

# Shalom

CONNECTING THE ATLANTIC JEWISH COMMUNITY

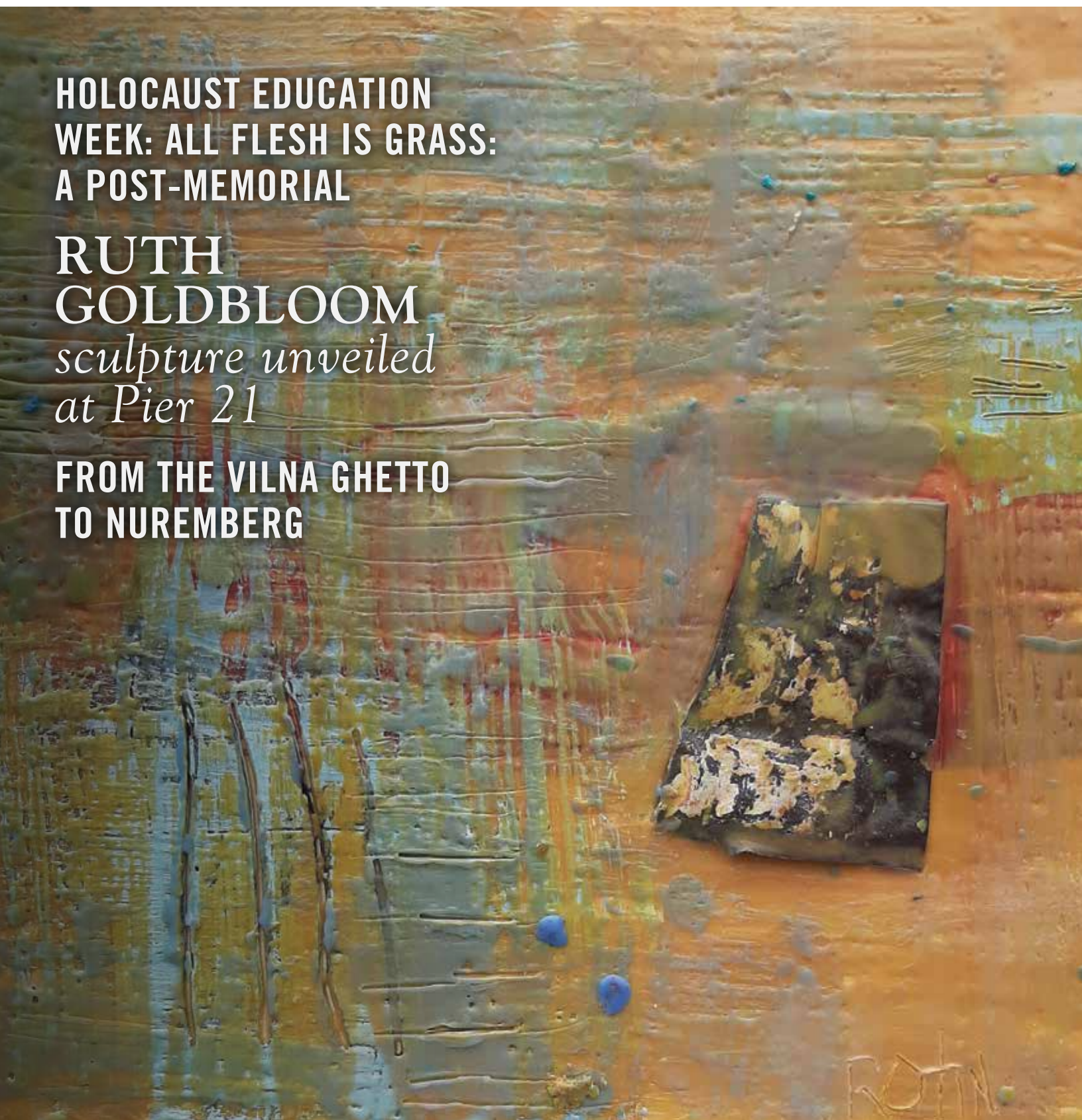


WINTER 2022

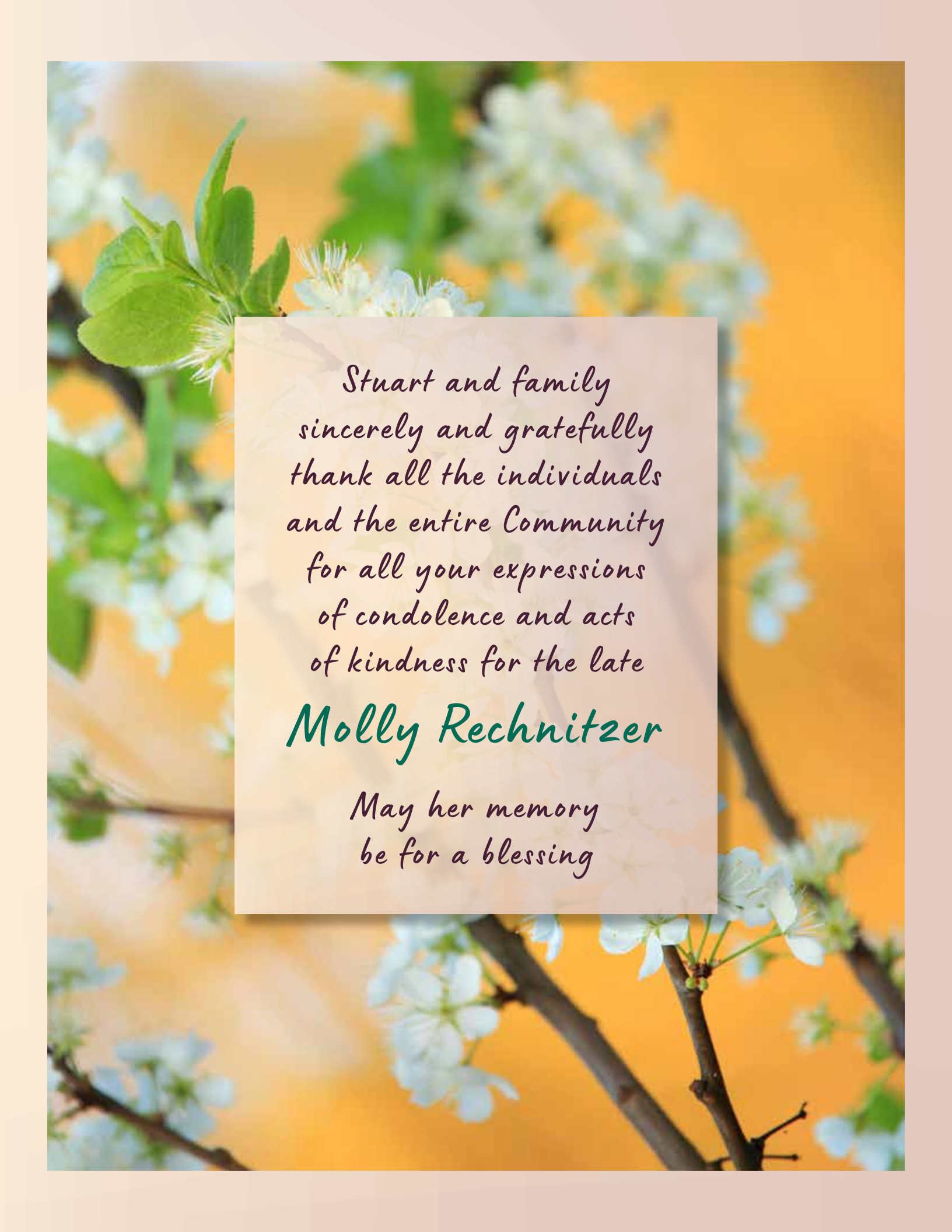
HOLOCAUST EDUCATION  
WEEK: ALL FLESH IS GRASS:  
A POST-MEMORIAL

RUTH  
GOLDBLOOM  
*sculpture unveiled  
at Pier 21*

FROM THE VILNA GHETTO  
TO NUREMBERG







*Stuart and family  
sincerely and gratefully  
thank all the individuals  
and the entire Community  
for all your expressions  
of condolence and acts  
of kindness for the late*

*Molly Rechnitzer*

*May her memory  
be for a blessing*



## SHALOM MAGAZINE

President  
ARIK DRUCKER

Editor  
EDNA LEVINE

Graphic Designer  
MEGHAN RUSHTON

Advertising  
EDNA LEVINE

Address all correspondence,  
including advertising enquires, to:

EDITOR, C/O SHALOM  
ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL  
5640 SPRING GARDEN ROAD, SUITE 300,  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3J 3M7

TEL. 902-422-7491 | FAX 902-425-3722  
ELEVINE@THEAJC.CA  
ATLANTICJEWISHCOUNCIL@THEAJC.CA

[www.theajc.ca](http://www.theajc.ca)

This publication is printed by:  
HALCRAFT PRINTERS INC.

Mailed under Canada Post:  
PUBLICATIONS MAIL SALES AGREEMENT  
NO. 40052452

## NOTE TO OUR READERS

Our Atlantic Jewish community is losing more and more members as the years go on. In the past, Shalom has printed stories of regional community members who have passed away. While we try to acknowledge the major contributions of many of our late friends and family members, we request that you inform Shalom of passings of which we may be unaware so we may recognize these individuals. Shalom's editorial staff reserves the right to determine the length of memorial pieces to be printed in the magazine.

*Written articles are the opinion of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the AJC.*

## Shalom

WINTER 2022  
VOL. 46 | NO. 3  
SHEVAT 5782

## ON THE COVER



**Desert Rust 1**, by Lynn Rotin  
12' x 9". Encaustic (beeswax plus pigment) and rusted metal. To see more of her work go to [lynnrotin.com](http://lynnrotin.com) or email [lynnrotin@gmail.com](mailto:lynnrotin@gmail.com)



**Lynn Rotin** paints, draws, and gardens in West Pennant, Nova Scotia just outside the city of Halifax.



11



22



30

Photo by Irena Kazatsker

## FEATURES

- 15** Biluim Israel In Quebec
