



Assessing the Ideological Direction of CBC Corrections

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This study was commissioned by the Centre for Civic Engagement. The CCE is a non-partisan Canadian charity dedicated to conducting original research on public policy issues related to Canadian prosperity, productivity, and national flourishing. The CCE's research informs an active program of policy seminars, events, conferences, and lectures all aimed at providing the policy making community with actionable insights that encourage informed decision making on issues that matter to Canadians.

Introduction

The CBC can breathe a prolonged sigh of relief. After Mark Carney's Liberals won the 2025 election, the federal government increased CBC's budget by \$150 million, in part to help "combat disinformation."¹ With the Liberals securing a majority in 2026 amid the Conservatives' struggles in the polls, the threat of a defunded CBC now seems remote.²

Aside from a few missteps—most notably an aborted CBC-funded prank show that sought to publicly humiliate retired RCMP officers—the public broadcaster has generated relatively few headlines of its own over the last year.³ As other newsrooms shutter, the Mother Corp lumbers on, content to rest on its laurels.⁴

A new Senate Committee report suggests that would be a mistake.⁵ Released in June after two years of study, the report found that trust in CBC/Radio-Canada had declined by 14 percentage points among both anglophones and francophones since 2018. Quoting from witnesses who alleged ideological and political bias at the CBC, the committee warned that such claims "are serious and undermine trust in the public broadcaster." It recommended that CBC/Radio-Canada periodically subject its content to analysis by outside experts "in order to assess its fairness and balance."

Previous statistical analyses of CBC coverage have generally focused on particular issues or moments in time.⁶ By contrast, the CBC's own public record of its mistakes offers an overlooked opportunity to systematically explore patterns across a six-year period. This study turns to that record, examining every notice published on CBC's Corrections and Clarifications page between January 2021 and July 2026.⁷

¹ Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Supplementary Estimates (C), 2025–26," February 12, 2026, <https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/planned-government-spending/supplementary-estimates/supplementary-estimates-c-2025-26.html>; Canadian Heritage, "Other Items of Interest," July 22, 2026, <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/corporate/transparency/open-government/standing-committee/appearance-miller-main-estimates-may-2026/other-items.html>.

² Rob Gillies, "Carney's Liberals Sweep 3 Special Elections in Canada as Voters Back His Stand against Trump," *AP News*, April 13, 2026, <https://apnews.com/article/carney-canada-special-elections-trump-304cca23cd562e911002aa2c83f19fb2>; David Coletto, "Liberals Hold a Six-Point Lead as Carney Government Approval Remains above 50%," *Abacus Data*, July 19, 2026, <https://abacusdata.ca/liberals-hold-a-six-point-lead-as-carney-government-approval-remains-above-50/>; Conservative Party of Canada, "Defund the CBC," March 29, 2025, <https://www.conservative.ca/cpc/defund-the-cbc/>.

³ CBC News, "Corrections and Clarifications," CBC News, February 3, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/corrections-clarifications-1.5893564>; Terry Newman, "Finally, Proof of What We've Known All Along—CBC Is Biased against Conservatives," *National Post*, March 10, 2026, <https://nationalpost.com/opinion/terry-newman-finally-proof-of-what-weve-known-all-along-cbc-is-biased-against-conservatives>; Mark Gollom, "CBC Pausing Production on Satirical Indigenous Show," CBC News, May 20, 2026, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/entertainment/northland-tales-production-paused-9.7205601>; Graeme Gordon, "CBC-Funded Prank Show's Deceptive Tactics Raise Fraud and Legal Concerns: Lawyer," *The Hub*, May 21, 2026, <https://thehub.ca/2026/05/20/cbc-funded-prank-shows-deceptive-tactics-raise-fraud-and-legal-concerns-lawyer/>.

