



## This Soviet Jew dreamed...

Shown above, with the Hon. DAVID DINGWALL(Left), minister of Public Works Canada, are Mr. YOSSEI GOLDBERG, Mayor of Metulla; Canadian Ambassador to Israel NORMAN

SPECTOR, and MISHA SHMERKIN, during the minister's visit to the Canada Centre Sports Complex in that Israeli city. The Centre was built through Canadian UJA contributions.

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The Atlantic Jewish  
Council Quarterly

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## KOSHER SUPERVISION In Atlantic Canada

Rabbi Shlomo Grafstein supervises a number of products for the community. They are under the HK (Halifax Kosher). The Kosher products are:

1. The baked goods of Stone Hearth Bakery.
2. All cottage cheese and sour cream made by Scotsburn plant in Amherst. They include: Scotsburn, Farmer's (Cottage cheese only), Sunshine (in Newfoundland) A.D.L. (Amalgamated Dairies Limited, in P.E.I.).

If you have any questions, contact Rabbi Grafstein at (Office) 902-422-1301, (Res) 902-423-7307, (Fax) 422-7251

# President's Message

In early July, my wife, Myra, and I enjoyed a week in Israel after last travelling there seventeen years ago.



by Larry Freeman

I observed the buoyancy of the economy and the forward thinking attitude of the people. The peace process has not only relaxed the majority of the people, but it has greatly contributed to a resurgence in economic growth. Everywhere we travelled new buildings were under construction, municipal infrastructure was upgraded and new opportunities were created. I was proud of my small contribution to the development of the State through work in the Diaspora.

We were fortunate to travel to Israel with the **Honourable David Dingwall**, Minister of Government Services, and his staff

from ACOA and CMHC. Minister Dingwall visited Israel with the hope of increasing trade with Canada. The Minister was particularly interested in developing trade with Atlantic Canada. The trip was a great success and in

time we will see the fruits of labour blossom.

I can only say I had the best of both worlds. How proud I was as a Jew in the Diaspora to showcase Israel to a prominent member of the Canadian Government and how proud I was as a Canadian to see such commitment from a Canadian Minister.

I will conclude by saying I will not wait seventeen years before returning. For those of you who have not been to Israel, please make it a priority.

The Shalom Magazine is the official publication of the Atlantic Jewish Council. Its purpose is to communicate to the Jewish population of Atlantic Canada, to instill pride in their achievements, to exchange and discuss ideas and information about all areas of Jewish interests. The opinions expressed in the Shalom Magazine are those of the authors and not necessarily of the Atlantic Jewish Council or its editorial board.

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to a list of members supplied by the Atlantic Jewish Council.



## From the desk of the Executive Director



Jon Goldberg

***Gone to Israel on UIA Atlantic Leadership Mission. Missed the deadline.***

***Do the right thing. Come to the A.J.C. Bi-Annual Convention, November 11-13 in Halifax.***

***I'll see everyone there!***

***Jon***

### **Notice of special resolution to the AJC Constitution**

**Notice is given of proposed amendment to be ratified at the forthcoming Bi-Annual Convention, as follows:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The Constitution of the Atlantic Jewish Council is hereby amended by deleting therefrom Article X and replacing it with the following:

**Article X**

**Officers of the Atlantic Jewish Council**

**Section 1** - All of the Officers of the Council shall also be the Officers of the Board. The Officers, with the exception of the 7 members-at-large referred to in (8) who shall be selected as provided herein, shall be elected by the members of the Council at a regular or special meeting of the Council. All Officers shall be elected, or selected, as the case may be, for a two-year term.

**Section 2** - There shall be the following Officers:

Chairman  
President  
1st Vice-President  
2nd Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Associate Treasurer  
Five Members-at-large

Seven additional Members-at-large, with the Jewish Communities of Cape Breton, the Annapolis Valley, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Fredericton, Moncton and Saint John each selecting its own representative.



# Gali's Window



by Gali Salamon

**I**t has been twelve months already. Together with the new Jewish year, I ended my first year in Halifax and started my second. It is overwhelming to see how much has happened in the last year. We have accomplished a lot with Young Judaea. There are a number of committed madrichim who are doing their best to have programs going on in our community; with their help I hope to have more successful events that will start in the next few weeks. I also had the pleasure of traveling and meeting a lot of people from communities in the Atlantic Region. Each one of those trips has taught me more and more about the Jewish life style in a small community, where people struggle to keep and strengthen their identity despite the difficulties that arise. The past year has been an important lesson to me, exposing me to other cultures (and to a totally different climate!).

**I** spent the summer in Camp Kadimah, where I could get a closer look at our youth. It was very interesting to see the interaction between the Maritime kids with children from other bigger cities in Canada. I can certainly say that this has been an experience. We were also very lucky with the weather since this summer had only a few rainy days.

**C**oming back to the city, I started working on the calendar for the coming year. Within the hectic schedule of September, I traveled to Moncton for a weekend. There, with the help of some teenagers we had a successful program, showing the children a stimulating video about Israel. Following the video, the teenagers who spent some time in Israel answered any questions that came up. It was encouraging to see the

interaction between the teenagers and the younger kids. This is a great sign for more successful programs.

**I**n Halifax we had the U.I.A. Israel March which turned out to be great in spite of the rain. Every one who dared to get wet enjoyed a good program and good food.

**S**eptember was, of course, full of Holidays. The phone company would have been happy to have those Holidays for more than once a year. I missed home so much that I was talking to my family in Israel very often. It was strange for me to walk to shul on Yom Kippur and see that it is just another day for everyone else. Those of you who ever spent the High Holidays in Israel know that on Yom Kippur everything stops. There is no school, every business is closed, there is no traffic on the roads. It is almost as if the whole world stops for the Holiness of this day. Still, spending the time of the Holidays with families in the community has helped a lot to feel at home.

**N**ow we have a new year ahead of us. For me it is another opportunity to work with the wonderful youth of the Maritimes. I am looking forward to having programs, Young Judaea meetings and other community events. I hope to be of help to the community as much as I have been in the past year; I hope to get as much support as I got so far from parents, grandparents, teenagers, children and everybody else!

---

## Yiddish, Yiddish, Yiddish

by Rabbi Shlomo Grafstein

There is an open community group of people who speak Yiddish, or understand a "bissel". This takes place at the Beth Israel Synagogue in Halifax every Thursday from 1-2p.m. This will include Yiddish videos. A Torah discussion with Rabbi Shlomo Grafstein will follow from 2-2:30p.m. in English.

Thursday nights at Dalhousie Student Union Building (SUB) room 318

7:00 p.m. - Understanding the depths of the Torah

8:05 p.m. - Learning to read Hebrew

This is taught by Rabbi Shlomo Grafstein, and is open to everyone.

# Cape Breton Council of Hadassah-WIZO

by Evelyn Davis

Despite declining membership, which necessitated a more condensed format, the 1994 edition of the Bazaar, sponsored by the Cape Breton Council of Hadassah-Wizo enjoyed the same public acceptance as in past years.

This year's convenor **Diana Schwartz** was assisted by **Edith Lecker** and **Shirley Chernin**. All available members participated, including a number of male members of the congregation.