- 17** Ruth Goldbloom Sculpture Unveiled At Pier 21 Museum
- 18** Jewish Continuity, Community, and Diversity in Prince Edward Island
- 20** From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg: A Granddaughter Remembers Abraham Sutzkever
- 22** Remembering Dr. Richard Goldbloom Z"L
- 23** Identity Theft, Poetry by Larry Finkelman
- 24** Holocaust Education Week—All Flesh is Grass: A Post-Memorial
- 27** Arnold Chippin—Jewish National Fund Atlantic Nominee

## IN EVERY ISSUE

- 5** President's Message: Arik Drucker
- 5** From The Desk of Naomi Rosenfeld, Executive Director
- 7** From The Desk of Edna LeVine, Director Of Community Engagement
- 8** AJF Scholarships
- 9** The Centre For Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) Report
- 11** Camp Kadimah News
- 12** Youth and Family News
- 13** Campus News
- 29** The Abraham Leventhal Memorial Scholarships
- 43** Rabbis' Corner

## AROUND OUR REGION

- 30** Halifax: The AJFF
- 32** Halifax: Christmas at Spencer House
- 33** Cape Breton
- 35** Prince Edward Island
- 37** Newfoundland
- 38** Fredericton
- 40** Moncton
- 42** Saint John

The Atlantic Jewish Council invites to a special virtual film screening for:

## International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Atlantic Canada, January 27-28

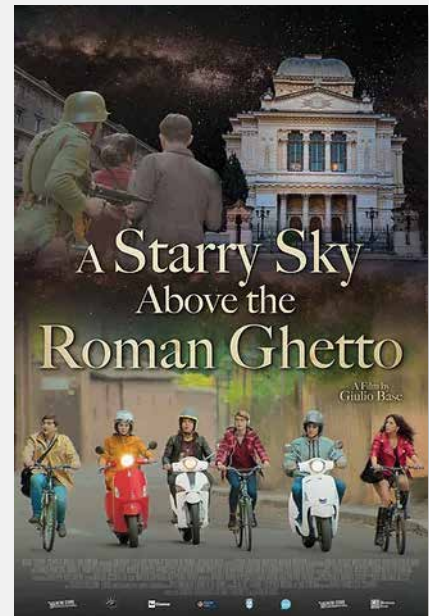
### “A Starry Sky Above the Roman Ghetto”

2020, Italy | 100 minutes | Italian with English subtitles

*The story of how the discovery of a puzzling photograph sparks a student to probe the history of Rome's Jewish ghetto and the fate of a little girl. This inspiring interfaith film, an Italian teen drama, interlaces past and present highlighting the importance of memory, coexistence, and reconciliation.*

Viewing is available only in Atlantic Canada on January 27 and 28, complete with introductions from our partners, the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, and the Italian Canadian Cultural Association of Nova Scotia.

Registration information is in our AJC newsletter or please contact: Edna LeVine  
[engagement@theajc.ca](mailto:engagement@theajc.ca)



Canadian.  
Jewish.  
Advocacy.

## We want to hear from you

Which issues are most important to you? What do you want to tell elected officials about antisemitism in Canada? How would you strengthen our community's advocacy efforts?



