diverse views amid the ongoing conflict.

AGPI would assign Western University an overall grade of **B**. The university's acknowledgment of the challenging atmosphere and commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment is commendable. However, there is room for improvement in addressing the reported concerns of Jewish students to ensure a climate where diverse views can be peacefully expressed without making any group feel targeted or unsafe.

Wilfrid Laurier University

After the Israel-Hamas war broke out, Wilfred Laurier University released a statement on October 9 condemning the attack on Israel and spoke out against Islamophobia and antisemitism. A follow-up statement was released on October 14, offering support and resources to students affected by the war. Another statement was released the following day (October 15) condemning the war and showing support for the students affected. On November 16, an additional statement was sent out sending their condolences to those affected by the war. The statement also talked about how the university has no place for hate of any kind and that there will be consequences if caught doing so.

AGPI would assign Wilfrid Laurier University an overall grade of **A** as they demonstrated proactive communication by releasing multiple statements condemning the war, offering support and resources to affected students, and emphasizing a zero-tolerance policy for hate.

The consistent messaging and commitment to creating a safe environment contribute positively to addressing the challenges arising from the Israel-Hamas conflict.

York University

York Federation of Students, York University Graduate Students Association and Glendon College Student Union issued statements on October 12 applauding the Hamas genocide and called it a “strong act of resistance”. York University released a statement the following day (October 13), condemning the antisemitic statement shared by the three student unions and stating they stand with the Jewish community. On October 18, the university reached out to the student union to reaffirm their commitment to non-violence and anti-discrimination and to withdraw their statements. They had to respond by October 19. In a letter issued on November 2, York announced that:

“The student leaders were asked to withdraw the statement, and publicly confirm that they repudiate violence against civilians and do not endorse antisemitism or other forms of discrimination. After multiple attempts to engage and work with the student associations failed, a written Notice of Suspected Breach under the Regulation Regarding Student Organizations was shared. Consistent with the Regulation, the University advised the student associations of the specific steps they are required to take, either to demonstrate that a breach has not occurred or to remedy the breach. The formal process continues to unfold under the non-compliance portion of the Regulation.”

While all three student unions made a public stance against violence and antisemitism, there appeared to be no formal withdrawal of the statement. While York University announced enhanced safety measures on October 13, including increased campus safety patrols and additional security for events, students and staff continue to express feelings of intimidation, harassment, and an overall environment of fear for their safety. Osgoode Law Hall released a statement on October 18 condemning the violence caused by the war, standing in solidarity with those affected and offering a list of resources to help. On November 2, York University was issued a lawsuit of \$15 million by alumni through Diamond and Diamond stating that they were unable to provide a safe space for its Jewish students as far back as 1998. An article was released on November 1, mentioning that there has been an increase of antisemitism on campus making, many Jewish students feel unsafe.

AGPI would assign York University, an overall grade of **F**. While York pressed for a full withdrawal of the insidious statements by the York Federation of Students, York University Graduate Students Association, and Glendon College Student Union, applauding the Hamas genocide as a “strong act of resistance,” no formal, public withdrawal was noted and raises questions about the values and perspectives within these student unions and the ability of the university to enforce anti-hate measures. While the university’s subsequent condemnation of the antisemitic statement by the student unions are steps in the right direction, they do not fully address the gravity of the initial expressions of support for violence. The fact that such statements were made in the first place is indicative of a serious problem within the student

body. The enhanced safety measures, including increased campus safety patrols and additional security for events, suggest acknowledgment of potential safety concerns. However, these measures may be reactive rather than addressing the underlying issues that lead to the propagation of antisemitic sentiments. The lawsuit filed against the university, citing an inability to provide a safe space for Jewish students since 1998, adds another layer to the complexity of the situation. The legal action signals a lack of confidence in the university's historical commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of its Jewish student population. The reported increase in antisemitism on campus and the feelings of insecurity among Jewish students are alarming and indicate a failure in fostering an inclusive and tolerant environment. The university must take substantial and sustained actions to address the root causes of antisemitism and create a campus culture that truly values diversity, tolerance, and safety for all.