Members of the Glace Bay Chapter of Hadassah-WIZO and Sisterhood of the Sons of Israel Congregation held a tea to



**Etta Chernin with convenor Diana Schwartz at the Hadassah-WIZO Bazaar.**



**Fanny Cohen - honouree**

honour **Fanny Cohen**, who has been holding the dual presidential portfolios for many years.

**Shirley Chernin** presented **Fanny** with a lovely clock on behalf of the membership. She thanked **Fanny** for her tireless efforts to hold regular meetings and keep the community together.

**Myrna Yazer**, Regional Coordinator, was the guest speaker when the Cape Breton Council of Hadassah-Wizo held a Youth Aliyah tea at the Delta Hotel in Sydney.

Under the convenorship of **Ely Friedman**, assisted by **Etta Chernin**, **Anita Lubetsky**, **Helen Marshall** and **Brenda Columbus** - the campaign was a tremendous success.

**Myrna** introduced the newest project of Hadassah-Wizo, "Women for Women". This project will assist abused women in Israel. She was introduced by **Edith Lecker** and thanked by **Shirley Dubinsky**.



**Myrna Yazer**

A pot-luck supper was held at the Temple Sons of Israel synagogue to receive reports of the years achievements of the Cape Breton Council of Hadassah-WIZO.

The president, **Evelyn Davis**, thanked the convenors who worked so hard during the year. **Faye David**, president of the Sydney chapter presented **Helen Sherman** with a certificate upon her departure for London, Ontario. Kovet pins were presented to **Libby Cohen**, **Judy Schneiderman**, **Lil Nathanson**, **Diane Schwartz** and **Helen Sherman**.

**Shirley Chernin** was presented with a Bazaar pin for over 20 years of Bazaar convenorship.

## Shalom from the Annapolis Valley

by Naomi Honey

Congratulations to **Marla Davis** who has been appointed as the Provincial Representative to the Kentville Police Commission. **Marla** is a teacher at Aldershot School and the mother of **Cara**, **Josh**, and **Noah**.

Best wishes to **Andrew Honey** of Israel. His aunt **Dina Cohen** of Mazkeret Batya phoned to say that **Andrew** had recently received very special recognition for excellent performance during training exercises with the Givatti unit of the IDF.

Speedy recovery is wished for **Ada Fritz** who is seriously ill in hospital in Kentville.

Plans for two community activities were discussed during a coffee party at **Marla Davis'** home recently. A UIA/Israel evening for adults and a community Chanuka party (Kentville Rec. Centre) are scheduled and all members of the Valley Jewish community will be contacted. Everyone is welcome and it is hoped that these activities will see the best participation yet!



# AJC Announces: 9TH BI-ANNUAL CONVENTION

## TENTATIVE AGENDA

### Friday Nov. 11

11 a.m.

**REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES**, Cenotaph, Parade Square. Wreath to be laid by Jewish War Veterans and AJC members

12 noon - 4 p.m.

**REGISTRATION DESK** opens at Shaar Shalom Synagogue

12:30 p.m.

Light opening **LUNCHEON**

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

#### WORKSHOP #1

Gold Room, Shaar Shalom Synagogue  
**Jewish Life in Atlantic Canada (for the Single Person and for the Observant): Is There a Future? Can We Retain Our Identity in the Assimilating Environment? Are the Jewish Organizations serving the needs of Atlantic Canada?** Invited panelists: TBA

#### WORKSHOP #2

**Servicing the Jewish Youth of Atlantic Canada: What about our Kids Year Round?** Invited panelists: Andrew Wolfson, Mark Rosen, Co-chairs of Camp Kadimah. Others to be named

4:30 p.m.

**Shabbat Services** at Beth Israel

4:31 p.m.

**CANDLELIGHTING**

5:30 p.m.

**ESP Services** at Shaar Shalom

6:00 p.m.

**Gala Shabbat Dinner**, Beth Israel Synagogue. Hosted by the AJC. Program prepared by the Youth of Halifax  
Keynote Address: **Jewish Survival and Continuity**.  
Keynote Speaker: TBA

**HOSPITALITY SUITE** open at Citadel Inn after 9:30 p.m.

### Saturday Nov. 12

9:00 a.m.

**SERVICES** at Beth Israel (Orthodox); Shaar Shalom (Conservative)

12 noon

**KIDDISH LUNCHEON** hosted by Jewish National Fund, Beth Israel. Luncheon Chair: Judge Irvin Lampert. Guest speaker: JNF Official

1:15 - 2:30 p.m.

#### WORKSHOP #3

Main Auditorium, Beth Israel Synagogue. **Israel Perspective**  
Speakers: TBA

2:45 - 4:00 p.m.

#### WORKSHOP #4

Youth Lounge, Beth Israel. **Community Relations & Anti-Semitism: Doing the Right Thing**  
Panelists: Bernie Farber, Hal Joffe, National Chair, JCRC

#### WORKSHOP #5

**Campus & Universities: Is Being Jewish Still Relevant to Our Students?**  
**It's Tough to Be Jewish on Campus**  
Panel: TBA

7:30 p.m.

**REGISTRATION REOPENS**, Lord Nelson Hotel

8:00 p.m.

**GALA CJC 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** - Cocktail Reception. Imperial Ballroom, Lord Nelson Hotel. Welcoming Address by Dr. Irving Abella. Presentation of Community

Service Awards. Regards from Special Guests. Musical entertainment, Cabaret Style Reception. Coffee, Tea, Desserts, Finger foods, Veggie trays, Cash Bar

**HOSPITALITY SUITE** at Citadel Inn opens following program

### Sunday Nov. 13

9 - 10:15 a.m.

**EARLY BIRD BREAKFAST** for those attending workshops.

#### WORKSHOP #6,

Lord Nelson Hotel Salon  
**Senior Citizen's Forum: Can We Provide a Secure Future in Atlantic Canada.** Panelists: TBA

#### WORKSHOP #7,

Lord Nelson Hotel Salon.  
**United Israel Appeal: Making our Campaign More Relevant to the Needs and Aspirations of Atlantic Jewry. Where Our Money Goes.** Panelists: Reuven Rosenfelder, Barney Harris, Campaign chairs from around the Region

10:30 - 12 noon

**BI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.** Regency Room, Lord Nelson Hotel. Election of Officers, including Reports from the President, the Treasurer, the Executive Director, the Areva; New Business

12:15 - 2 p.m.

**COMMUNITY BRUNCH**, Beth Israel Synagogue. Hosted by United Israel Appeal of Canada. Guest Speaker: Lt. Col. (Ret.) Yona Gazit. Audio Visual Presentation

2 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

join us in halifax and...

