

The Canadian Jewish News
Thursday, 18 September 2008

An election on Christmas or Easter?

Setting an election for Oct. 14, one of the Jewish Holy Days of Sukkot, is simply outrageous (“Federal election called for Oct. 14,” CJN, Sept. 11). While some argue that with advance polls, Jewish voters can vote on any one of several days before the actual election, what about Jewish candidates who wish to campaign on election day? What about Jewish volunteers who would normally assist candidates and campaigns on election day and assist with transportation to the polls for the elderly and the infirm?

Many are quick to point to the prime minister’s support for Israel and the Jewish community and for his supposed support for minorities in general. But what kind of support does it show when he schedules an election, having been specifically reminded in advance by the Canadian Jewish Congress that it will conflict with a Jewish holiday?

Surely, no prime minister would schedule an election for Christmas Day or Easter, so why is it that this prime minister saw fit to set this unnecessary election to conflict with Sukkot?

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