⁴ Unifor, "Corus Cuts 43 TV Jobs, Expanding News Deserts in Western Canada," July 16, 2026, <https://www.unifor.org/news/all-news/corus-cuts-43-tv-jobs-expanding-news-deserts-western-canada>; Harrison Lowman, "The CBC Continues to Gaslight Conservatives, Even after Its Near-Death Experience," *The Hub*, July 24, 2026, <https://thehub.ca/2026/07/24/the-cbc-continues-to-gaslight-conservatives-even-after-its-near-death-experience/>.

⁵ Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications, *Local Services Provided by CBC/Radio-Canada* (Ottawa: Senate of Canada, 2026), https://sencanada.ca/content/sen/committee/451/TRCM/Reports/TRCM_45-1_SS-1_CBC_Report_final_e.pdf.

⁶ Dave Snow, "The CBC Prioritizes Allyship over Objectivity in Saskatchewan Parental Consent Coverage: An Empirical Analysis," *The Hub*, December 20, 2023, <https://thehub.ca/2023/12/20/dave-snow-the-cbc-prioritizes-allyship-over-objectivity-in-saskatchewan-parental-consent-coverage-an-empirical-analysis/>; Dave Snow, "The Groundbreaking Cass Review on Transgender Care Is Shifting the Debate Abroad," *The Hub*, May 28, 2024, <https://thehub.ca/2024/05/28/dave-snow-the-groundbreaking-cass-review-on-transgender-care-is-shifting-the-debate-abroad/>.

⁷ CBC News, "Corrections and Clarifications."

Collectively, these corrections paint a picture that will not surprise those who have accused the CBC of progressive bias. Across subjects as varied as COVID-19, Indigenous issues, and partisan politics, CBC's initial reporting was far more likely to reflect progressive assumptions than conservative ones. The pattern is clearest in its coverage of Israel and Gaza, where the CBC had to walk back several serious allegations against Israel. At a minimum, the correction record shows that the CBC needs the independent scrutiny the Senate Committee recommends.

How CBC Records Its Mistakes

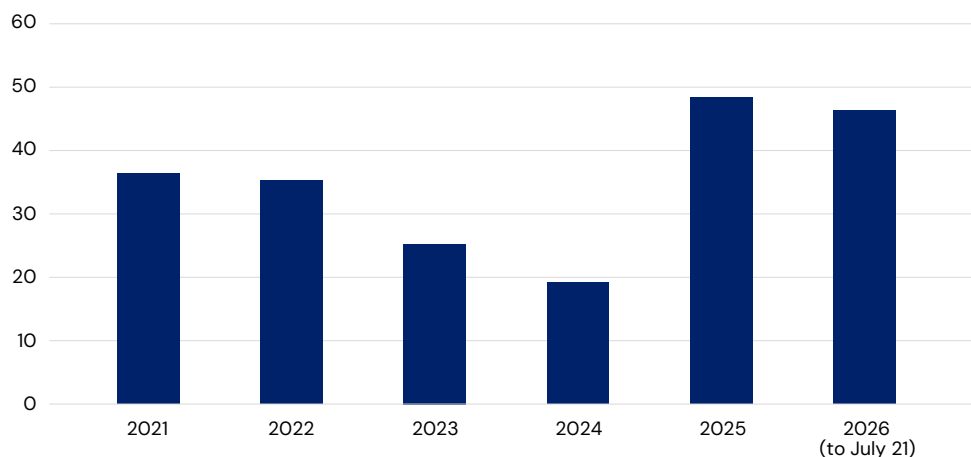
CBC's Corrections and Clarifications page begins in January 2021. It covers written stories, radio reports, television programming, videos, and other CBC News content. According to CBC's own Journalistic Standards and Practices (JSP), "we correct a significant error when we have been able to establish that one has occurred... [w]hen a correction is necessary, it is made promptly given the circumstances, with due regard for the reach of the published error."⁸ The Corrections page itself notes that "Corrections and clarifications are noted directly on all digital posts," while "updates that significantly change the audience's understanding of a report on any platform are logged on this page."⁹

Of course, the Corrections page is not a comprehensive catalogue of everything CBC gets wrong. It is self-reported, internally policed, and subject to selection bias; CBC decides which errors are significant, which are given notices, and how much information each notice contains. However, that limitation is revealing in and of itself: it shows which mistakes the CBC itself considers serious enough to publicly acknowledge.