**"DO THE RIGHT THING"**

1515 South Park Street, Suite 305, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L2  
Telephone (902) 422-7491 Fax (902) 425-3722

# "DO THE RIGHT THING"

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### Conference Chairs:

Miriam Cohen - Fredericton - (506) 459-5832  
Claire Frankel-Salama - St. John's - (709) 753-8660

### TRAVEL:

The Atlantic Jewish Council is prepared to provide transportation for all delegates from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia (3 hour min. travel time). Delegates from PEI and Newfoundland may be eligible for travel subsidies. All arrangements are to be made with one of the following prior to November 4:

FREDERICTON - Miriam Cohen (506) 459-5832;  
MONCTON - Evelyn Carnat - (506) 386-5099;  
SAINT JOHN - Janet Holtzman - (506) 693-2605;  
CAPE BRETON - Elliott Marshall (902) 849-4145;  
NEWFOUNDLAND & PEI -  
Christina MacNeil (902) 422-7491

### BILLETING:

We are arranging billeting in kosher homes upon request. There are also a limited number of non-kosher homes available. First come, first served basis.

### BABYSITTING SERVICES:

Babysitting arrangements for the weekend for out-of-town delegates can only be made upon request in advance through the Convention Co-ordinator.

This service will be in-room only.

Note: Children's program will run concurrent to the Friday evening program in the Youth Lounge.

### HOTELS:

We have booked a block of rooms in two Halifax hotels. Please make your reservations early.  
The Lord Nelson Hotel,  
P.O. Box 700, Halifax, NS B3J 2T3 (902) 423-6331,  
Rates: \$55/night single or double  
(within walking distance to both synagogues)  
The Citadel Inn Halifax,  
1960 Brunswick Street, Halifax, NS B3J 9Z9,  
(800) 565-7162, \$69/night single or double occupancy.  
Identify yourself as part of the AJC Convention Group.

### ELECTIONS:

Any Jewish resident of Atlantic Canada, 17 years of age and over, is eligible to be a delegate. You must register for the convention to vote in the elections on Sunday.

### REGISTRATION FEE:

Registration fees include conference materials, four kosher meals, hors d'oeuvres at the Cocktail/Reception on Saturday evening, GST.

Adults: \$60 per person (\$70 per person after November 4)  
Seniors (over 65): \$50 per person (\$60 per person after November 4)

Secondary & post-secondary students: \$18  
Halifax mini-package (Friday Shabbat dinner only):  
\$25 per person

Children under 14 (Friday Shabbat only):  
\$10 per person

Gala Saturday evening program only:  
\$15 per person

PLEASE NOTE: WE ANTICIPATE A LARGE  
TURNOUT FOR MEALS. NO ONE WILL BE  
ADMITTED WITHOUT REGISTRATION BADGES.

## Atlantic Jewish Council - 9th Bi-Annual Convention - Registration Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION(S) \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT ENCLOSED: \_ CHEQUE \_ VISA # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form to:  
CHRISTINA MACNEIL, ASSISTANT COORDINATOR  
ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL  
1515 SOUTH PARK STREET, SUITE 305 HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3J 2L2



# Jewish women now have full rights of participation in synagogue services

by Robin McGrath

The year 5754, which has just ended according to the Jewish calendar, has been a year of tremendous change for members of the Hebrew Congregation of Newfoundland and Labrador.

On September 19, 1993, a general meeting of the Jewish community voted unanimously to accept all Jewish women, 12 years of age or older, as full participants in all synagogue services and activities in the same way men are participants.

Among Orthodox Jews, men have always conducted services so that women could be free to care for children. However, in recent time, some Conservative congregations have encouraged women to participate more fully in the religious life of the community in synagogues as well as at home. Numerous Conservative congregations across Canada have voted to extend both the rights and obligations of adult Jewish men to Jewish women as well.

The Hebrew Congregation of Newfoundland and Labrador, which is centred around Beth El Synagogue, was founded by **Israel Perlin** in 1909 as an Orthodox congregation. Membership

grew slowly and steadily, reaching its maximum in the 1960s, but since then there has been a steady decline in the number of participating Jewish families in the province.

Many of the old families have died or have moved to the mainland, and it was often difficult to assemble the necessary 10 men to conduct services.

With the inclusion of women in the minyan, full services in St. John's have been held on a more regular basis. The most significant event to mark this year of change came when, after many months of study, three 12-year-old girls were called to the Torah as Batel Mitzvah.

**Silvia Gross, Miriam Noel and Arielle Salama**, all of St. John's, donned the traditional skull caps and prayer shawls worn during services and read from the Holy scrolls. Many older women in the congregation have also been called to the Torah.

There has always been a male rabbi or Hebrew teacher in St. John's, but as part of the move to include women in all aspects of Jewish observance, the Hebrew Congregation has for the first time in 85 years engaged a woman volunteer/teacher to assist children and adults

alike in their study. **Effrat Tzadik** arrived from Israel at the beginning of September in time to celebrate the recent High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. For the first time in the province, women were called to the Torah and honoured during the High Holiday services.

Effrat, a student of sociology and anthropology, taught Hebrew during her time in the Israeli Army and comes to St. John's as part of Project Arevim. As well as teaching the members of the community, she will be conducting the Outreach Program, through which school groups from around the province visit the synagogue and have access to its library for Holocaust studies. Outreach is an ongoing program supported by the federal Department of Multiculturalism.

This year has seen tremendous change for the Jewish women of the province and has initiated a renewed interest in the Hebrew community.

Mazel Tov to all the members of the congregation and may the year 5755 be one of growth and prosperity.

*Reprint, The Evening Telegram, September 30, 1994.*

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1515 South Park St., Suite 305, Halifax, NS B3J 2L2



# From the files of Jewish Historical Society - Pier 21



Mr. Noah Heinish and Mrs. Meta Echt are shown standing in the Immigrant processing centre at Pier 21 (circa 1948) in Halifax, NS. As Halifax volunteers for JIAS (Jewish Immigrant Aid Society), they were assisting Jewish refugee immigrants who had newly arrived from Europe by way of transatlantic liner. This photograph is present on a panel about Pier 21. It is dedicated to the immigrants who passed through Pier 21 and to the immigration authorities and to the many volunteers who assisted their entrance to a new life in Canada. Photo credit Canadian Jewish Congress National Archives (Montreal).

by Gertrude Shane

Pier 21 was the Halifax docking area from 1928 to 1968 for European immigrants to Canada. After the processing of immigration documents, most people entered awaiting immigrant trains for central and western Canada. Some remained in Nova Scotia.

A notable volunteer from the Halifax Jewish community was **Mrs. Sadie Fineberg**, who because of her proficiency in several European languages, her good humor and her philanthropy, was commissioned in 1948 by mayor **John Ahern** "to officially represent the city of Halifax at the immigration piers in the capacity of greeter and counsellor."

**Mrs. Marianne Echt Ferguson**, whose family arrived as refugees from Danzig to Pier 21 in 1939, recalls accompanying her mother, Meta Echt, day or night to meet, to greet, and to offer assistance to immigrants. Other volunteers from the Halifax Jewish community offered generously of their time to aid the newly arrived immigrants.

The history of the immigrant process is poignantly related in the publication *Pier 21* by **Mitic and LeBlanc**. Quoted from *Pier 21* is the following description "The players in this poignant tale of human drama were the one and one-quarter million immigrants who passed through the unpretentious portals of Pier 21. In the spacious reception area they milled, women clutching children and luggage, men with hat and precious documents in hand.

"Some came to seek shelter from the ravages of war and oppression. All came in search of a better life, a new beginning. They came in groups large and small, some bringing a sizable collection of possessions, others with only the clothing on their backs.

