



Government of Canada
Embassy of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada
Ambassade du Canada

14 January, 2013

On behalf of the Canadian Embassy in Tel Aviv, I am delighted to welcome you as a member of the delegation accompanying Prime Minister Harper on the occasion of his first official visit to Israel.

The Prime Minister's visit provides a unique opportunity to strengthen the robust bilateral relationship between Canada and Israel, which is securely founded on extensive people-to-people ties and shared values.

Accompanying the Prime Minister is a distinguished group of Parliamentarians including Ministers Baird, Kenney, Paradis, Fast, Oliver, and Moore.

Support for Israel, most importantly its right to live in peace and security with its neighbours, has been a central tenet of Canada's Middle East policy since 1948. The relationship has been strengthened in recent years by frequent ministerial visits and expanded cooperation in many areas, including public security, defence, trade and investment.

There is, however, significant potential to develop these relationships further. I am confident that this visit will set the stage for new forms of cooperation: strengthening peace and security; stimulating economic growth; and promoting essential values such as tolerance and human rights.

The Embassy team is committed to ensuring a successful, productive and enjoyable visit for the Prime Minister and the entire Canadian delegation. Welcome to Israel!

Yours sincerely,

Vivian Bercovici
Ambassador

Canada