With the help of ChatGPT Sol, I created a dataset of all individual notices on the CBC corrections page. I initially coded each correction notice for its date, subject matter, news format, nature of correction, and whether it involved several politically salient topics for which CBC has been subject to criticism (such as Israel/Gaza, political parties, and COVID-19). Classifications were based solely on the text of CBC's correction notices.¹⁰

For every correction discussed below, I returned to the original notices and manually checked the relevant coding to ensure the classifications were accurate. Where necessary to better understand the context (and where a web story was available), I read the updated web story, including any appended correction notice. Where CBC's notice identified the underlying story, I have linked to it below.

Figure 1: Corrections and Clarifications per year



⁸ CBC/Radio-Canada, "Corrections," Journalistic Standards and Practices, accessed September 15, 2026, <https://cbc.radio-canada.ca/en/vision/governance/journalistic-standards-and-practices/corrections>.

⁹ CBC News, "Corrections and Clarifications."

¹⁰ Because some notices describe the underlying coverage obliquely, additional corrections may have concerned the topics discussed below without explicitly identifying them, and are thus absent from the categories described.

Between January 11, 2021, and July 21, 2026, the CBC published 209 individual correction or clarification notices. The annual number declined steadily between 2021 and 2024 before more than doubling to 48 in 2025. That increase has continued in 2026: by July 21, CBC had already published 46 notices. If this rate continues, there will be approximately 83 notices in 2026—more than double the annual total in every year from 2021 to 2024, and a 73 percent increase from 2025.

Story / content type	Number	Percentage
Web news story	90	43%
Multiple formats	35	17%
CBC Radio	28	13%
CBC Television / The National	18	9%
Video	17	8%
CBC News Network	13	6%
Podcast	7	3%
Opinion	1	0.5%
TOTAL	209	100.0%

The notices spanned a wide variety of venues. As the table shows, corrections to individual news stories were the most frequent (43 percent), followed by multiple formats (17 percent) and CBC Radio (13 percent). Notably, only one clarification was made to an opinion column—a piece from a racialized Elections Canada worker who (in her original piece) described a “pleasant interaction” with “an elderly white woman with a walker,” then wondered whether the woman “was one of the people who hate people like me.”¹¹ CBC’s ombudsman described the piece as “neither fair nor precise enough to be considered accurate.”¹² Following an editorial review, some of its language was revised and CBC moved it from the First Person to Opinion category.¹³

¹¹ Zeahaa Rehman, “On Election Day, I Greeted People Who Voted for Candidates Who Might Hate People like Me,” *CBC News*, October 25, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/opinion-elections-right-wing-politics-1.6220540>; Cosmin Dzsurdza, “CBC Faces Backlash over ‘White Voters’ Story,” *True North*, August 9, 2022, <https://tnc.news/2022/08/09/cbc-white-voters/>.

¹² Mathew Horwood, “CBC Tightens Editorial Controls after Story That Was Not ‘Fair’ or ‘Accurate,’” *Western Standard*, August 9, 2022, https://www.westernstandard.news/news/cbc-tightens-editorial-controls-after-story-that-was-not-fair-or-accurate/article_a6161848-17e1-11ed-9e60-9f49677c689b.html.

¹³ CBC News, “Corrections and Clarifications.”

Patterns in the Corrections

Looking beyond the raw numbers reveals an immediate problem: CBC's correction notices are extremely brief. The average correction notice was 63 words long, with corrections ranging from 23 to 275 words. As a result, the notices often do not contain any information that would enable a retrospective understanding of what was corrected. The oldest and newest entries in the dataset make this clear:

January 11, 2021: "We updated this story, first posted in November 2019, reporting on backlash to a Facebook post from Lethbridge Conservative MP Rachael Harder.¹⁴ Our update was to more accurately reflect her views and to better contextualize some of the reactions to her Facebook post."