For more information visit [cija.ca/you](https://cija.ca/you)



The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs is the advocacy agent for the Jewish Federations of Canada






## From The Desk Of **ARIK DRUCKER** President of the Atlantic Jewish Council

As the secular calendar year approaches its end, all of us at the Atlantic Jewish community would like to take one last opportunity to thank our outgoing Executive Director, Naomi Rosenfeld, for all her dedication, energy and time devoted to serving on behalf of our Jewish community. There are so many memories to share: the JWRP womens' trips, the many community barbecues, Holocaust memorial events,

Pride events, and of course, the innumerable times Naomi has been our spokesperson and defender against anti-semitism. She has worked for us when she's at the office, when she's at home, and often when she was away on "vacation". Naomi's passion for the Jewish community here, and more broadly, was ever-present, and was the impetus for an ever-striving commitment to increase engagement to our newcomers from Israel and the former

Soviet Union. All of us are extraordinarily grateful to Naomi for her tireless work, unending energy, and dedication on behalf of the AJC and the broader Jewish community during the last five and a half year. 



## From The Desk Of **NAOMI ROSENFELD** Executive Director

Dear friends,  
It's hard to believe that I am sitting here, my newborn daughter asleep on me, writing my final Shalom magazine article as Executive Director of the Atlantic Jewish Council.

I first came to live in Atlantic Canada as a 10-year-old camper in Camp Kadimah's Goshrim section. I didn't know anyone, nor did I have any familial connection to Atlantic Canada. Twenty years later, I am leaving this magical place after 10 summers at Camp Kadimah, one year working as the Hillel Director of Atlantic Canada, and five and half years as the Executive Director of the AJC.

Choosing to resign my position at the AJC and leave Atlantic Canada was a difficult and heartbreaking decision. It ultimately came down to the following: My husband and I welcomed a baby girl, Abigail Della Greenberg, to the world on November 13th, 2021. We want to raise Abby surrounded by her grandparents, uncles and aunts, and extended family in Toronto. Ironically, this

decision was highly influenced by the strong family bonds I witnessed every day while working with the Jewish community of Atlantic Canada.

Having the opportunity to be the Executive Director of the Atlantic Jewish Council has been one of the great privileges of my life. I have learned and grown, and it has been an absolute pleasure serving this Jewish community to the best of my abilities. But, without a doubt, the best part of this work was getting to know so many unique individuals in this community, learning from you, and appreciating the rich history that binds each of you to this region.


And finally, THANK YOU to this entire community: for taking a chance on me as a young Jewish professional, for welcoming and embracing Jeff and me into this community, for the classic maritime hospitality we felt from your families, and for the support you showed both me and the AJC as I endeavoured to move this organization and



Introducing Abby Greenberg!

community forward.

Atlantic Canada has been my second home since I set foot on the shores of Lake William at the age of 10. That does not change just because I am moving away. I look forward to keeping in touch with all of you, and to many future visits to this beautiful coast—including a trip to Camp Kadimah for visitor's day when Abby is a gibbie!

With gratitude and love, Naomi. 

# THE AZRIELI FOUNDATION'S HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR MEMOIRS PROGRAM

<https://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org>







## From The Desk Of **EDNA LEVINE** Director of Community Engagement

This fall we welcomed hybrid programming by hosting in-person events and continuing to offer virtual programs in Atlantic Canada as COVID-19 vaccinations increased and the virus temporarily subsided. However, this winter with the surge of the Omicron variant we reverted to virtual programs only, with the optimistic outlook of returning to hybrid programming in the spring.

\*\*\*

The annual Nova Scotia Social Studies Teachers Association Conference was hosted virtually in October. This conference is a fantastic opportunity to meet with teachers and present valuable Holocaust educational resources. Over 45 teachers attended the virtual session I organized, bringing together Marc-Olivier Cloutier, Manager of Education Initiatives, Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program, The Azrieli Foundation, QC, and Jeffrey Morry, Senior Program Manager, The Asper Foundation, Winnipeg, MB. Educators were eager to discover available resources to aid them in teaching the Holocaust to their students, and many registered for our Holocaust Education Week student program.

\*\*\*

Hybrid programs were presented during our 18th annual Holocaust Education Week (HEW) in Halifax, with live streaming in Atlantic Canada. November 1, the opening event, featured a book launch of the memoirs of Holocaust survivor David Korn, published by the Azrieli Foundation. Olga Milosevich, retired CBC radio broadcaster, conducted an in-depth interview with David Korn, followed by a book signing and reception—the event was hosted by HEW partner the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21. Over 1500 junior high and high school students from 15+ schools across the province joined our live-streamed student program as David shared his story in an interview with Olga. Working with the Azrieli Foundation, all students received a copy of David's memoirs and completed a classroom assignment prior to attending the program. HEW continued with a special live-streamed program hosted at,

and with the support of the Halifax Central Library. Dr. Valerie Hébert, Associate Professor of History and Interdisciplinary Studies, Lakehead University, joined us remotely and presented a riveting session, "Understanding the Holocaust Through Photographs", the program was introduced and moderated by program partner Dr. Dorota Glowacka, Director of Contemporary Studies Program and Professor of Humanities, University of King's College. The concluding event, live-streamed from and in partnership with the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, featured keynote speaker Dr. Erica Lehrer, Professor of History and Sociology-Anthropology, Concordia University. Lehrer's captivating talk, *Terribly Close: Polish "Folk Art" as Holocaust Witness?*, was introduced by event partner Dr. Dorota Glowacka, University of King's College and was complemented by an artists talk and exhibit, *All Flesh is Grass: A Post-Memorial*. This fascinating art project is featured in this magazine. All HEW programs are made possible, in part, by a generous grant from the Azrieli Foundation.

\*\*\*

Our 8th annual Atlantic Jewish Film Festival (AJFF) November 18 – 21, offered moviegoers in Atlantic Canada our first hybrid festival. International films were streamed virtually and in Halifax theatres. Cineplex Cinemas hosted our opening night film and Saturday night, at Pier 21, featured a gala celebration with special guest Israeli Consul General Paul Hirschson. Our modest festival offers us the opportunity to share our values and culture with the broader community while providing programming that would otherwise not be available in our area. I was fortunate to work with committee members, chair Lynn Rotin, Philip Belitsky, Rosalind Belitsky, Jon Goldberg, Anna Hazankin, Linda Law, Jordan Schelew, Flint Schwartz, Schuyler Smith, Ann Thaw, Howard Thaw, and Peggy Walt, to organize this festival—their commitment, time, and creativity made it a success. For highlights from this year's festival please see both an AJFF article, by chair Lynn Rotin,



PHOTOS: (1) Opening HEW book launch featuring David Korn, Holocaust survivor, pictured with, Olga Milosevich, retired CBC radio broadcaster, at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21. Pictured on screen are David and his older brother Jacob. (2) Artists Solomon Nagler, far left, and Angela Henderson, far right, in front of the exhibit, *All Flesh is Grass: A Post-Memorial* (see the article in this magazine for additional information on this art exhibit), pictured with, centre right, keynote speaker Dr. Erica Lehrer, and Dr. Dorota Glowacka, at the closing HEW program at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21.

and a separate special thank you to our sponsors in this magazine. Please stay tuned for information on our upcoming AJFF winter screening, as well as information on how you can support the 2022 festival.

