

Foreword

May 11, 2009, marked a milestone for Canada and Israel: 60 years of diplomatic relations. Over the decades our countries have stood by each other and have continually strengthened our commitment as partners and friends. Economic, cultural, political, defence and trade ties have reinforced our many commonalities and shared values for freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. Our relationship has helped to establish the presence of each of our nations internationally.

As we look back at the 60-year diplomatic relationship, it is clear that one of our greatest assets is our people and shared communities. Today the many Canadians who live in Israel and the Israeli community in Canada, along with Canada's vibrant Jewish community, bind our two countries together. These ties and the long-standing commitments between our governments have resulted in an abundance of bilateral agreements and cooperation.