July 21, 2026: "CBC Edmonton removed a story published on July 19, 2026 to YouTube and TikTok about automobile insurance. It was removed due to considerations in our journalistic standards and practices."

In neither case is the correction notice sufficiently detailed to describe what, precisely, required correction. On occasion, the corrected story itself contains an "editor's note" that provides a bit more information, though not much.¹⁵ While CBC should be commended for telling readers it has corrected the record, that is of little use when we don't know what the record originally said.

¹⁴ Bryan Labby, "Story on Lethbridge MP Rachael Harder and COVID-19 Deaths," *CBC News*, November 25, 2020, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/covid-lethbridge-mp-rachael-harder-deaths-1.5815973>.

¹⁵ Rehman, "On Election Day, I Greeted People Who Voted for Candidates Who Might Hate People like Me"; Labby, "Story on Lethbridge MP Rachael Harder and COVID-19 Deaths."

A Clear Ideological Tilt

While many of CBC's individual notices reveal little, the data can help us understand the subjects on which it most frequently issues corrections. In particular, the data can show whether CBC's errors leaned in a consistent ideological direction. CBC has often been accused of ideological bias against both the Conservative Party and conservatives more broadly.¹⁶ As such, I sought to determine how often partisanship or ideology appeared in CBC's Corrections.

In total, only ten correction notices involved Liberals or Conservatives, or liberalism or conservatism more broadly. Two were minor technical corrections for which partisanship or ideology was incidental. Of the remaining eight, two concerned Liberals and six concerned conservatives. Strikingly, all eight errors ran in the same political direction.

One of the two Liberal-related corrections involved a prematurely celebratory headline that initially declared Canada was "finally getting" a national food program when the Liberal government had merely announced one it hoped to introduce later that year.¹⁷ The other put words in the mouth of a prominent Conservative: a CBC fact-check video falsely said that former Conservative cabinet minister Stockwell Day and others had blamed the Liberal government for changes to Poilievre's riding boundaries, although the source material contained no such accusation.¹⁸ Indeed, CBC's correction omitted that crucial context, failing to mention Day's name and admitting only that the video had wrongly said "some" blamed the Liberal government.¹⁹

The remaining six corrections followed the same tendency: all involved reporting that had been overly unfavourable to conservatives. The errors were as follows:

- Reporting that Conservative officials had physically pushed the assistant of floor-crossing MP Chris D'Entremont, when they had pushed open a door.²⁰
- Imprecisely linking alleged pressure by India on Conservative MP Michelle Rempel Garner to her decision to leave Patrick Brown's leadership campaign (she denied she was pressured).
- Challenging a Conservative housing affordability video using average mortgage costs, even though the claim was based on median income and total homeownership costs.
- Quoting a professor's distorted characterization of Charlie Kirk's remarks about Black women and gay people without describing what Kirk had actually said.²¹

¹⁶ Lowman, "The CBC Continues to Gaslight Conservatives, Even after Its Near-Death Experience"; Kevin Jiang, "Elon Musk Changes CBC's Label to '69% Government-Funded' after Broadcaster Announces Twitter Pause," *Toronto Star*, April 2023, https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/elon-musk-changes-cbc-s-label-to-69-government-funded-after-broadcaster-announces-twitter-pause/article_b75f9bc3-2a71-59f1-9132-6f3632dcdcf6.html; Newman, "Finally, Proof of What We've Known All Along—CBC Is Biased against Conservatives."

¹⁷ Christain Paas-Lang, "Ottawa Announces National School Food Program," *CBC News*, April 1, 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/national-school-food-program-announcement-1.7160384>.

¹⁸ CBC News, "Fact-check: Election fraud claims in Poilievre's riding" (video), *CBC News*, May 15, 2025, <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/video/9.6752338>; "CBC Fails Fact Check Again," Blacklock's Reporter, accessed September 15, 2026, <https://www.blacklocks.ca/cbc-fails-fact-check-again/>.

