



INDEPENDENT JEWISH VOICES
CANADA
VOIX JUIVES INDÉPENDANTES
www.ijvcanada.org

We the undersigned endorse Independent Jewish Voices' campaign to expose the racially discriminatory charity 'Jewish National Fund of Canada', a branch of the Jewish National Fund (JNF), and demand that the Minister of National Revenue initiate the revocation of JNF Canada's charitable status. We have reached this conclusion based on the following facts:

- The JNF is a quasi-governmental organization in Israel that practices racial discrimination in the provision of land and housing, as its charter states that it cannot lease or sell its land to *non-Jews*. 20% of Israel's population is non-Jewish. As Canadians, we do not tolerate racial discrimination against ethnic or religious minorities.
- The JNF appoints six out of thirteen members of the governing board of the Israel Lands Authority (ILA), which manages the JNF's thirteen percent, in addition to another eighty percent of all land in Israel. It is through this relationship with the JNF that Israel outsources the land management functions of the state to this discriminatory state-chartered organization. As Canadians, we do not support state-sanctioned discrimination.
- The JNF acquired the majority of its land following the violent displacement of Palestinians, which led to the creation of the state of Israel. Palestinian refugees have been barred from ever returning to their land, much of which is controlled—and held in perpetuity for Jews around the world—by the JNF. As Canadians, we oppose the appropriation of land through violent displacement.
- The JNF covers up Israel's historic injustices and war crimes against the Palestinians by building recreational parks and planting forests over the ruins of depopulated and demolished Palestinian villages. One such example, 'Canada Park', which was built over the ruins and lands of the depopulated and demolished villages of Yalu, Imwas and Beit Nuba, shows JNF-Canada's complicity in violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention. As Canadians, we are opposed to war crimes.
- The JNF supports illegal settlers in occupied East Jerusalem and the West Bank, through its subsidiary Himnuta, which is responsible for evicting Palestinians from their homes and properties for Jewish-only control. Dispossessing a country's inhabitants was wrong in Canada, and it is equally wrong in Palestine. As Canadians, we oppose the JNF because we cannot condone the ongoing unjust treatment of Palestine's population.
- The JNF's projects of displacement and forestation continue, particularly in the Naqab (Negev) and the Galilee. In these areas, "development" projects in which the JNF plays a central role aim to continue the forced displacement of Palestinian citizens of Israel to make way for exclusively Jewish settlements and JNF parks and forests. As Canadians, we are appalled by the ongoing displacement of the indigenous inhabitants of the land.