

BAN ISRAELI WINE: MLA Meeting Toolkit

Preparing to meet with your MLA:

- Consider demographics and community relationships – are you a member of a local organization or demographic group that your MLA is particularly attuned to (ex: youth)? They may prioritize your request for a meeting if you say this upfront.
- Use the BC Legislative Assembly's Parliamentary Calendar <https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/parliamentary-calendar> to find out when your MLA will be in your constituency.
- Find out as much as you can about your MLA's stance on Palestinian liberation and their track record to date. Follow up by email before your meeting and consider sending any materials you want to discuss with them.

During your meeting:

- Be polite and personable with staff. Ask for their business cards and/or contact information.
- While meeting with your MLA, avoid saying "I voted for you," as politicians hear this all the time. If you have a connection to their campaign base (for example, if you have volunteered for the BC NDP or have been a member of a local riding association), say that instead.
- Keep a constructive approach and focus on opening dialogue.
- **Take notes** and ask your MLA how best to **follow up** with them. Consider asking for a photo and posting about your meeting on social media, to add a layer of public accountability.

Talking points and Resources:

- Ban Israeli Wine Action Network Letter: <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/ban-israeli-wine>
- International Law:
 - The International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled in January and March 2024 that Israel was plausibly committing genocide in Gaza.
 - <https://www.icj-cij.org/node/203454>
 - <https://www.icj-cij.org/node/203847>
- Canada is obligated not to aid or assist violations of the Geneva Conventions (including occupation) and the Genocide Convention.
- BC's double standards:

- The provincial government immediately removed and halted imports of Russian alcohol when Russia invaded Ukraine in Feb 2022.
 - The provincial government directed the BC Liquor Distribution branch (LDB) to pull liquor from US Republican red states on March 3, 2025.
- BC has **full power over liquor imports** and does not need federal action or approval to ban Israeli wine.