¹⁹ *CBC News*, "Fact-check: Election fraud claims in Poilievre's riding"

²⁰ Racy Rafique, "D'Entremont and the Conservative Leadership," *CBC News*, November 9, 2025, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/yelling-conservative-leadership-dentremont-9.6972680>.

²¹ Verity Stevenson, "Charlie Kirk's Appeal to Young Conservatives," *CBC News*, September 12, 2025, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/charlie-kirk-appeal-young-conservatives-1.7631690>.

- Publishing quotes from a Facebook post by Conservative MP Rachael Harder in a way CBC later called “potentially misleading” with insufficient context.²²
- As noted above, publishing a story from an election worker that generalized hateful attitudes to conservative parties and voters more broadly, which CBC later reclassified as an opinion column.²³

Most of the corrections were modest, and eight cases are hardly definitive. But the political tilt of the initial reporting was uniform: one error favoured the Liberals, and the other seven portrayed conservatives unfavourably.

The question of ideological balance extends beyond party politics. CBC has also been accused of approaching contentious Indigenous issues from a one-sided perspective. Most recently, a *Front Burner* episode on “residential school denialism” was unanimously panned by *The Hub’s Full Press* panel for presenting only one side of a hotly contested debate.²⁴ To determine whether that criticism reflected a broader pattern, I examined CBC’s corrections involving Indigenous peoples and issues. Thirteen notices fell into this category, six of which concerned technical details, such as context in a breach of contract dispute and a clarification regarding who could apply for residential school compensation.²⁵ Two others involved minor changes concerning disputed Indigenous identity claims, something to which the CBC has devoted much attention.²⁶

The remaining five, however, each involved reporting that had overstated or prematurely assigned responsibility for wrongdoing to Canadian institutions or the Catholic Church. Somewhat remarkably, on two separate occasions more than four years apart, CBC wrongly reported that the RCMP had been responsible for fatally shooting an Indigenous person (in actuality, the officers were from local police forces in Edmundston and Nunavik).²⁷ In addition, the CBC had reported that the Catholic Church still owed residential school survivors \$60 million without explaining that a court held its obligations had been fulfilled; it stated that a national Catholic fundraising campaign for residential school survivors had not begun without noting that individual dioceses had already started raising money; and, most infamously, CBC had to correct Rosemary Barton’s defiant claim that “there have been remains of Indigenous children found in various places across the country.”²⁸ In each case, CBC’s original reporting made the Canadian state, RCMP, or Catholic Church appear more culpable or less responsive than the facts supported.

²² Labby, “Story on Lethbridge MP Rachael Harder and COVID-19 Deaths.”

²³ Rehman, “On Election Day, I Greeted People Who Voted for Candidates Who Might Hate People like Me.”

²⁴ “What’s Fuelling Residential School Denialism?” *Front Burner*, CBC Radio, June 26, 2026, <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/frontburner/whats-fuelling-residential-school-denialism-9.7251941>; “Your First Obligation Is the Truth: Why It’s Not Canadian Media’s Job to Be ‘Elbows Up,’” *Full Press* (podcast), *The Hub*, July 23, 2026, <https://thehub.ca/podcast/video/your-first-obligation-is-the-truth-why-its-not-canadian-medias-job-to-be-elbows-up/>.

²⁵ CBC News, “Yukon Aboriginal Women’s Council Sues Consulting Firm, Says It’s Facing Insolvency,” CBC News, January 16, 2026, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/yukon-aboriginal-womens-council-sues-consulting-firm-says-it-s-facing-insolvency-9.7047728>; Avery Zingel, “Residential Day School Claims,” *CBC News*, January 11, 2022, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/residential-day-school-claims-1.6311766>.

²⁶ Angela Sterritt, “Calls for ‘Pretendians’ to Face Fines, Jail,” *CBC News*, January 19, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/calls-for-pretendians-to-face-fines-jail-1.5878330>; Geoff Leo, Roxanna Woloshyn and Linda Guerriero, “The Buffy Sainte-Marie Investigation,” *CBC News*, October 27, 2023, <https://www.cbc.ca/newsinteractives/features/buffy-sainte-marie>; Geoff Leo, “Scholar and Former Judge Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond Says She’s Cree, but Historical Records Raise Doubts,” *CBC News*, October 12, 2022, <https://www.cbc.ca/newsinteractives/features/mary-ellen-turpel-lafond-indigenous-cree-claims>.