\*\*\*

Our 10th annual Christmas at Spencer House traditionally provides a joyful holiday party for seniors who are alone. For the second year we cancelled the in-person celebration and offered delivery-only, due to an increase in COVID-19 cases. Our community volunteers rallied to make certain seniors received a delicious home-cooked meal and a festive holiday package. Please refer to the article in this magazine for information on this event.

\*\*\*

This winter we continue our partnership with Spencer House Seniors Centre to provide hot meals and sandwiches to the local Halifax shelter Out of the Cold, details on volunteer opportunities will be advertised in our AJC newsletter, or please contact me at: [engagement@theajc.ca](mailto:engagement@theajc.ca). 5

# The Atlantic Jewish Foundation

## SCHOLARSHIPS

All applications must be received by March 31, 2022

*Scholarships will be awarded on financial need, merit, and on the availability of funds.*

Submitting a scholarship application does not confirm automatic receipt of a scholarship.

Priority will be given to first-time applicants. Scholarships are only available to residents of Atlantic Canada.

Applications available at: [theajc.ns.ca/scholarships](http://theajc.ns.ca/scholarships)

---

### The Noa & Sarah Heinish Scholarship

Throughout their lives, Noa and Sarah Heinish devoted themselves to the betterment of their community, their house of worship and the state of Israel.

Passover of 1943 found Noa and Sarah assisting in the preparation of a Seder for hundreds of young Jewish servicemen stationed in Halifax before shipping out to Europe.

At the end of WWII, Noa was one of a group of interpreters who met the ships which brought Holocaust survivors from Europe to the shores of Halifax. Speaking in Yiddish, he helped them transfer to the trains which took them to family members waiting their arrival in upper Canada.

Noa Heinish was one of the founders of Shaar Shalom Congregation and served as its first president.

Together with Sarah they lent their support to every arm of the congregation.

Sarah Heinish was an active member of Women's League, Hadassah, Neptune Theatre, the Soroptimists and the Nova Scotia Institute for the Blind. Both Noa and Sarah gave generously of their time and resources in the support of Israel Bond drives, United Jewish Appeal, Camp Kadimah and other groups and were leaders in the Canadian Jewish Congress. For many years they operated a successful clothing business on Gottingen Street in downtown Halifax which closed in 1972.

To carry on their good works, the Heinish family established the Noa and Sarah Heinish Foundation. This charitable foundation has provided endowments supporting Jewish educational and health care institutions in Canada and Israel.

A portion of the funds has been allocated to the Atlantic Jewish Foundation to provide an annual merit scholarship for a student from the Maritime Jewish Community to study in Israel.

**Noa and Sarah Heinish Foundation Trust—\$1,000-\$2,000 each. One scholarship per year for study in Israel.**

### The Miasnik-Rein Trust

A limited number of scholarships of \$2,000 each are available to worthy students, one or both of whose parents profess the Jewish faith. The scholarship is open to students of the Atlantic Region for the purpose of establishing or continuing exposure to their Jewish heritage by means of an organized Jewish experiential education program that includes study, travel, community service, or other suitable activities. Examples of appropriate programs include Holocaust Education tours, organized Israel trips, Jewish teen tours, Jewish summer programs etc. If you are unsure about the eligibility of a program, please contact [info@theajc.ca](mailto:info@theajc.ca) for more information.

**Miasnik-Rein Trust—\$2000 each. Maximum 5 scholarships per year.**

### Halifax Endowment Fund (Jayson Greenblatt Bursary)

A \$500 bursary awarded to a Jewish student from Atlantic Canada to further Jewish studies in Israel or in the Diaspora.

**Jayson Greenblatt Bursary—\$500 each.**



# LEADERSHIP, TEAMWORK AND DIPLOMACY:

## Lessons at sea with the Royal Canadian Navy

BY **NICO SLOBINSKY** SENIOR DIRECTOR, PACIFIC REGION  
THE CENTRE FOR ISRAEL AND JEWISH AFFAIRS (CIJA)

It isn't every day that civilians are afforded the opportunity to see inside a Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) ship, let alone sail with its crew with almost unfettered access to the place. Yet, that's exactly what happened in early October when, representing CIJA, I joined 13 leaders in their respective fields from all across Canada and embarked the HMCS Harry De Wolf, which recently crossed the Northwest Passage as part of the navy's Canadian Leaders at Sea (CLaS) program.

The RCN's CLaS program is designed to help familiarize civilian stakeholders with the work sailors do and the capabilities of their ships—and to help bring Canadians closer to their navy. With exposure to the work of the RCN at sea and ashore, CLaS participants acquire an appreciation for how the RCN protects and defends Canada at home and abroad. Upon completion, CLaS alumni become goodwill ambassadors and share the message of what the Royal Canadian Navy is all about. This naval program parallels CIJA's mission program—in which we take a variety of Canadian leaders to Israel to learn first-hand about the country and her people.

The action-packed, three-day program with the Harry De Wolf crew included ashore programs at HMCS Discovery and CFB Esquimalt; visits to Halifax-class frigate HMCS Calgary; and to long-range hunter killer submarine HMCS Victoria; Joint Operations and Surveillance Centres; one-day navigation program between Vancouver and Victoria; demonstrations in seamanship, manoeuvrability, force-protection, and damage control; weapons and mechanical briefings; Man Overboard Exercise (MOBEX); tours of the ship; and hands-on participation in many exercises and drills.

These are some of the lessons I took from my CLaS experience.