Quebec

Concordia University

While Concordia has been no stranger to antisemitic protests, AGPI was shocked to see an aggressive pro-Hamas protest in November while Jewish students set up a Shabbat table for the hostages of the Hamas terrorist attack. At this event, of note, was that a lecturer from the Universite de Montreal who specialized in dominance and resistance in the Arab world and was on campus at Concordia that day and was heard publicly chanting “go back to Poland, sharmouta (wh*re)” to a Jewish student in Concordia. This shocking hate speech is sadly not as surprising to Jewish students as it once was, however, when university professors perpetrate it, Jewish students are no longer safe on university campuses or in classes anymore if those in power recite such abhorrent antisemitism -- something many of us never thought we would have to say again since Nazi Germany. Though this professor’s staff page has been removed from the university’s website and has been suspended with pay pending the investigation, AGPI can’t help but wonder where are the hate-speech charges, what actions the university is taking to condemn this disgraceful attack and, what precedent is it setting for the Concordia community? The concern for Jewish students and faculty is growing rapidly, so much so, that a \$15 million proposed class-action lawsuit accuses Concordia University in Montreal and its student union of creating a safe space for antisemitism on campus over decades, leaving students and faculty psychologically scarred. Unfortunately, the university has become a part of many students and staff’s post-traumatic stress, in addition to falling short of a duty to investigate antisemitic incidents and penalize perpetrators, the lawsuit application accuses Concordia of neglecting to offer support to Jewish students targeted by those hateful acts and of failing to educate students on the issue of antisemitism. Moreover, by failing to properly discipline students and/or student organizations for antisemitic behaviours ... the defendants (the student union) have effectively created and fostered a safe space for anti-Jewish hate.

AGPI would assign Concordia University, an overall grade of **F**. Events at Concordia were deeply troubling and reflects a severe failure in maintaining a safe and inclusive environment for Jewish students. The incident involving a professor from a different institution who was on campus on the day of a pro-Hamas, anti-Israel protest, publicly chanting offensive and antisemitic remarks towards a Jewish student is not only shocking but raises serious concerns about the university's commitment to combating discrimination and fostering a supportive community. The immediate suspension of the professor from his own institution and the removal of their staff page indicate a recognition of the severity of the incident. However, the absence of reported hate-speech charges and a clear condemnation from the university leaves a critical gap in addressing the harm caused by such abhorrent antisemitism. The proposed class-action lawsuit, seeking \$15 million, highlights the gravity of the situation and suggests that the university has failed over decades to create an environment free from antisemitic sentiments. The accusations of neglecting to investigate incidents, penalize perpetrators, offer support to affected Jewish students, and educate the broader student body on antisemitism point to systemic issues that must be urgently addressed. The assertion that the university has effectively created and fostered a safe space for anti-Jewish hate is particularly damning. This

not only reflects a failure in enforcing consequences for antisemitic behaviors but also raises questions about the institution's commitment to combating discrimination across campus. Given the severity of the allegations and the potential long-standing impact on the psychological well-being of Jewish students and faculty, Concordia University must take swift and comprehensive action to address the root causes of antisemitism, foster an inclusive environment, and ensure the safety and well-being of its entire academic community.

École de technologie supérieure

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

HEC Montréal

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Laval University (Université Laval)

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

McGill University

As with much of our society, the Israel-Hamas war has caused rising tides of extreme tension, aggression, and blatant antisemitism to the world’s Jewish population, including Canadian Jews. University campuses have become pervasive breeding grounds for outright antisemitism causing many Jewish faculty and students to not only fear for their safety and security on university grounds but actively hide and shield their identity -- harrowingly reminiscent of Nazi Germany. While McGill University is known as one of Canada's best-known institutions of higher learning and one of the leading universities in the world, AGPI is concerned that given recent events, it has failed to enforce safeguards already in place for its Jewish students and staff who face pervasive antisemitism. A statement was put out by the university president and vice-chancellor, condemning the circulation of posters and images that called upon McGill students to participate in a “National Day of Shutdown, in support of a “rally for Gaza.” The poster features an image of a group of individuals kicking and breaking glass windows” to which President Saini expressed “Publicizing an event through allusions to destruction of property is troubling. Far worse is using an image of people breaking glass to encourage participation in an event planned for November 9th, the 85th anniversary of Kristallnacht, and a series of violent attacks in Nazi Germany that saw mobs smash the windows of synagogues and Jewish-owned businesses. Considering all facts and relevant contexts, I can only conclude that these posters are antisemitic”. Though AGPI is relieved to hear this condemnation, Jewish students and faculty still fear for their safety, especially due to the increase in antisemitic and hate-derived attacks on Quebec’s Jewish population “according to the Montréal Police, between 7 October (the day Hamas attacked Israel) and 7 November, the city recorded 73 hate crimes against Jews.” This statistic is horrifying, and AGPI has asked McGill’s leadership -- what safeguards are now being put into place for Jewish students and staff? As Dr. Lisa Salamon, a practising physician, a lecturer at the TFOM and one of the three members of the Toronto-based Doctors Against Racism and Antisemitism (DARA) stated “the entire DEI structure is not designed to protect Jewish learners. “We are the only minority group that is not allowed to define what is racist toward us.”