"But if the players were the seas of people who swept through Pier 21, the stagehands were the dedicated individuals who worked there, greeting and directing the human tides that flowed at its doors. Immigration officials tirelessly examined documents, processed applications and dispensed the coveted yellow card that saw an immigrant up the first step of the staircase to Canadian citizenship. Physicians and nurses were ready to administer medical treatment. Red Cross volunteers attended to the needs of weary youngsters, bathing them and tucking them into clean cots in the Pier 21 nursery. Representatives of clergy of all denominations reached out to those in need. This, then is the story of Pier 21."

With the implementation of air travel for immigrants, Pier 21 was no longer a centre for entrance to Canada and for sometime Pier 21 was not in use.

In 1994, under the auspices of Parks Canada and the Presidency of **Dr. Ruth Goldbloom**, plans were in process to revitalize Pier 21. In the spring of 1994, an exhibit was shown at Mt. St. Vincent University art gallery entitled "In Transit, Pier 21". July 1, 1994 was the date for the gala opening for a new role for pier 21.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Judge Lampert elected a National Officer of JNF-Canada

Moncton Judge Irwin E. Lampert was elected a National Officer of the Jewish National Fund of Canada at the organization's annual meeting held in Montreal in May.

Judge Lampert had been a member of the Board of Directors of JNF for a number of years and has chaired Moncton's JNF campaign for the past 15 years.

In 1982, Judge Lampert was awarded the Bernard M. Bloomfield Medal for meritorious community service to the Jewish National Fund

## Family Services of Halifax

The Atlantic Jewish Council is proud to announce that there has been recently established in Halifax Metro a committee, called the Jewish Family Services of Halifax Metro (JFS), to

provide assistance to Jewish families in need of financial aid and/or social services. Anyone who would like to make a donation to JFS, volunteer their services, or would like to know more about this committee, please call one of the co-chairpersons, Nancy Cieplinski 477-7144, or Seymour Prince 445-3620, or the AJC office 422-7491.

## Jewish War Veterans

by Gar Meltzer, Commander Atlantic Post #4

Attention Canadian Jewish War Veterans, associates and families

Please join all our brother and sister posts across Canada who will be going to Synagogue on Saturday morning on November 5, 1994 for Remembrance Services in your local Synagogues.

We will remember them - We will remember them.

**LIVE THE DREAM . . . BUY ISRAEL BONDS.  
BUILD THE NATION . . . INVEST TODAY!**



## STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS CURRENT INSTRUMENTS & INTEREST RATES

### Economic Development Issue Bond (E.D.I.)

Minimum Purchase U.S. \$25,000

**7.8%**

(if purchased before Oct. 21, 1994)

Fixed Rate of Interest

### Canadian Floating Rate Issue Bond (C.F.R.I.)

Minimum Purchase CDN \$5,000

**6.0%**

Through November, 1994

### Individual Variable Rate Issue Bond (IVRI)

Minimum Purchase U.S. \$5,000

**6.125%**

Through November, 1994

### Zero Coupon Savings Bond U.S. \$2,941 through October 21, 1994

Effective Yield

**8.0%**

Matures October 31, 2003 at U.S. \$6,000

Also available is the traditional 4% Savings Bond in multiples of U.S. \$250.00

Reminder: RRSP Funds can now be used for the purchase of Israel Bonds.

The Halifax metro State of Israel bond campaign is planned to take place in the later part of November. However, anyone who is not going to be in town at this time and wishes to purchase a bond and/or rollover a bond coming due, please call Jayson Greenblatt 425-3233 or Seymour Prince 445-3620 or the AJC office 422-7491 and they will be glad to assist you.



# Jewish Community Players

and the  
ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL

PRESENT

# JOSEPH

# AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT

December 3 - 4  
Beth Israel Synagogue Auditorium  
For tickets and information contact the AJC

## Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

by Ray Ginsberg

The Jewish Community Players, Halifax's newest and most exciting Jewish musical theatre group, in conjunction with the AJC will be presenting *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* December 3rd and 4th in the auditorium of the Beth Israel Synagogue in Halifax.

Conceived with the notion that our community has enormous talent, the group has attracted over sixty of Halifax's Jewish youth to sing, dance and make music in its first production. With **Shirley Burnstein** as musical director, the group is sure to make a stunning debut. Most of the children participating have not had the experience of a musical production and this will serve to introduce them to the world of musical theatre. This is sure to peak the interest of the community's youth and to create the spark that will enthuse them for years to come. As we recall the B'nai Brith sponsored musicals of the not so distant past, we again look forward to showcasing the talent of our community.

As a combined effort between the Players and the AJC, the production has the know how and the backing to be an enormous success. We anticipate seeing the entire community singing along with us as we go on stage during Chanukah celebrations this December 3rd and 4th. Tickets will soon be available through the AJC office in Halifax. If you are planning on being in Halifax over Chanukah, this would be the ideal time to meet new friends, or schmooze with old friends and at the same time celebrate the holiday. Please make your arrangements as early as possible, as seating in the auditorium is quite limited.

## Beth Din of Atlantic Canada

To whom it may concern

There was a recent formation of a *Beth Din* in Atlantic Canada. The *Beth Din* will assist those

Jews who have to settle any legal matters...to bring their arguments in front of a Jewish Court of Arbitration. The *Beth Din* consists of

**Rabbi DAVID SPIRO**  
Fredericton, NB (506) 455-8425

**Rabbi DAVID ELLIS**  
(506) 389-9941 Moncton, NB

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Halifax, NS (902) 423-7307



## Camp Kadimah '94:

# One of our greatest years ever!

From the Kadimah Director's chair

by Sheldon Cohen

Camp Kadimah '94 was a most exciting and successful summer. Although the summer passed quickly, the wonderful memories will last a lifetime. Camp Kadimah continues to be a special place for Jewish youth, as we all join together in a safe, friendly environment to focus on our Jewish identity and partake in a wide variety of activities.

The past summer we had 236 campers, the largest enrollment in our 51 year history. The success of the summer has to be attributed to our excellent head staff, specialists and bunk counsellors. Our program was highlighted by Maccabia, Yom Hashoah, Haggana Night, Hityashvut, Oneg Shabbats, Hockey Marathon and the many daily activities at arts and crafts, bama, sports, shirkud, scouting, boating and of course our great waterfront. The CIT trip to Washington, Visitors' Day, banquet and slide show were outstanding.

Plans are already underway for Kadimah '95. The new cultural building will be built, as well as a new cabin on the Machar side. New activities will be implemented to help spice up our regular program. Camp rallies are being planned in major regions. We are anticipating a large enrollment next summer, so get your application in quickly.

Hoping to see you next summer. Wishing you a happy and healthy new year.

Shalom.

## July 2 - August 13, 1995 Register early!

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# Washington DC or bust!

by Michael Soberman,  
Assistant Director/  
CIT Coordinator

The summer of 1994 was Camp Kadimah's largest ever, and the CIT program was no different boasting the largest CIT section in history at thirty-eight enthusiastic teenagers. While at times the numbers caused some logistical confusion, the CITs of 1994 functioned as one big (and I mean really big) happy family. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate so many CITs next summer, so for those of you who are eligible -- apply early.