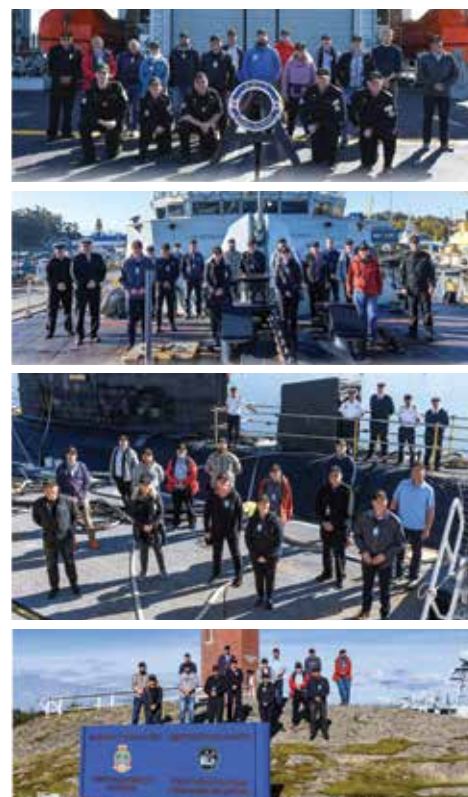
Operating in highly complex environments and under ever-changing circumstances, the RCN serves to defend the Canadian Coast.

It fights drug trafficking and overfishing, protects our allies and, using a small number of assets as effectively as possible, participates in disaster relief and rescue missions globally. The RCN leadership I met demonstrated an earnest and fresh perspective, a willingness to evolve and improve, and a determination never to give up. This is not unlike the work we undertake at CIJA on the many advocacy issues we address on behalf of the organized Jewish community—from advocating to enhance food security programs, to combating antisemitism, to procuring accessible, affordable housing for people with developmental disabilities.

The RCN is committed to diversity, as was evident among the sailors aboard HMCS Harry De Wolf and ashore at HMCS Discovery and CFB Esquimalt. This is not the Navy seen in WWII-era movies, featuring all white men. While there is a rich mosaic of genders, ethnicities and backgrounds throughout the ranks, evidence that diversity is improving, there is still much work to do, a fact acknowledged by the Navy's senior leadership during their multiple briefings. Similarly, under CIJA's tent, we welcome a diversity of political ideas and backgrounds—a wide range of perspectives also represented on the professional team with whom I work every day.

All RCN sailors and personnel are remarkably proud of what they do and genuinely cherish the opportunity to serve their country with purpose and passion. Without question, the many sailors I spoke to felt positive about their choice to join the Navy and represent Canada around the world.

For me, the CLaS experience was more than just learning about the Royal Canadian Navy; this experience was about the purpose, leadership, teamwork, diplomacy, cooperation, and passion of the people. Hearing stories about what led sailors to join the forces and to serve Canada was a



PHOTOS: (1) At sea—standing on the flight deck of Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) Harry DeWolf in the Strait of Georgia, en route to Victoria, BC (03,10, 21); (2) In harbour—standing on the Fo'c'sle of HMCS Calgary, at CFB Esquimalt, Dockyard, Esquimalt, BC (04,10, 21); (3) In harbour—standing on the Camber Jetty, HMCS Victoria, at CFB Esquimalt, Dockyard, Esquimalt, BC (04,10, 21); (4) At Bickford Tower, CFB Esquimalt, Dockyard, Esquimalt, BC (04,10, 21)

both humbling and inspiring. You don't often hear people talk about their jobs with such passion—unless, of course, you speak with my CIJA colleagues (both lay and professional), who serve Canada's organized Jewish communities with similar dedication.

The exceptional nature of the program, the territory that we covered and the relationships that were engendered attest to the value of this kind of program and serve as an example of what effective advocacy is—not unlike the positive outcomes from CIJA's Israel fact-finding missions and other advocacy we undertake every day.

Thank you to Commodore David Mazur, OMM, CD Commander Canadian Fleet Pacific; Commander Corey Gleason, CO HMCS Harry De Wolf and his crew; as well as Lieutenant-Commander Melissa Desjardins, MSM, CD, AdeC and to the Royal Canadian Navy for a uniquely memorable experience that I will always cherish. Canadians have lots to be proud of in their Navy. ☺



## WE ARE LOOKING FOR **JEWISH SOFTBALL PLAYERS**

To represent Team Canada at the 21st Maccabiah Games  
Israel - July 2022



The Maccabiah Games are an international sports competition held every four years in Israel. Unbeknownst to many, it is the third largest athletic games in the world! At the last Maccabiah, held in 2017, over 10,000 athletes competed, proudly representing 80 countries.

Our goal is to assemble top level Jewish athletic talent to compete in the Games for all age categories.

- **Junior Girls:** U18 (2004-2007)
- **Open Women:** 19+ (2003 and prior)
- **Open Men:** 19+ (2003 and prior)
- **Masters Men:** ages 35 & up

To be eligible to tryout all athletes must first submit an **on-line athlete application**.

It is truly an experience of a lifetime you don't want to miss!

For additional information:  
Morrie Frydberg  
[morriefrydberg@gmail.com](mailto:morriefrydberg@gmail.com)  
(647) 393-9031  
[www.maccabicanada.com](http://www.maccabicanada.com)



# CAMP KADIMAH

## 2022—Staying together, even when we are apart

BY SARAH ATKINS, DIRECTOR

After two long years without being able to return to our second home, we are looking forward to the summer of 2022 like no other. The excitement and enthusiasm are building, and our community has remained strong during our hiatus from camp.

### KADIMAH CLASSICS: TORONTO EDITION

This past fall we held several incredible in-person Kadimah community events. As summer drew to a close, **Kadimah Classics: Toronto Edition** took over Elie Wiesel Park for an afternoon of fun, re-connecting with our friends and of course softball. Our staff team narrowly defeated a team of our alumni in a game that was fun, exciting, and filled with spirit and sportsmanship. The alumni have vowed to return to Kadimah this summer for a long-anticipated rematch. This event drew family, friends and alumni and enabled our community to meet face-to-face for the first time in nearly two years.



### STAFF KADIMAH SHABBATON

A few short weeks later, we held an amazing, Machar, CIT, and **Staff Kadimah Shabbaton** at Camp George in Parry Sound, Ontario. We had participants from Halifax to Vancouver, the U.S. and even from Israel. Over 100 members of the CK community spent an engaging weekend together, celebrating Shabbat, learning together, and playing together. This weekend reminded us how much we have missed Kadimah and how incredible it will be to back together in Barss Corner for six whole weeks. Just like camp, there were tears of joy when we all began the weekend and tears of sadness when we had to say goodbye until July.

### K.I.T.C. (KADIMAH IN THE CITY) IS BACK!

In early November we kicked off our K.I.T.C. programming in Halifax where over 40 campers came to spend the afternoon honing their bowling skills and seeing their friends. In early December, we held K.I.T.C. events for Giborim and Goshrim and everyone left super excited for the upcoming summer.