²⁷ Shane Magee, “Chantel Moore Shooting Lawsuit: Defence,” *CBC News*, February 23, 2023, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/chantel-moore-shooting-lawsuit-defence-1.6750728>; *CBC News*, “Report on Nunavik” (video), *CBC News*, November 5, 2025, <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/video/9.6968804>.

²⁸ Jason Warick, “Residential School Survivors, Compensation and the Papal Visit,” *CBC News*, November 5, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/residential-school-survivors-compensation-papal-visit-1.6237418>; Jason Warick, “Catholic Bishops’ Residential School Fundraiser Missed November Timeline,” *CBC News*, December 22, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/cccb-fundraiser-november-timeline-missed-1.6294008>; CBC Ombudsman, “Ombud Inbox, April 2025,” *CBC Ombudsman*, April 2025, https://cbc.radio-canada.ca/en/ombudsman/blog/Ombud_Inbox_April_2025.

CBC's COVID Corrections

Somewhat surprisingly, nineteen correction notices—nine percent of the entire dataset—were coded as involving COVID-19, vaccines, or pandemic reporting. Less surprisingly, 13 of these 19 notices came from 2021 (and a further three in 2022), reflecting the quick pace of change while the pandemic was still prominent.

Unlike the political corrections listed above, the COVID-19 errors do not *all* point in a particular ideological direction. For example, CBC clarified that a hospitalized patient's second vaccine dose had not yet become active, added previously omitted research showing that boosters substantially reduced the risk of infection, and corrected false statements made by an anti-vaccine radio caller.²⁹ If anything, these mistakes cut against prevailing progressive assumptions about the pandemic.

But on the pandemic's most contentious questions, CBC's initial reporting frequently heightened the threat of COVID or bolstered the prevailing public-health narrative: the CBC conflated clinical-trial efficacy with real-world effectiveness when describing the AstraZeneca vaccine; overstated COVID death and hospitalization rates in Nova Scotia; incorrectly attributed a death to COVID-19; mischaracterized a lockdown critic as praising businesses that violated public-health orders; and portrayed ivermectin as a dangerous livestock drug without mentioning its use for treating parasitic infections in humans—in July 2024, when this fact was widely known.³⁰ On balance, CBC's COVID errors suggest a modest progressive tilt, albeit less clearly than in other politically charged areas.

²⁹ CBC News, "Corrections and Clarifications".

³⁰ John Paul Tasker, "AstraZeneca Vaccine Approved," CBC News, February 26, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/astrazeneca-approved-1.5929050>; Nicola Seguin, "COVID-19 Safer Living for Businesses," *CBC News*, April 8, 2022, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/covid-safer-living-businesses-1.6413974>; CBC News, "CBC News Report" (video), *CBC News*, April 28, 2022, <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/video/1.6435172>; The Canadian Press, "Ontario Medical Officer of Health and COVID-19," *CBC News*, September 4, 2021, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/covid-ont-moh-1.6165144>.

Israel and Gaza: An Unsurprising Trend

Since October 7, 2023, CBC has been subject to near-constant criticism for anti-Israel bias.³¹ Across the full dataset, 23 notices concerned Israel, Palestine, Gaza, or closely related actors or events. I reviewed all 23, consulting the original articles where available, and coded each according to the direction in which it added balance. Specifically:

- A correction was classified as **adding Israel balance** when it clearly strengthened the Israeli account or made the corrected treatment more sympathetic to the Israeli position (indicating that the original version had been too favourable to Palestine).
- A correction **added Palestine balance** when it clearly strengthened the Palestinian account or made the corrected treatment more sympathetic to the Palestinian position (indicating that the original version had been too favourable to Israel).

These labels describe the direction of the correction, not the overall politics of the original story or whether the correction was justified.

