



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Honourable Raj Chouhan
Speaker of the Legislature
Office of the Speaker, Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

October 10, 2023

Dear Mr. Speaker,

Re: Request for an Emergency Debate Pursuant to Standing Order 35

On behalf of the Official Opposition, I am writing to request an emergency debate in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, pursuant to Standing Order 35, on the next day the Legislature is in session, October 16, 2023, to discuss a matter of urgent public importance. The recent terrorist attacks against Israel and the escalation of violence in the Middle East have deeply shaken the global community and many here in B.C. who have family, loved ones, and other connections in Israel.

This matter demands the immediate attention of our Legislature, as it has far-reaching implications for the international community and, specifically, the safety and security of Jewish communities across our province. In light of the recent comments by B.C.'s Solicitor General, emphasizing the monitoring efforts by both the RCMP and municipal police forces to ensure the safety of these communities, including at places of worship, it is imperative that we address this issue promptly and comprehensively.

It is our duty as elected officials to provide a platform for a meaningful dialogue on this sudden and tragic terrorist attack, as well as show our solidarity with the Jewish people of British Columbia and our support for Israel and its right to defend itself and its citizens. The urgency of this matter cannot be overstated. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you consider this request in accordance with Standing Order 35, and I look forward to your response at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Todd Stone
Official Opposition House Leader

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MLA, Kamloops South Thompson

CC: Minister Ravi Kahlon
Government House Leader

Kate Ryan-Lloyd
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