### NEW ADDITIONS TO THE CAMP FACILITY

As we continue to prepare for the summer of 2022, you can expect to see some new additions to the camp facility! More on that in the coming months. We paid a visit to camp this past November, just to check in on things and begin our preparations for the

summer. We wanted you all to know that Kadimah looks as beautiful as ever and the only thing more beautiful than Kadimah on a sunny fall day, is Kadimah in the summer filled with all of you!



### B'YACHAD CAMPAIGN UPDATE

When we launched the *B'Yachad Campaign* in 2019, our focus was on raising funds for critical major capital and infrastructure improvements. The unthinkable then happened: a global pandemic forced camp to close for the first, and then second time in its 77-year history resulting in an enormous loss of camper fees and placing sizable financial strains on camp. Although Kadimah has arguably never gone through more challenging times, it has been incredible and inspiring to see our close-knit community step up with amazing generosity to keep our camp strong.

### REMARKABLY, WE HAVE ALREADY RAISED OVER \$2.5 MILLION SO FAR!

This is truly an incredible accomplishment and says so much about our camp and our community of generous donors. In the coming months you will learn how you can become a part of this exciting initiative.

### נתקדם

As our name suggests, **נתקדם**—"we will continue to move forward". Kadimah will emerge from the past two years with strength. Thanks to our committed families, our rock-solid community, and our generous donors, CK will continue to play a critical role instilling in our campers and staff strong Jewish values and a powerful connection to Israel.

**יאללה קדימה 2022!**  
**YALLA, LETS GO KADIMAH 2022!** 🇮🇱

# YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

BY **MAYA LOTAN**, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & YOUNG FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

## HELLO EVERYONE,

A lot has happened in our youth and young family engagement department since I last wrote to you.

Our community continues to grow and new babies are joining us across Atlantic Canada. Our Shalom baby packages are sent across the provinces and we continue to hold online activities (baby nutrition workshop with our local expert Olga Levin) and in person activities (yoga workshop for parents and babies held in Halifax yoga studio).

Other than that Hanukkah was a big month—while understanding the different needs of our community activities were conducted for demographic: We held a Hanukkah party for families and children during which we prepared menorahs (hanukkiah), beeswax candles and special pajamas just for Hanukkah. We lit the first candle of Hanukkah together and sang Hanukkah songs.

We also held a community dinner attended by 100 people hosted by the Sha'ar Shalom Synagogue. As part of the preparations for the meal, there was an activity for making Hanukkah cookies (we used special cookie cutters for the holiday spirit), frying Latkes (Levivu't) together (frying 500 of them!) all with the help of volunteers from the community, adults and children! At the eighth candle of Hanukkah, about ten volunteers came to cook the meal, serve and clean after it. As the person in charge of the volunteer team I enjoyed seeing the spirit of the holiday and the energy that took to create such a significant event after a period of two years during which we could not hold such events. Here is the place to say a big thank you to my partner in crime for this amazing dinner, Joanna Mertzky Wexler, that was an equal part in making this dinner happen and our collaboration was the one that made this dinner a true community event where everyone felt welcomed.

Thanks to community leadership, a family and children's event similar to the one held at HRM also took place in St. John Newfoundland, where menorahs were prepared and Hanukkah pajamas were dyed. And thanks to the connector for the RSJ community, Julia Lisker, a Hanukkah activity was also held in Moncton. As you can see, we had a very busy and exciting Hanukkah.

And on another subject, after many years in which there was no activity of the young Judah Canada for young ages in the Atlantic provinces we are happy to share with you that we have had the first program that took place in early December which was a reopening of the Young Judah Alumim (grades 1-6) program in our area. We hope this will be the beginning of the return of the youth movement to our districts for all ages.

Until next time,  
Maya. 🌟



Maya Lotan





# CAMPUS NEWS

BY RAN BEN SHABAT, DIRECTOR OF HILLEL AND NEXT GENERATION ENGAGEMENT

## FALL SEMESTER 2021

After a long summer of preparation and planning for the new academic year, we started the fall semester with much excitement and anticipation to in-person programming and activities.

During the summer, I had the opportunity to meet dozens of locals first-year and some from outside of Atlantic Canada students, as well as second and third-year students that I haven't had the chance to reach out to due to the pandemic. Knowing that the fall semester on campus will be back in person was excellent news for our planning and programming. Our students had longed to meet face-to-face with each other and establish new relationships.

The academic year started on the same day as Rosh Hashanah, so our first activity was a special Rosh Hashanah dinner at the Hillel House. It was so lovely to see the excitement on the students' faces and see them communicating with each other and interacting in person to get to know one another.

We Gathered for an end of fast dinner for Yom Kippur and at the end of the month, we hosted our very first Shabbat dinner. These events were very successful, both participation of students and for some it was the first time experiencing a Hillel event on campus. My next step was to engage those students and present them with the upcoming programming and activities I had planned for this semester.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

This semester I have focused on two extended educational programs: The Jewish Learning Fellowship (JLF) and the Israel Education course. Both programs ran for the first time in Hillel Atlantic and it showed positive attendance for a weekly committed programs from the students.

**The Jewish Learning Fellowship (JLF)** "life's big questions" was a 10-week experiential, conversational cohort for students looking to deepen their understanding of Judaism on their terms. A place where our students could be interested in building friendships, creating community, and asking big questions. You know, the big stuff—like Who am I? What communities am I a part of? What is worth

committing myself to, and why?

**JLF**—"Life's big questions" program was a great success. I was very skeptical at first that we would find a group of students willing to commit to this long program and meet every Tuesday from 7-8:30 pm for ten weeks. But much to my surprise, we ended up having 15 students that participated in it. I want to say a big thank you to those beautiful students that I was privileged to meet every week and be a part of the meaningful discussion we had during this program. Due to the success of this program, we will run it again next year.

**Israel Education Course**—after last May's events between Israel and Hamas and the difficulties and challenges they imposed on our Jewish community in general and on our Jewish students. The latter faced anti-Israel and antisemitism attacks on social media platforms and on-campus from some of their peers. Only due to their Jewish identity and connection to the state of Israel. I realized that our students were feeling alone and confused about the situation between Israel and Hamas and had very little knowledge or information on the history of the Israeli-Arab conflict that goes back 120 years. So, I decided that it was crucial to have an Israel education course that will educate our students on the history of the Zionist movement, the establishment of the state of Israel, and the history of the Israeli-Arab conflict. A partnership with StandWithUs consists of six sessions that allowed our students to deepen their understanding of the subject. We had guest speakers in each session who gave us a lecture on different topics. Among them, Prof Gil Troy, who gave us a lesson on Zionism from an idea to a state: three classes on the history of the conflict with the remarkable Charlotte Korchak (Senior Educator at StandWithUs), and Elisa Alloul (Assistant Director of Campus Strategy at StandWithUs) on BDS and the Free Palestine Movement and on the way, we can combat them on campus. Our Emerson fellowship student, Julian Oxner, and I led this course. Thank Julian, for all the work and effort you put into this program.