At first glance, the Israel/Palestine corrections seemed even-handed: eight added Israel balance, seven added Palestine balance, and eight were technical or had no clear direction based on the available information (such as correcting “excursion” to “incursion,” an unspecified error in the number of remaining hostages, and one entry with a broken link).

However, those numbers obscure a clear difference with respect to the gravity of the claims being corrected. Four of the eight corrections coded as “adding Israel balance” concerned stories that had initially portrayed Israel as responsible for grave abuses:

- Reporting that 14,000 Palestinian children could die from malnutrition within 48 hours when the estimate was actually for the coming year.
- Broadcasting, without independent verification, an allegation that Israeli soldiers had buried Palestinians alive.³²
- Airing allegations of Israeli torture and mistreatment of Palestinian child prisoners without including Israel’s denial.³³
- Referring to Palestinians detained or imprisoned by Israel as “hostages,” invoking the language used for those abducted and held captive by Hamas.

³¹ Stephen Staley, “Reports Reveal the CBC’s Anti-Israel Bias, and Canada’s Revolving-Door Policing Continues: Roundup,” *The Hub*, January 21, 2026, <https://thehub.ca/2026/01/21/reports-reveal-the-cbcs-anti-israel-bias-and-canadas-revolving-door-policing-continues-roundup/>; CIJA, “CBC’s Anti-Semitic and Anti-Israel Bias to Be Put to CRTC,” accessed September 15, 2026, https://www.cija.ca/cbc_s_anti_semitic_and_anti_israel_bias_to_be_put_to_crtc_ottawa_life; Rick Firth, “New Report Exposes Systemic Anti-Israel Bias at CBC News,” *HonestReporting Canada*, January 20, 2026, <https://honestreporting.ca/videos/new-report-exposes-systemic-anti-israel-bias-at-cbc-news/>.

³² *HonestReporting Canada*, “CBC Issues Landmark On-Air Correction on a Claim Alleging Israel Buried Palestinians Alive,” April 6, 2026, <https://honestreporting.ca/success-cbc-issues-landmark-on-air-correction-telling-listeners-there-was-no-substance-to-claim-made-by-glia-equal-cares-dorotea-gucciardo-alleging-israel-buried-palestini/>.

³³ *HonestReporting Canada*, “CBC and Waterloo Record Atone for Portraying Israel as an Abuser of Palestinian Children,” December 1, 2021, <https://honestreporting.ca/cbc-and-waterloo-record-portray-israel-as-an-abuser-of-palestinian-children-2/>.

The remaining four corrections coded as “adding Israel balance” did not involve allegations of comparable seriousness. They concerned the description of a form presented to Canadian MPs denied entry to the West Bank; reports related to a criminal investigation into a killing; incorrectly describing the anti-Israel advocacy group Samidoun as a registered charity; and referring to Gaza as “occupied” without stating Israel’s position.³⁴

By contrast, none of the seven corrections coded as “adding Palestine balance” concerned allegations as grave as those listed above. One was the mirror image of a correction noted above: initially describing Gaza as not “occupied” without noting the opposing view.³⁵ Four others also dealt principally with context or terminology: locating Al-Aqsa Mosque in Israel rather than East Jerusalem; failing to mention that, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry, three Palestinians killed in an Israeli raid on a refugee camp were children; incorrectly stating that the United Nations considers Hamas a terrorist organization; and incorrectly stating that CBC prohibited the use of the word “genocide” in Gaza, when attributed use was permitted.

Of the remaining two notices adding Palestine balance, one concerned reporting that had omitted violent acts by Israeli soccer supporters before subsequent attacks on them in Amsterdam. The other involved CBC’s reliance on a disputed translation saying that a Hamas militant called five captured female Israeli conscripts “women who can get pregnant.” In both cases, the underlying facts remain vigorously contested.³⁶ However, even taken at face value, neither came close to the severity of the claims CBC had to correct about Israel. Instead, the gravest errors all ran in the same direction: against Israel.