The CITs spent the first week of the summer involved in Hadracha (leadership), educational and programming sessions in order to prepare themselves for their roles as cabin counselors later in the summer. They also spent time learning about the various specialties and programming for themselves.

Each summer the Kadimah CITs embark on a journey to some far off destination. Previous trips have gone to Ottawa, Montreal and Boston, however, this summer we would boldly go where no Kadimah CIT had ever gone before. Bright and early (and I mean really early) on the morning of July 8 we set out by bus, plane, and yet another bus to the State of Maryland where the tired, weary and dehydrated group of travelers spent an interesting Shabbat at Camp Habonim. The climax of the trip was yet to come.



Daniel Levine, Candace Wolfson, Joanna Trager, Lea Adilman, Shawna Rinzler, Shelby Hirsch, Allison Kaufman

Only July 11, after spending the previous day touring Washington DC the Kadimah CITs spent the better part of four hours visiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. This was the reason why we had traveled to Washington. The CITs found the museum to be remarkably well done, educational, informative and above all else, extremely moving. Many of the CITs had previously participated in the March of the Living and/or visited Yad Va'Shem in Israel, and they commented that the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum was certainly a comparable experience.

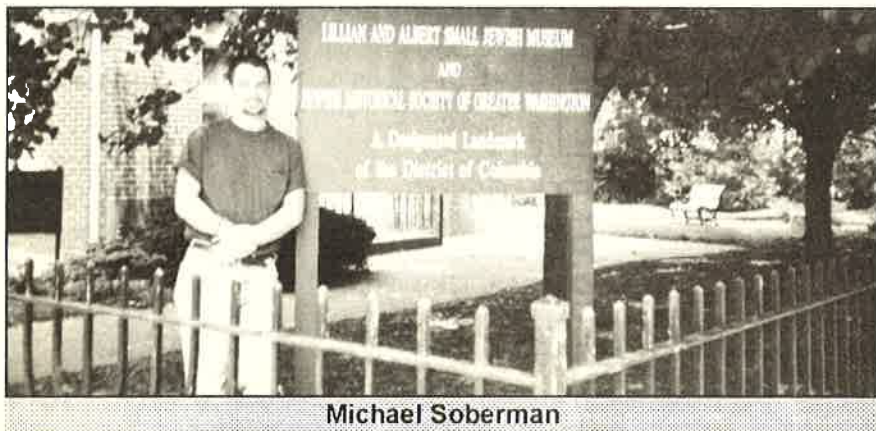
Back at Camp Kadimah we had several discussion on the CITs' impressions and feelings of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. These discus-

sions proved to be informative and educational and their visit to Washington DC had a profound impact on the CITs. Based on their visit to the museum, many of them assisted in the planning and implementing of Yom Ha'Shoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) which took place at Kadimah on August 5.

For the final three weeks of the summer the CITs spent a great deal of time in cabin and specialty placements learning what it takes to be a staff member. We discussed many of the problems they encountered and success they experienced. They quickly learned that being a bunk counselor is not such an easy job. However, at the end of the day they returned to their big happy family of thirty-eight and relished the thought that for a short time -- they could still be campers.

And so another summer drew to a close and thirty-eight CITs left for home tired, fulfilled, happy, sad, and with an entire summer of great memories. Moreover, as they drove out the gate they knew that the next time that they would return to Kadimah it would be as staff. Unfortunately, now they will have to wait until they are eighteen.

Hey, I have an idea! Why not go to Israel with all your friends from the 1994 Kadimah CIT program next summer and I will see you back at Kadimah in the summer of 1996.



Michael Soberman



# Halifax student at the Hebrew U

## Experiencing Israel in a big way

Halifax student **Robert Astroff** is a young man who was determined to gain the maximum from his year abroad at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. As he put it, "Every second counts."

There is no mistaking that he has put that approach to work. In addition to his studies in the One Year Program at the Rothberg School for Overseas Students at the Hebrew University, he was an intern at Israel's Ministry of Justice, working on human rights inquiries from abroad; traveled to Cairo; and participated in hikes throughout Israel with the school's hiking club.

Robert has nothing but praise for the quality of the studies at the Rothberg School. These studies include courses that are unavailable elsewhere, he stresses, among them the Archaeology of Jerusalem, the Foreign Policy of Israel and Historical Dimensions of the

Middle East. Like other students at the Rothberg School, who come from all over the world, Robert is doing intensive studies in Hebrew language.

Aside from studies and seeing the country, Robert says that "one of the most important things about being in Israel is experiencing the country and being with Israelis. Living in Israel," he says, "is a wonderful experience for every Jew, particularly for someone like myself who comes from a small Jewish community."

Robert, who has completed his BA studies in political science and economics at McGill University in Montreal, returned to Halifax this fall to study law at the Dalhousie University.

After completing his law degree, returning to Israel to live will be one of the options to consider, he says. In the meantime, he plans to remain an activist on behalf of Israel within his own con-



**ROBERT ASTROFF** in front of the Rothberg School for Overseas Students at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

gregation, Beth Israel Synagogue, and on campus as well.

## The Gift of Israel

The most important goals we have as parents involve the future well being of our children. We're always on the lookout for special opportunities that help our children grow and mature.

There are more than 40 organized Israel teen trips originating from North America. Each brings its special brand

of fun, excitement and learning to the teen Israel experience. On any of these excellent programs, your child will have the opportunity to

- forge a very personal bond with Jewish history and ancestry.
- meet new people and make lasting friendships.
- delight in the feeling of independence and community.
- develop new levels of confidence and self-esteem.
- accumulate hundreds of memories to last a lifetime.

It's not too soon to plan. An Israel youth trip is not just another vacation.

Even if your child has been on a family trip to Israel, the *teen* trip to Israel provides a magical blend of new friendships, camaraderie, personal explorations, and sense of community. It's one of those rare experiences that your child will look forward to and then fondly remember forever.

Although your child may be years away from actually participating in an organized Israel teen trip, your community has created some exciting ways to being the planning process. Anticipation of the trip will add a special excitement to your child's life, right now!

The Atlantic Jewish Council and United Israel Appeal are ready to help you make it happen.

For further information call **Jon Goldberg**, (902) 422-7491.





# From Around



JONATHAN FREEMAN and MILES RUBIN, flag bearers at the UIA March For Israel, in Halifax, September, 1994.



JODI LITWACK and AJC Executive Director, JON GOLDBERG at Camp Kadimah visitor's day '94. "Back in the Rag Business".



LINDA RASKIN, newly appointed JNF co-ordinator, and also Camp Kadimah Administrative Associate.



"Rained on our Parade..."



RAFFI ALLOUL, member of Israeli Knesset updates current situation to some of the attendees at the UIA Summer Retreat.

# the Region



The CHEVRA meeting at the annual UIA Leadership retreat held at Camp Kadimah, August 1994



UIA Scholar in Residence DANNE LEVINE, discusses the trip with UIA Leadership Mission participants.



UIA Emissary REUVEN ROSENFELDER with UIA Atlantic Region Chairman, JIM SPATZ, briefing mission participants, late Spring, 1994.