AGPI would assign McGill University an overall grade of **C**. This grade reflects a concerning rise in antisemitic incidents and a failure to ensure the safety and well-being of Jewish students and faculty on campus. The university's condemnation of antisemitic posters referencing Kristallnacht is a positive step, acknowledging the severity of the issue. However, the continued fear for safety among Jewish students and faculty, especially in the context of increased hate crimes against Quebec's Jewish population, raises questions about the effectiveness of existing safeguards. McGill's leadership needs to address these concerns more comprehensively, outlining specific actions and safeguards being implemented to protect Jewish students and staff. The statement from Dr. Lisa Salamon highlights a potential gap in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) structure, emphasizing the need for inclusivity and protection for all minority groups, including Jewish learners. The university must not only condemn antisemitic acts but also actively work to create an environment where all students and faculty, regardless of their background, feel safe, respected, and protected against discrimination.

Polytechnique Montréal

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University Laval (Université Laval)

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of Montreal (Université de Montréal)

While no notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported on campus, as mentioned in the Concordia section of this report, was that at a pro-Hamas rally at Concordia University, a lecturer from the Université de Montréal who specialized in dominance and resistance in the Arab world and was on campus at Concordia that day, was heard publically chanting “go back to Poland, sharmouta (wh*re)” to a Jewish student in Concordia. Further details are provided in that section.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of Quebec at Montreal (UQAM - Université du Québec à Montréal)

Five federal politicians, including three from Montreal, have sent a letter to the presidents of every major Canadian university asking them to better protect Jewish students against harassment amid protests and demonstrations related to the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza. The Université du Québec à Montréal was among the universities the politicians included in their powerful letter demanding answers on the safeguards the university has put in place for its Jewish

students. This letter comes after not only the horrific October 7th Hamas terrorist attack, but also the despicable Congress hearing where three presidents from the esteemed Harvard, MIT, and the University of Pennsylvania were not able to call out the rampant antisemitism on their campus explicitly. Although there are currently no significant or documented reports of antisemitic attacks or incidents that have come out of this university recently, AGPI eagerly awaits their reply to this letter and to learn about what safeguards they have put in place for their Jewish population on campus.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of Sherbrooke

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Atlantic Canada

Acadia University

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Cape Breton University

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Dalhousie University

Among many other universities worldwide, Dalhousie University, at the time of this report, had not released any form of communication to its student body to condemn any violence against Jewish students and staff, and on a student forum, one student wrote “We call upon the administration of Dalhousie University—who has ignored all of our pleading emails—to release a public condemnation of this violence against Jews. We also urge them to take immediate steps towards ensuring the safety and well-being of their Jewish students by implementing strict anti-hate policies on campus”. As AGPI has seen with other universities, Dalhousie’s failure to condemn this violence and terrorism makes the campus a dangerous place for Jewish students to be right now and they need to make an acknowledgement. In a global climate, where social justice and anti-racism pedagogy is at the core of many higher-level institutions, AGPI can't help but wonder, why is social justice applied to many marginalized and traditionally silenced groups, but rarely given to the Jewish population on university campuses. It appears even a condemnation of the antisemitic attacks on Jews is far too much to ask for.