³⁴ Raffy Boudjikianian and Peter Zimonjic, “Israel and Canada,” *CBC News*, December 16, 2025, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/israel-canada-9.7017424>; “Israeli Court Decision Could Pave Way for Palestinian Evictions in West Bank,” *Nothing Is Foreign* (podcast), CBC, May 20, 2022, <https://www.cbc.ca/listen/cbc-podcasts/1059-nothing-is-foreign/episode/15913828-israeli-court-decision-could-pave-way-for-palestinian-evictions-in-west-bank>.

³⁵ Chris Brown, “Israel, the Gaza Strip and Settlers,” *CBC News*, January 30, 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/israel-gaza-strip-settlers-1.7098854>.

³⁶ Jason Toney, “False Translation of Hamas Aired Multiple Times by CBC, Requires Correction,” *Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East*, May 27, 2024, https://www.cjpmemap.ca/2024_05_30_ai_cbc; Graeme Wood, “The ‘Sabaya’ Mistranslation,” *The Atlantic*, May 25, 2024, <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2024/05/israel-hamas-female-captives-sabaya-translation/678505/>; Home Affairs Committee, *Maccabi Tel Aviv Fan Ban* (London: House of Commons, 2026), <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5901/cmselect/cmhaff/1553/report.html>; Chris Brown “Amsterdam Israeli Soccer Fans Violence,” *CBC News*, November 15, 2024, <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/amsterdam-israeli-soccer-fans-violence-1.7383558>.

What CBC's Corrections Reveal

This study draws three broad conclusions about CBC's self-reported correction and clarification notices. First, CBC deserves some credit for maintaining a public corrections record. While the record would benefit from longer entries and more systematic linking to previous stories, this study would not have been possible without CBC's willingness to acknowledge mistakes in the first place.

Second, CBC's acknowledged errors were not ideologically random. The examples differ in subject and seriousness, but the corrections show an institution whose instincts tend to be progressive: over-eagerly describing COVID risks in ways that reinforced prevailing public-health assumptions; instinctively accepting claims against Conservatives without sufficient corroboration or context; assigning wrongdoing to Canadian institutions and the Catholic Church with respect to Indigenous peoples; and, most troublingly, advancing grave allegations against Israel. While the direction of errors is not always uniform, the evidence strongly suggests that CBC reporters' default instincts tend to align with a progressive worldview. In such a monoculture, confirmation bias and motivated reasoning prevail.³⁷

Finally, these findings provide further support for the Senate Committee's recommendation that CBC's news and current affairs be subject to periodic analysis by outside experts.³⁸ With the federal government positioning CBC as central to its efforts to "combat disinformation," such scrutiny is essential.³⁹

CBC's president claims the broadcaster promotes "a diversity of points of view and fairness in our coverage."⁴⁰ Now CBC has a chance to prove it.

³⁷ Andreas Hergovich, Reinhard Schott, and Christoph Burger, "Biased Evaluation of Abstracts Depending on Topic and Conclusion: Further Evidence of a Confirmation Bias within Scientific Psychology," *Current Psychology* 29, no. 3 (2010): 188–209, <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12144-010-9087-5>; Jonathan Haidt, "Motivated Reasoning" (video), YouTube, accessed September 15, 2026, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiTc-ORKlxE>.

³⁸ Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications, *Local Services Provided by CBC/Radio-Canada* (Ottawa: Senate of Canada, 2026), https://sencanada.ca/content/sen/committee/451/TRCM/Reports/TRCM_45-1_SS-1_CBC_Report_final_e.pdf.

³⁹ Canadian Heritage, "Other Items of Interest," July 22, 2026, <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/corporate/transparency/open-government/standing-committee/appearance-miller-main-estimates-may-2026/other-items.html>.

⁴⁰ Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications, *Local Services Provided by CBC/Radio-Canada* (Ottawa: Senate of Canada, 2026), https://sencanada.ca/content/sen/committee/451/TRCM/Reports/TRCM_45-1_SS-1_CBC_Report_final_e.pdf.

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