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NEWS RELEASE

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Parliamentary Inquiry sets dates for hearings into Antisemitism

First witnesses to appear on October 26th

(Ottawa – October 8th, 2009)

Public hearings of the Canadian Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism will commence on October 26th on Parliament Hill. The Canadian Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Antisemitism (CPCCA) launched its inquiry into antisemitism in June with an open call for written submissions.

"With over 150 submissions having been received by the coalition, we have a strong base with which to proceed," said Inquiry Panel Chair, Mario Silva, "We hope that the hearings will provide us with a span of perspectives, from individual accounts to expert interpretation and practical recommendations."

Witnesses have largely been selected based on the submissions received by the coalition; though some have also been invited based on their expertise in the area.

"We have received a large volume of written submissions," said Inquiry Panel Vice-Chair Scott Reid. "Our plan is to hold as many meetings as is realistically possible, between now and the end of the year, in order to hear from as many witnesses as we can."

The hearings are the second phase in the CPCCA's Inquiry aimed to define, analyze and make recommendations toward combating the problem of antisemitism in Canada. The Coalition plans to produce a report to the Government in the spring of 2010.

The hearings will be open to the public on a first come first served basis.

For more information on the dates, times and locations of the meetings visit:
www.cpcca.ca/inquiry.htm