AGPI would assign Dalhousie University an overall grade of **C**. The university's failure to release any form of communication condemning violence against Jewish students and staff is a notable concern, as it may contribute to an unsafe environment for Jewish individuals on campus. While the student forum's call for the administration to condemn the violence and implement strict

anti-hate policies is valid, the university's lack of response or acknowledgment diminishes its commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive campus for all students, including Jewish individuals. The absence of proactive measures to address the concerns raised reflects a need for improvement in addressing antisemitism on campus.

Memorial University of Newfoundland

During Jewish Heritage Month at Memorial University in St. John's, Newfoundland, a memorial service organized by Professor Steven Wolinetz paid tribute to the victims of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the Holocaust. Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter shared his harrowing experiences during the Nazi reign, emphasizing the atrocities faced in concentration camps. Wolinetz stressed the importance of recounting such stories to prevent history from repeating and counteracting signs of intolerance. The memorial service underscores the university's commitment to commemorating historical events and promoting lessons of tolerance. Wolinetz's efforts reflect the dedication of academic institutions to create awareness and foster a harmonious environment. Gutter's testimony serves as a poignant reminder of the Holocaust's horrors, resonating even thousands of kilometers away from its epicenter. Additionally, Memorial University hosted the Honorable Gerry Byrne, Minister of Immigration, Population Growth, and Skills, on May 7, commemorating the Holocaust and addressing rising antisemitism on Canadian university campuses. The Holocaust Memorial Service, organized by Beth El Synagogue and the Jewish Community Havura, aimed to honor Holocaust victims, highlighting the persistence of antisemitic sentiments. Again, here, Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter's participation via Zoom underscored the historical context of discrimination against Jewish communities. The subsequent event, "Where Courage Lives," organized by the Chabad of Newfoundland and featuring Holocaust survivor Muguette Myers, stressed the importance of acknowledging and learning from past atrocities.

AGPI would assign Memorial University, an overall grade of **A**. Memorial University's commemoration of Jewish Heritage Month and the Holocaust, including the memorial service organized by Professor Steven Wolinetz, demonstrates a strong commitment to historical awareness, education, and tolerance. The involvement of Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter adds a powerful and personal dimension to the events, emphasizing the importance of remembering and learning from the past to prevent the recurrence of such atrocities. Additionally, the university's collaboration with various organizations and the presence of government officials like the Honorable Gerry Byrne reflect a collective effort to address rising antisemitism on Canadian university campuses. The events organized by Beth El Synagogue, the Jewish Community Havura, and the Chabad of Newfoundland further highlight the dedication to Holocaust remembrance and combating antisemitic sentiments. Overall, the university's proactive approach and collaboration with the community contribute to creating a respectful and inclusive environment.

Mount Saint Vincent University

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD)

AGPI was thrilled to see that NSCAD University has taken commendable steps in condemning antisemitism and promoting a diverse and inclusive environment. President Peggy Shannon's email on October 18 strongly condemned all forms of hate, emphasizing NSCAD as a place where diversity thrives. However, challenges arose when the university faced tensions related to the Israel-Hamas conflict. The publication of the letter "Artists & Academics in Canada: Statement of Solidarity with Palestine" led to President Shannon's subsequent emails, particularly the one on October 31, which urged students to express personal opinions independently of the institution. Some students criticized this as a divisive move, feeling it created a rift between them and the administration. The situation escalated as incidents of antisemitism and other forms of hate were reported on campus. Brea McAllister, a graduate, expressed concerns about the university's handling of the issue, emphasizing the need for a clear definition of antisemitism to prevent potential mislabeling of speech. McAllister's communication with NSCAD's ombudsperson, Jude Gerrard, revealed a specific incident of a student shouting antisemitic remarks, highlighting the challenges in navigating evolving definitions of antisemitism. President Shannon's response to McAllister, stating NSCAD cannot take political positions but can respond to incidents, raised further questions about the university's stance. Shannon's December 12 reply acknowledged troubling events on campus but did not directly address McAllister's points. NSCAD's commitment to addressing discrimination aligns with Nova Scotia's Dismantling Hate and Racism Act, as reflected in Shannon's November 28 public statement. Concrete actions against discrimination included measures like painting over graffiti, which students perceived as a silencing gesture. The ongoing dialogue between students, represented by groups like the NSCAD Student Action Group, and the administration reflects a commitment to addressing concerns and fostering an inclusive campus culture. The complexity of balancing free speech, defining hate, and responding to incidents underscores the challenges faced by NSCAD in navigating the broader societal issues impacting university campuses.