As a part of Hillel Atlantic Canada's Israel Education programming, we are excited to launch our first-ever Hillel book club that will



start this January and continue throughout the rest of the academic year. The book club starts at the end of January 2022; if you are interested in signing up or would like more information, please feel free to contact me directly.

## MEETING UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENTS AND ADMINISTRATORS

In November, Sophie Helpard, the Director of Government and University Relations for the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, and I met with the University's Presidents and Administrators' staff from Dalhousie, Saint Mary's, University of Kings College and Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. The goal of the meetings was to familiarize the institutions with some of the critical and innovative work Hillel is doing to support Jewish students on campus. As well as, to use the opportunity to debrief them on the frightening incidents of antisemitism over the past few months in Halifax and how they have affected university students. We ask them to make sure that Jewish students feel safe on campuses and see the AJC and Hillel as partners in handling antisemitism incidents in their campuses. Also, we discuss collaborating on producing an education program on antisemitism during training week for first-year students and new University staff employees.

## WINTER SEMESTER PLANNING

Due to the omicron situation and new restrictions protocols, we once again we are obligated to stop our in-person programming and activities and develop online options.

Instead of our monthly Shabbat dinners, we will return to preparing dinners to go. Hopefully, this will change soon, and we will go back to regular gatherings. Either way, we plan to have our monthly Shabbat dinner, social events, holiday events, and programming.

All our programs and events are posted on Instagram. Please follow us on Hillel Atlantic Canada.

Stay safe and healthy. 🌿

**NOW INCLUDES 1 BOOK PER CHILD PER MONTH!**



**Know any children ages  
0 THROUGH 8 YEARS OLD  
living in Atlantic Canada?**

**TELL THEM TO SIGN UP FOR PJ LIBRARY!**

PJ Library is a program that sends free, award-winning books that celebrate Jewish values and culture to families with children from birth through 8 years old. In Atlantic Canada, PJ Library is sponsored by the Atlantic Jewish Council.

*Signing up is free, easy, and takes less than  
3 minutes. Go to **[pjlibrary.org](http://pjlibrary.org)**!*



**Know any kids ages 9 TO 12 YEARS OLD  
living in Atlantic Canada?**

**TELL THEM TO SIGN UP FOR PJ OUR WAY!**

PJ Our Way is a program that offers the gift of exceptional chapter books with Jewish themes to kids ages 9-12—books that they choose themselves! Every month, kids visit the PJ Our Way website to choose a book from a selection of four high-quality titles that have been reviewed by a panel of PJ educators, parents, and kids.

*Signing up is free, easy, and takes less than  
3 minutes. Go to **[pjourway.org](http://pjourway.org)**!*



**Sign up for FREE as a PJ Library Grandparent!**

**Grandparents must have a grandchild with a current  
PJ Library subscription**

Great News! Grandparents can now receive the gift of PJ Library, too (for free!). Grandparents will not receive monthly books but will receive two PJ Library books, monthly emails with great resources, updates on the books and activities their grandkid(s) are receiving, and more!

*Fill out the sign-up form at  
**[pjlibrary.org/grandparent-enrollment](http://pjlibrary.org/grandparent-enrollment)**  
to sign up the grandparents in your life for special mailings and  
emails from PJ Library*



# BILUIM ISRAEL IN QUEBEC

BY EYTAN MENDEL-ELIAS

Eytan Mendel-Elias received a Miasnik-Rein Trust Scholarship to attend Biluim Israel in Quebec.



This summer, I attended the three-and-a-half week Biluim Israel in Quebec. Expectations for a summer in Israel were already significantly diminished because of COVID, so when we found out that we weren't going to be able to go to Israel because of safety concerns in June, the blow was lessened. Every time a door closes, another one opens, and thus we were introduced to Biluim Israel in Quebec.

Our residence was Y Country Camp in the Laurentian Mountains in Quebec. We had campers from a myriad of different camps being filtered into Y Country Camp, including Kadimah, Solelim, Kineret and more. But no matter where we came from, we all came to appreciate (and miss!) the superior facilities of our respective camps.

Thankfully for us, in the words of one of my esteemed cabin mates, "It's not the place, it's the people," which was extremely lucky for us. Because the people at this camp really were special, every camper and the staff brought something special to this camp which made the experience worth it! A special shoutout to the staff because they, like us, only found out a month prior that they would be planning this camp for a group of 85 very critical teenagers. But they did a good job, from leadership building programs like Hadracha, and Musag, to fun events like Maccabia. We learned a lot, and we enjoyed ourselves.

Unfortunately, there were three times every day where it was very hard to enjoy ourselves, mealtimes. The treks across this vast campground had the participants walking about 20,000 – 25,000 steps every single day. Which meant we were all famished when it came time to eat. Unfortunately, the kitchen had a unique way of turning respectable camp classics, like grilled cheese and salad, into something partly lacking effort, partially lacking ingredients, and wholly difficult to eat.

Thankfully after a lunch like grilled cheese, we would be able to go to the lake, which was an absolutely magnificent, glittering relief that was surrounded by rolling green hills. Swims were always a time that could be counted on as enjoyable. One of the fantastic features of the water was the so-called "blob," a large multicoloured... blob, which would launch the participant's sky-high! Between the blob

and long-distance swims out to the far docks, there was never a dull moment during a swim, which warrants a thank you to the lifeguard team, made up purely of our very own participants.

Another major highlight of the camp was the programs that the campers ran. These consisted of Survivor, Lare, and Amazing Race. These programs, which were modelled off imagination, T.V shows, and each other were led by groups of about five campers, each who did a spectacular job. Most campers participated in at least one of these programs, and I myself participated in Survivor and Amazing Race. Both times I was stunned at my peers' ability to separate themselves from the role of a fellow participant and step into a leadership role running a smooth program that, in the case of Survivor, went on several days.

