

Musée Holocauste Montréal Montreal Holocaust Museum

The Museum's Statement on the Anniversary of October 7

Today marks the first anniversary of the October 7th massacre committed by the Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorist movements. During this attack, 1,140 people, mostly civilians, were brutally murdered and 250 were kidnapped.

Today, the Montreal Holocaust Museum mourns the victims of this tragedy, the worst massacre of Jews since the end of the Shoah. We express our unwavering solidarity with the victims' families and share their sadness and grief. May the memories of the victims be a source of comfort.

As we usher in the Jewish New Year, we wish for the freedom of the hostages still held captive by Hamas. We remain hopeful that we will soon be celebrating their safe return.

It is with tremendous sadness that we think of all the innocent victims of this conflict be they Israeli, Palestinian, Lebanese, or other.

Nelson Mandela once wrote, "For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

Today, we yearn for all local populations to be free from the threat of Islamism, and that the Iranian people regain their freedom and dignity, which they have been deprived of for too long. We particularly highlight the courage of the Iranian women who risk their lives confronting their oppressors.

Since October 7, we have been confronted with a surge of antisemitic incidents. In our own city, we have seen bullets fired at Jewish schools, university students ostracized, boycott lists of Jewish-owned businesses and hateful graffiti at the site of our new museum. We call on all Montrealers to take a stand against the bigotry and racism that tarnishes our city.

The Museum remains devoted to its educational mission promoting universal humanist values based on the knowledge of history and the refusal to be indifferent in the face of human suffering and the denial of fundamental freedoms.

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