NSCAD deserves recognition for condemning antisemitism and actively engaging in discussions around diversity and inclusion. The university's commitment to an inclusive environment, President Peggy Shannon's condemnation of hate, and collaboration with Nova Scotia's Dismantling Hate and Racism Act reflect positive efforts. However, challenges arise in the handling of specific incidents and communication with students. The ambiguity surrounding NSCAD's stance on political positions, the absence of a formal definition of antisemitism, and

the perceived silence through actions like painting over graffiti raise concerns. The administration's response to student inquiries, especially regarding the incident involving antisemitic remarks, and the lack of direct addressing of concerns contribute to the complexity of evaluating their handling of antisemitism. Considering both positive initiatives and challenges, AGPI assigns a grade of **B**. NSCAD's commitment to inclusivity is evident, but there is room for improvement in providing clear guidelines, transparent communication, and addressing concerns raised by the student community. Ongoing efforts to engage in dialogue and collaboration, as seen in student-led initiatives, suggest a willingness to address these challenges and improve their approach over time.

Saint Mary's University

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of King's College

No notable or documented incidents of antisemitism were reported.

Based on the fact that the university did not appear to have any significant reports of campus antisemitism, the overall grade for this aspect would be an **A**. This indicates a positive environment where antisemitic incidents are not prevalent, showcasing a commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. It's important to note that ongoing vigilance and proactive measures will be essential to maintaining this positive climate and preventing the occurrence of antisemitic incidents in the future.

University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI)

AGPI expressed concern in December over a letter allegedly written by a consortium of concerned UPEI community members. The letter pleads for acknowledgment and support following tragic events in Gaza and the West Bank, emphasizing the absence of visible support from the UPEI, “for those affected by reported ethnic cleansing and bombardment by the Israeli government.” This lack of recognition contributes to an unequal addressing of the impact of such crises, raising concerns about fairness, sensitivity, and the university's commitment to inclusivity, particularly when compared to responses during other conflicts like the Ukraine-Russia conflict. The letter underscores the personal toll of the situation on the Jewish community, but seemingly emphasizes loss for one alleged author who lost over 20 family members. There is no doubt that war has tragic outcomes but the need to trumpet one over the other is concerning and fails to

acknowledge the emotional and psychological impact on Jewish community members as well. The call for mental health resources, counseling, and a meeting with the university president highlights the urgency of addressing the unique challenges faced by those directly affected by the Hamas terrorist attack on Israel.

AGPI would assign the University of Prince Edward Island, an overall grade of **B**. The university's response is critiqued for perceived lack of visible support and unequal addressing of the impact of the reported events. The concern about fairness, sensitivity, and the university's commitment to inclusivity is expressed. However, the letter acknowledges the need for mental health resources, showing an understanding of the emotional and psychological impact on the community. The grade reflects the expressed concerns and the acknowledgment of certain aspects of the situation.

Overall University Grades

A	Acadia University
A	Algoma University
A	Cape Breton University
A	École de technologie supérieure
A	HEC Montréal
A	Lakehead University
A	Laval University (Université Laval)
A	Memorial University of Newfoundland
A	Mount Saint Vincent University
A	Nipissing University
A	Polytechnique Montréal
A	Saint Mary's University
A	Thompson Rivers University
A	University of King's College
A	University Laval (Université Laval)
A	University of Montreal (Université de Montréal)
A	University of Northern British Columbia
A	University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)
A	University of Quebec at Montreal (UQAM - Université du Québec à Montréal)
A	University of Saskatchewan
A	University of Sherbrooke
A	Wilfrid Laurier University
A-	University of Waterloo
B+	Carleton University
B+	OCAD University
B+	Royal Roads University
B+	University of Guelph
B+	University of Manitoba
B	Laurentian University
B	Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD)
B	University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI)
B	Western University (University of Western Ontario)
B-	University of Regina
C+	McMaster University
C+	University of Alberta
C+	University of Calgary

The Abraham Global Peace Initiative

- C+ University of Windsor

- C Dalhousie University
- C McGill University
- C Simon Fraser University
- C University of Ottawa (Université d'Ottawa)
- C University of Winnipeg

