Canada was the first to withdraw its support from the second UN World Conference Against Racism, known as Durban II, and one of only 15 countries to boycott the Durban III summit in 2011.

At the G-8 summit in 2011, PM Harper blocked an attempt by American diplomats to include language specifying Israeli pre-1967 borders as the starting point for peace talks. The suggested language ignored other key negotiating factors such as recognition of Israel as a Jewish state and demilitarization of any proposed Palestinian state.

During Operation Pillar of Defense in 2012, Canada vigorously supported Israel’s right to defend itself and citizens and blamed terrorists in Gaza for the escalation of violence.

Canada has also consistently stood up for Israel, often as a lone voice, in the G-20, the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC), International Atomic Energy Agency and the UN General Assembly. Often, Canada stands alone in defense of Israel, casting the only "no" vote against unfair condemnations. Canada also played a critical role in securing Israel’s membership for the first time in the UN’s Western European and Others Group, a status that Israel sought for years.

In November 2012, Foreign Minister Baird personally cast Canada’s vote against General Assembly recognition of a Palestinian state.

Canada has taken a lead role at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna and other international forums in opposing the Iran drive for nuclear weaponry and in backing sanctions against Iran.

Twenty minutes in the Harper government have visited Israel since 2006 to advance bilateral ties, including the ministers of agriculture, citizenship and immigration, defense, environment, finance, foreign affairs, industry, international trade, natural resources, public safety and transport and treasury.

Speaking to the Herzlia Conference in January 2012, Foreign Minister Baird forthrightly said that “Israel has no better friend in the world than Canada, no stronger ally who will stand up for us... We won’t stand behind you, we will stand shoulder to shoulder with Israel. Canada will not remain silent while the Jewish state is attacked for defending its territory or people.”

Several members of our Calgary Jewish community, including representatives of Federation, JNF, CIJA (Centre of Israel and Jewish Affairs) and Calgary Shavuot were privileged to witness this historic Holy Land first hand. As Canadians and Calgarians, we can be proud of our government’s commitment to Israel and extra proud that Stephen Harper and Jason Kenney are our local MPs.

Many Canadian schools hold a day of remembrance and dignified diplomatic recognition to deeply appreciate Canada’s backing and hold Prime Minister Harper in the highest regard. Israelis have honored him like a rock star during his visit, it will come as no surprise.

Harper in the highest regard. If Israelis have treated him like Jerusalem’s most senior political and diplomatic officials frequently is a step ahead of the rest of the world.

In addition, Canada’s PM was receiving an honourary meeting with Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that “Israel has no better friend in the world than Canada, no stronger ally who will stand up for us... We won’t stand behind you, we will stand shoulder to shoulder with Israel. Canada will not remain silent while the Jewish state is attacked for defending its territory or people.”

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