The Shirt  
Official sweat-shirt of the 1994 UIA Leadership Mission is shown by Barbara Newman



The 1994 UIA Leadership Mission to Prague & Israel  
Pictured at the Halifax International Airport are the Atlantic Canada contingent of the mission: (L-R) Judith Goldberg, Victor Goldberg, Dr. Ethel Cooper-Rosen, Dr. Richard Glube, Dr. Ruth Goldbloom, Marcie Gilsig-Spatz, Hon. Constance Glube, Barbara Newman, Ivan Levine, Mark Rosen, Jim Spatz, Lois Levine and Dr. Richard Goldbloom.

JC Canales Photo



# News from PEI

by Joe Naylor

Congratulations to **Daniel Carnat** and his parents, **Eric and Barrie Carnat**, on Daniel's Bar Mitzvah, 27 August 1994. It was celebrated in Sydney, Cape Breton.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada has announced that it will initiate deportation procedures against **Michel Safadi** upon completion of his current jail term.

The Atlantic Jewish Council has written to Ministers of Education in the region on the issue of the opening of schools being on the same date as Rosh Hashanah. The Council received assurances from the PEI Minister of Education that no child will be penalized for observing a religious holiday.

On 26 June, the Hebrew school held a community pot-luck picnic at the home of **Joyce and Clive Pickles**.

The school had great weather for outdoor activity, including a lovely walk through the Pickles' farm overlooking the Strait.

Congratulations to all members of the school and to all who support its activities and thanks to those who participated in the event. Special thanks to **Joyce and Clive Pickles** for hosting the event.

During the community picnic, President **Clive Pickles** presented the Hebrew school principal, **Rosalie Simeone**, with an Armenian-style Havdalah set. The gift was from the community in acknowledgment of Rosalie's work with the Hebrew school and support of the community over the years. Congratulations and thanks again, Rosalie!

Exchange students from Or Yehuda once again visited our community on July 20, **Tali Haviv, Eynav Haim, Yossi Arviv, Shay Elattr, Ayelet Guete, and Norit Klaitman** entertained with a musical presentation, *Shalom! Peace is on the Way!* and answered questions. They were accompanied by **Anthony Lowenstein and Lisa Perry**.

Thanks to the Atlantic Jewish Council and the United Israel Appeal for making the visit possible. Special thanks to **Sherrie and Shawn Davidson** for billeting the visitors and hosting the event at their cottage. And our thanks and best wishes to the delightful visitors from Israel.

A very special community event was held on August 6 at the cottage of **Martin Rutte and Maida Rogerson**. It provided help in gaining more familiarity with the structure and conduct of the Shabbat service. The service itself was

very much a learning session and it is hoped that it will facilitate future services.

The session was led by **Martin Rutte**, with others advising and assisting. It was followed by a pot-luck lunch and much discussion (indeed, the discussion spilled over into the following weekend). Thanks to **Martin** for initiating the event and to him and **Maida** for hosting it, and to all who participated and gave their encouragement. Special thanks to the members of **Beth Jacob Congregation, Hamilton, Ontario** who loaned tallitot and kippot, especially to vice-president **Barry Foster**, and to **Martin's** cousins, **Rosalie and Paul Gaffe** for arranging for and mailing the tallitot and kippot.

On August 14, **Bea and Mel Davis** allowed the discussion, begun at the Community Shabbat a week before, to continue by hosting a community pot-luck gathering at their cottage.

The gathering had the theme "*Travels in Judaism*". It featured talks by **Bea and Mel** on their visit to synagogues and a Jewish school in Zimbabwe; by **Tirzah and Charles Greeley**, visitors to PEI, on their travels in Turkey; by **Edda and Milt Ehrlich** on their interest in preserving history; by **Tory Thorkelson** - yes, he is back! - on his experience in Japan, and by **Lillian Natel**, a writer who is spending the summer on PEI, on her perspective on women's issues in Judaism.

Thanks to **Bea and Mel Davis** for hosting this event and to all who participated and made it interesting. There are many more travels, perspectives, discoveries, etc., in Judaism to be shared in our community. We look forward to continuing these sessions at some future date.

**Best Wishes...** to **Tory Thorkelson** on his taking up Masters studies at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg... to **Leo, Bobbi and Lauren Lavigne**, who may be leaving us to take up business interests on the other coast.

**Condolences** to **Don Mazer** and family on the death of his mother, **Rose**, June 30, 1994.



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# Message from Newfoundland

by Claire Frankel-Salama

The Rock was relatively quiet during July and August. In fact, everyone was too busy 'slopping' on sunscreen during our long hot summer to care about anything else. Now that the sun has finally decided to resume its normal position hidden behind the clouds and the fog, the Hebrew Congregation of Newfoundland has returned to its normal frenetic pace of activity.

Our first event was the arrival of **Effrat Tzadik**, our WUJS Areva from Israel. She is a very competent and well-organized young woman, and has started teaching regular Hebrew School classes five days a week. In the future she will begin speaking to visiting classes from the local denominational schools.

The High Holiday services this year were well attended. Our numbers were augmented by visitors from Israel and France. **Ernie Mauskopf** did a marvelous job as our Chazan. He was assisted by **Messod Salama**, **Michael Paul** and several other congregants. **Robert Mendoza** blew the Shofar so well that they heard it all the way over in Port-aux-Basques. Together we prayed for peace, another fine summer and the spontaneous arrival of many committed Jews with lots of children.

We haven't received a direct answer to our prayers yet. However, peace talks are still ongoing, 'El Nino' is in effect, and the government wishes to open a diamond-cutting factory involving several Israel consultants.

Our Sukkah went up on the Sunday afternoon following Yom Kippur to the accompaniment of lively Israeli music courtesy of **Anne Gregory**. Under the capable guidance of Effrat, the children worked very hard folding paper streamers and creating colourful artwork. At the last moment someone found the kitschy old plastic fruit, and true to tradition, hung it up. After two solid days of rain, we opened the Sukkah, only to realize the wisdom of this Newfoundland Minhag. Unlike the soggy streamers, the fruit had actually benefited from the shower. Naturally, as we crowded into the Sukkah to sample Tunisian "boula", Czech poppy seed strudel and chocolate almond torte, these details faded in importance.

Our major event this season will be **Alex Hoenig's** Bar Mitzvah. He has been working very diligently, and will undoubtedly make us all proud.

To **Gali Salamon**, a Mazel Tov from your friends in St. John's on your recent engagement. To all our coreligionists in the Atlantic Region, a very Happy and Healthy New Year. May we continue to keep Judaism not only alive but thriving in this part of the world!

## Forgiveness

by Rose Argand

**1**939-1945 may be considered the most dreadful years in our modern world. This epoch known as the Holocaust virtually wiped out one-third of the Jewish population. Fifty years have passed but the memory of this atrocity seems as fresh in memory as if it occurred yesterday.

My own personal experience during this grisly era is rather schizoid. Having lost my parent and five of my siblings, flashes of their innocence and my own survival causes me undue trauma.