- C- Mount Royal University
- C- Trent University

- D Brock University
- D University of British Columbia
- D University of Lethbridge

- D- Queen's University
- D- Ryerson University (Toronto Metropolitan University [TMU])
- D- University of Victoria

- F Concordia University
- F University of Toronto
- F York University

Conclusion

As the Director of Education for the Abraham Global Peace Initiative, my deep concern regarding the escalating issue of antisemitism on Canadian university campuses arises not only from a commitment to academic principles but also from our organization's core mission of fostering understanding, tolerance, and cooperation among diverse communities. The troubling surge in antisemitic incidents poses a significant challenge to the inclusive and harmonious environments that universities should ideally represent.

Universities are meant to be crucibles of intellectual growth, cultural exchange, and mutual respect. However, reports of antisemitic incidents, ranging from verbal harassment to discriminatory practices, compromise these ideals. Such acts not only infringe upon the principles of academic freedom but also erode the foundation of a pluralistic society that cherishes diversity.

In addressing this issue, universities must take proactive measures to confront and eradicate antisemitism. Implementing robust educational programs is crucial, programs that not only inform students about the historical roots and contemporary manifestations of antisemitism but also foster intercultural understanding. By creating platforms for open dialogue and collaboration between different communities, we can begin to dismantle the stereotypes and prejudices that fuel antisemitic attitudes.

Moreover, universities should engage in partnerships with community organizations, religious leaders, and advocacy groups to develop comprehensive strategies for combating antisemitism. These partnerships can serve as conduits for shared knowledge, experiences, and resources, creating a united front against discrimination. Through collaborative efforts, we can establish an environment where students from all backgrounds feel safe, valued, and empowered to contribute to the rich tapestry of university life.

It is essential for university administrators to demonstrate strong leadership in promoting inclusivity and addressing incidents of antisemitism promptly and decisively. This may involve revising campus policies, strengthening disciplinary measures for offenders, and ensuring that educational initiatives promoting tolerance and diversity are woven into the fabric of university life.

In conclusion, the Abraham Global Peace Initiative urges Canadian universities to prioritize the eradication of antisemitism on their campuses. By fostering an atmosphere of respect, empathy, and open dialogue, we can collectively work towards creating educational environments that not only reflect but actively embody the principles of diversity, tolerance, and global harmony that are fundamental to our organization's mission and to the pursuit of peace.

Dr Neil Orlowsky, PhD

AGPI's Path to Discourse through Education

AGPI works hard to provide information, resources and reporting to ensure Canada's voice is amplified in the fight for human rights. Through education and discourse, we can build a better tomorrow by protecting our past and defending our future. In a letter to the Toronto District School Board, AGPI's Director of Education and Global Chair of Education Dr Neil Orłowsky outlined an 8 point reflective model for educators - or anyone taking part in a discussion on the conflicts in the Middle East. This model of thinking provides a set of tools to create safe spaces and open dialogue for discussions of this caliber.

1. Have I strongly and critically articulated the case for the duality of narratives, examined the interconnectivity of histories, and situated diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts as essential to the mission of this activity and to achieve excellence for all students, from all pathways?
2. Have I established or designated an administrator tasked with overseeing, critiquing, and/or leading class or institution-wide efforts to introduce and/or strategically advance DEI and anti-racist organizational change within my class, my department, or our school?
3. Have I engaged with colleagues, school and system leadership, the community, and other organizations to implement inclusive materials that appropriately highlight all parties equally?
4. Have I delegated central and decentralized accountabilities for advancing DEI and anti-racism to key roles across the class, department, or school teams to act as champions and to foster accountability?
5. Have I established a model of coordinated decentralization whereby central (board) and local (school) DEI champions communicate and collaborate to approve anti-racism and DEI efforts I am engaging in?
6. Have I adhered to board policies, procedures, and implementation tools that integrate DEI, anti-racism, and inclusive excellence principles and practices into my class and our activities?
7. Have I engaged in regular climate reviews to assess the perception and experiences of diverse community members with the ability to disaggregate responses from racialized members? If so, have I considered its findings and appropriately implemented them in my practice?
8. Have I incorporated mechanisms for regular consultation with, and engaged with communities most affected by the systemic inequalities including racialized community members I am focusing on?

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