Hiding out in the woods with no real shelter or food was the least of the horror. The daily melodrama of changing personality, altering physical appearance, and remembering the specific speech patterns of Polish, Russian, German and Jewish, knowing that the slightest slip would mean instant death both to myself and others was totally mind freezing. Holding all these traits within while on a daily mission gathering sustenance for survival built up an inner query, a questions which I still carry with me fifty years after the fact.

Where was G-d? How could He allow such a hideous event to happen? These questions become more lucid every year especially on the Day of Atonement.

For it is on this day that we plead with G-d for forgiveness. Perhaps we should also pardon G-d. Another poser arises. Is it possible to absolve without overlooking? Is it possible to lapse without excusing?

True we are born into a rather unjust world. Many horrible things happen to very good people. Innocent babies die contracting grim diseases. Wars take the willing participants, as well as the vicarious. Natural disasters wipe out populations.

Looking back at the Holocaust we can blame G-d but in reality we should ascribe the fault to man. Man finds a way to perpetuate his "Yatzer Rah" and then those who are afflicted turn around and blame G-d. The common cry "Didn't G-d create man?" Where does the free will come in? These questions are interesting and unresolvable.

It's at this time of the year that we should stop blaming and try forgiving yet not forgetting. Sure the gruesomeness of the Holocaust should not be forgotten. But I feel strongly about healing through forgiveness. Is it possible to forgive and not forget? I have wrestled with this postulate for many years. Conclusions are not easy when dealing with such a profound subject. Perhaps we can forgive even though we suffer yet not forget.

**O**n this Day of Atonement, though we beg G-d for forgiveness, we should also forgive G-d.



# Canadian Jewish Congress Report

by Mike Cohen, CJC National  
Director of Communications and  
Israel Affairs

## National Plenary countdown begins

More than 1,000 delegates from across the country will gather at Montreal's Bonaventure Hilton Hotel May 14 and 15 for the Canadian Jewish Congress's 24th National Plenary Assembly. The event is held every three years, alternating between Toronto and Montreal.

Montrealer Goldie Hershon is chairing the event and she expects a good turnout from the Maritimes. She points out that the event has been scaled down from its former five day format to encourage a stronger attendance from delegates residing outside of Montreal.

*Beyond History: Building for a Stronger Future* is the theme. Plenums and workshops will deal with a wide variety of issues. Mark down these dates and be sure that Atlantic Jewry's voice is heard. Myra Freeman is the Atlantic Region representative on the programming committee.

For the Plenary, Congress has developed what it considers to be a most unique fundraising vehicle. Plenary Chair Goldie Hershon expects the *Canadian Jewish Agenda: Datebook of Jewish History* to become a collector's

item as well as something delegates will get to make very practical use of.

With assistance from the National Archives of CJC the book will feature a 12 month calendar accompanied by prominent events from each date in Canadian Jewish history and more elaborate stories preceding each monthly section. There will also be space for one to write in their appointments.

Heading up the Datebook of Jewish History Committee is Arthur Silber, a founding member of the Young Adult Division (YAD) of Montreal's Federa-

tion CJA. His committee is now seeking individual and corporate sponsorship to support this project, which represents the major fundraising vehicle for the Plenary.

Ivan Levine and Arthur Saffron have been appointed Atlantic Region fundraising chairs for the Plenary. Those wishing to be included in the Canadian Jewish Agenda should be in touch with them through the AJC office or by calling Joshua Rotblatt at (514) 931-7531.

## CJC to meet for the first time nationally in Atlantic Canada

Canadian Jewish Congress is known at home and abroad as the national representative organization of Canadian Jewry. It was as a result of the great emergency of World War I (1914-1918) that Congress was founded. During this period of time, various conferences and meetings were set up and a number of internecine quarrels were resolved, culminating with the first National Plenary Assembly at the Monument National Theatre in Montreal March 16 to 19, 1919.

CJC 75th anniversary celebrations will continue November 11 to 13 in Halifax when national meetings are held

in the Maritimes for the first time in the organization's history. CJC national officers from coast to coast will participate in the AJC programming throughout the weekend and convene Sunday afternoon.

The National Community Relations Committee, which faces the full spectrum of issues before Canadian Jewry including discrimination and anti-Semitism, will begin meeting on Sunday evening and complete the agenda Monday morning.

CJC President Irving Abella is looking forward to the national officers' active participation at the AJC conference.

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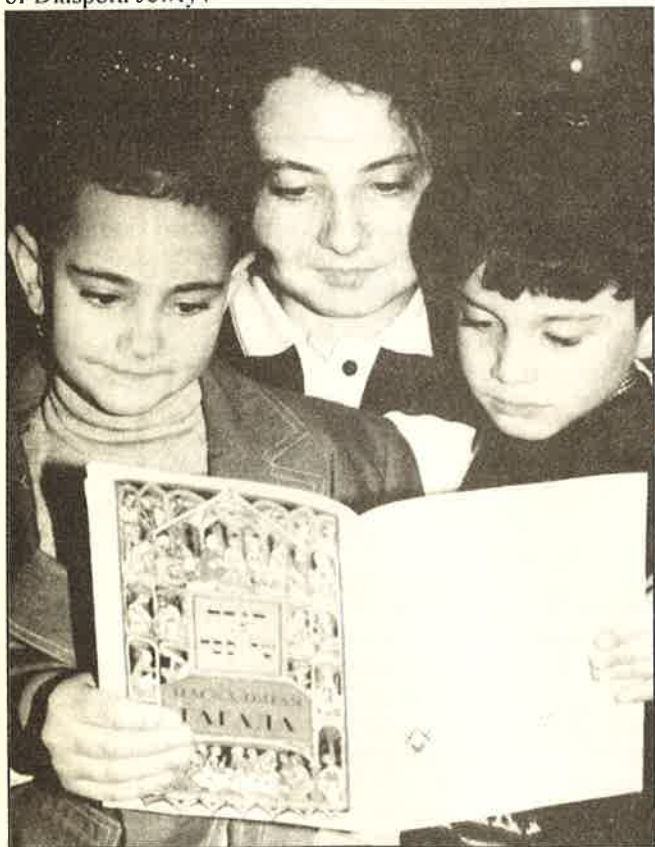


a message to the atlantic region

# The UIA Campaign in a time of Change

Dear Friends,

If in past campaigns, it was clear that our contributions were being utilized for the continued survival of the Jewish State and the rescue of Jews whose lives were in life-threatening situations, today there are those who claim that the reasons for giving have become somewhat blurred. Israel is on the road to peace, its economy is one of the fastest growing in the West at 6% and is likely to contain the largest Jewish community in the world by the year 2000. Does Israel still require the charity of Diaspora Jewry?



The answer is an emphatic yes! Diaspora Jewry has never provided "mere charity" to Israel; rather, Diaspora Jewry and Israel have always been involved in a symbiotic relationship for the revitalization of the Jewish national home and the survival of the Jewish people. We have never been two separate people - one living in the Diaspora and one living in Israel. We have always been one people who share common goals and aspirations, who derive mutual benefit from the other and who feel mutual responsibility for the other.

When Jews are found in life-threatening situations anywhere in the world, Israel and Diaspora. Israel answers. When



Israel finds itself in the throes of a very difficult and lengthy peace process, it is Diaspora Jewry who demonstrate their support.

The twin issues of joint responsibility of Israel and the Diaspora for aliya and the successful integration into Israeli society of olim and potential olim together with the ever-increasing need to strengthen Jewish identity and continuity in the Diaspora will continue to be at the forefront of our joint partnership for the foreseeable future. These issues are, in effect, so inextricably interwoven one with the other that it is difficult to differentiate between them.

The goals of campaign serve the same twin issues of building the Jewish homeland and preserving Jewish continuity. While campaign focuses its main concerns on the aliya and absorption of olim into Israeli society, part of the campaign funds return to the community via the Atlantic Jewish Council; in addition, a sizeable portion of the Jewish Agency





budget is set aside for developing Jewish identity and continuity not only for the Jews of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union but also for the Jews of North America.

In Atlantic Canada, we too, are a risk. Assimilation, apathy and indifference have cut wide swaths in our communities. We are losing our people.



Study after study has shown that the finest card we have to play is the "Israel Experience" - a program to bring our young people to Israel, to connect them to their heritage, their history, their identity. No other program delivers as much. It changes lives.

UIA, in cooperation with AJC and Camp Kadimah is inaugurating a Camp Kadimah - Israel program for 16 and 17 year olds for the summer of 1995. We also work with the March of the Living program, Bilium Israel, CZF Summer Experience, the Kibbutz Aliya desk and many other organizations and programs so as to enable as many of our Atlantic youth as possible to gain the vital Israel experience.

Another area which we are looking at is our Mission policy. A "Mission" is the adult equivalent of the "Israel Experience" and is by far our finest program. Yet, relatively few have taken

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advantage of the opportunity. We are now developing a policy which will make it far more attractive for the majority of our contributors to participate. It is my hope in 1995 to arrange another Mission for Atlantic Canadians to Israel.

With the centrality of Israel at the heart of our work, these initiatives will move UIA from the margins of community development to being genuine partners of concern in dealing



with the crisis of Jewish identity. Of course, UIA will continue to unrelentingly pursue its most fundamental undertaking; the rescue of Jews in distress. Through the Jewish Agency over half a million Jews from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia, Sarajevo, and other countries in turmoil have made aliya. This year between 60,000 and 70,000 are expected. Their rescue and absorption is a task for the whole House of Israel.

With your support and generosity in 1994, we in Atlantic Canada can help UIA fulfil a comprehensive agenda of action, hope and concern so that wherever Jews live, no Jew stands alone.

We very much look forward to receiving your comments. Your input will be invaluable in carrying our policy forward.

Sincerely,

Jim Spatz  
UIA Regional Chair



# Yom Kippur Speech

by Victor Goldberg at Shaar Shalom,  
September 15, 1994

Fellow Jews:

**A**s Chair of the Halifax-Dartmouth United Israel Appeal Campaign, I feel once again honoured to address you on this, our most solemn day. One year ago on September 13, 1993, Prime Minister Rabin and Yasser Arafat shook hands on the White House lawn and signed the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles. We have since witnessed perhaps the most remarkable 12 months since the founding of the State of Israel. The Palestinians have been granted autonomy in Gaza and Jericho. Peace has been made with Jordan. Relations have been normalized with Morocco. Diplomatic relations have been fully established with the Vatican and Israeli Embassies have been springing up throughout the world to the point that Israel is short of ambassadors. What was once unfathomable is becoming commonplace. Indeed, even resolution with Syria seems a possibility.

In past campaigns, it was clear that our contributions were needed to ensure continued survival of the Jewish State. With Israel on the road to peace and its economy one of the fastest growing in the Western World, what is the case for giving? What is the relevance of the United Israel Appeal? Is our continued charity still required?

My friends, the answer is an emphatic YES for two significant reasons. Let me look first at the situation in Israel itself.

Against the momentous backdrop of peace and growth, the world is becoming an even more dangerous place. The former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe are a tinderbox, fuelled by worsening living conditions and historic antisemitism. Just look at the savageries of Bosnia and the recent discovery of weapons' grade plutonium in Germany, emanating from Russia. The tribal butchering in Rwanda further reminds us that history indeed repeats itself. Attacks on our own Jewish communities in Buenos Aires, Panama and in Israel itself reinforce the fact that our enemies are resolute in their determination to destroy us. Yet, as you know, the Jewish people is unique and unlike the Cubans, Asians or Rwandians, who depend on the largesse of other countries or in fact the international Community, we Jews have a time-honoured responsibility to ensure that Jewish lives are saved and NO JEW STANDS ALONE.

Since Operation Exodus in 1990, we have helped well over 500,000 Jews emigrate to Israel and with current numbers, it is anticipated that this number will double within the next 5 years. The task of absorbing and integrating these Olim into Israeli society is daunting and the associated costs cannot be

undertaken without or continued generous support. But with more Olim, Israel will grow stronger and peace will be more certain. Moreover, for those Jews that are unable to move to Israel, we continue to bring in their children and do our best to provide services in dangerous and remote areas of the world.

**T**he second compelling reason to continue and increase our level of giving has to do with the fact that our United Israel Appeal Campaign not only buttresses Israel but funds the efforts of our own Atlantic Jewish Council; work with seniors, outreach, Camp Kadimah, Israel Action; work to preserve Jewish continuity in Atlantic Canada. Our North American communities are at risk. As we battle assimilation, apathy and indifference, our best defence is the implementation of a real Israel experience where our people are brought to Israel and connected with their heritage and their history.

Earlier in the year many of our youths attended Poland and Israel on the March of the Living, and through their own eyes witnessed our worst times and best times. Through this experience I hope that they will be motivated to continue their heritage and fulfil their responsibilities as Jews. As a matter of fact, in less than three weeks

my wife and I and a number of you in this sanctuary are departing for Prague and Israel on a United Israel Appeal Mission. We will see one of the jewels of Europe with a rich history of Jewish culture, almost totally obliterated by the Holocaust and then we will proceed to Israel and observe the modern miracle of the state including the peace process at work, the Canada Centre and Or Yehuda, examples of our UIA dollars at work. We will meet new immigrants and witness history in the making.

In explaining the case for giving, I have very briefly outlined the risks facing the Jewish people in Israel and in the Diaspora. In fact, our relationship with Israel has always been a symbolic one. We have never really been two separate people, but rather one with common goals and aspirations, who derive mutual benefit from the other, and who feel mutual responsibility, one for the other. As each of us gathers this Yom Kippur to pray as a congregation, let us be reminded of our individual and collective responsibility as Jews to the State of Israel, our fellow Jews, and ourselves. Let us make meaningful gifts when approached by a volunteer in this year's campaign. Let us participate in community functions, and give of our time. Let us send our children to Israel and go to Israel ourselves. May the next 12 months bring Israel and the entire world closer to an everlasting peace.

**O**n behalf of the United Israel Appeal and on behalf of all of my family, I wish you all a happy and healthy new year! Thank you.





# UIA To The Rescue

Saving lives is your business too!



Support the  
United Israel Appeal Campaign  
in your community this Fall

**SO NO JEW STANDS ALONE!**