These programs constituted some of the best days at camp and really sweetened the experience. Thank you to the staff for taking on the daunting responsibility of running this camp with little preparation, Thank you to YCC (I think), for allowing us to live in your camp for a month, thank you to CYJ for year after year, giving hundreds of kids an amazing summer, and thank you to all of my fellow participants, for being special, and turning any situation into a fun time. ☺



“ I will always be a Maritimer. I grew up in Moncton and attended Dalhousie University for my Law and MBA degrees. I spent 19 summers at Camp Kadimah and continue to spend my summers in one of my favourite places, Shediac, New Brunswick. I am always happy to connect with my fellow “East Coasters” to see how I can assist them with their legal and business needs. ”

—LEIGH LAMPERT



A FULL SERVICE BUSINESS LAW FIRM



Corporate &  
Commercial Law



Real Estate  
& Leasing



Employment  
Law



Corporate  
& Governance



Privacy &  
Compliance

[lampertlawgic.com](http://lampertlawgic.com) | [LL@lampertlawgic.com](mailto:LL@lampertlawgic.com) | 647.948.8872



# HONOURING RUTH

## Ruth Goldbloom Sculpture Unveiled At Pier 21 Museum

BY JOEL JACOBSON PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CREAGEN

A sunny early October Sunday morning, perfectly depicting Ruth Goldbloom's glow and bright attitude, greeted more than 100 family members and friends at Canada's National Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 for a momentous occasion.

They were gathered for the unveiling of a sculpture of Ruth, seated on a bench, surrounded by immigrants' suitcases, with her beloved tap shoes sitting at her feet. The sculpture, created by Newfoundland artist Morgan MacDonald, will be permanently located near the entrance to the museum. Visitors will be invited to sit beside Ruth, whose legacy was that she talked to anyone and everyone who entered the museum that she created through passion, leadership, and desire to honour the 1.5 million immigrants who entered Canada through the Port of Halifax through Pier 21 from 1928 to 1971.

With Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor Arthur LeBlanc and Halifax mayor Mike Savage among the guests, Ruth's beloved husband, Richard, her children, Alan, David and Barbara, and six of her seven grandchildren, Michael, Ellen, Amy, Stephen, Daniel and Will, with Kate sending best wishes, helped unveil the sculpture and a descriptive plaque.

Alan, speaking on behalf of the family, praised MacDonald's work.

"He never met our mother so we sent as many photographs as we could to help him. But photos can't convey the energy, spunk, humour, determination, passion and the mischievousness that were the essence of her character. If he had tried to create this when she was alive, he would have faced the almost insurmountable challenge of getting her to sit still and pose long enough for him to do his work."

Alan spoke of Ruth's passion for Canada's multicultural, multi-ethnic composition, about her mother, Ruth Schwartz of New Waterford, emigrating to Canada at age 12 from Russia.

"As Ruth traversed the country raising money for the restoration of Pier 21, she was energized by stories similar to those of her mother, families who arrived with nothing but hope and determination, and for whom Pier 21 symbolized the beginning of a new life," Alan said.

In the 1990s, Ruth led the restoration of Pier 21 from an abandoned shed to the showcase museum it is today because Ruth refused to take no for an answer when she sought money. The dynamo, who stood five foot nothing but had a heart 10 feet wide, was committed because of her sense of justice, abhorrence of prejudice and intolerance, and her belief in opportunity, hard work and achievement.

MacDonald said it was "an honour to hear about Ruth, even though I never met her. I hope visitors to Pier 21 will discover who she was. Now she'll always be here in spirit to greet visitors."

Karen and Howard Conter were, and are, the backbone of the sculpture project. They developed the idea, knocked on all the right doors to make it happen, did much of the fund-raising with




PHOTOS: (TOP) Howard and Karen Conter spearheaded the project of a Ruth Goldbloom sculpture to both honour her, and to honour the work she did in creating the museum. (BOTTOM) Friends and family gathered at the unveiling of a sculpture of Ruth Goldbloom at Pier 21.

tremendous cooperation and assistance of the Atlantic Jewish Council, and have seen it to fruition.

More funds were raised than necessary for the actual sculpture, but the additional dollars will build a bursary for students of immigration.

Marie Chapman, the chief executive officer of Pier 21, told how Ruth loved retail, and could sell anything to anyone.

"They key, she always told me, was to look them in the eye. When she looked at you, she made sure you were the only person in the room. And by doing that, she was able to draw stories from people, stories that have built this museum.

"To have her back here—it's magic!" 

# Jewish Continuity, Community, and Diversity in Prince Edward Island

UNABRIDGED VERSION<sup>1</sup> BY DR. JOSEPH B. GLASS

I am honoured by the opportunity to share a few insights into the Jewish history of Prince Edward Island by focusing on three themes: continuity, community, and diversity.

## CONTINUITY

As early as 1848, there was a Jewish presence on the Island. Joseph Levi, a tailor by vocation, made Princetown, current day Malpeque, his home for at least thirteen years. Very few Jews lived in PEI during the second half of the nineteenth century. In 1891 Dr. Frank Rossin was the only Jewish person enumerated in the census. In the 1890s a few Jewish men peddled and ran small businesses. For example, Philip Goodstein operated the New York Cheap Store just across from here [the Provincial Legislature] on the other side of Grafton Street. I wonder if Philip could have imagined back in 1898, that a Jewish community would be dedicating a Hanukkah Menorah on the grounds of the Provincial Legislature.

By 1901 over twenty Jewish people lived on the Island. The population's composition started to change and included families with children—the Blocks, Charys, and Goldens. This marked the beginning of a permanent presence. By 1914 the population more than doubled to around 45 due to in-migration and natural growth. Between the two World Wars, the Jewish population declined because of outmigration and stood at around twenty in the 1921, 1931, and 1941 censuses.

During and after World War II, Jewish physicians who had fled Nazi persecution, reached Canada, and settled across PEI and included: Dr. Sydney Bandler in Alberton, Dr. Israel Rachmel in Charlottetown, Dr. Max Schapira in New Glasgow, and Dr. Edward Kassner in Souris.

After the war, the Jewish population remained stable until the 1970s which saw the start of increased Jewish migration. A few engaged in farming while others were employed in higher education, government, health services, and the literary, visual, and theatre arts. By 1981 there were approximately 90 Jewish inhabitants. The census estimate for 2016 was 215 Jewish persons by ethnicity. In addition, an annual influx of seasonal Jewish residents temporarily boosts the Jewish population size. Many seasonal residents connect with permanent residents and participate in community activities.

Over the past 120 years, the Jewish population grew tenfold due to net migration and some natural growth. During the past few years, the arrival of some younger Jewish couples has resulted in an increase in the Jewish birth rate.

## COMMUNITY

A critical mass of Jews existed to create a community and to be recognized as a group. Most Jewish communities have basic institutions—synagogue and cemetery—but PEI has neither. Some

Jews who passed away on the Island were buried in consecrated Jewish cemeteries in Saint John, Moncton, and Halifax and as far away as Montreal and Boston. Over the years some Jewish residents travelled off-Island to attend High Holiday services or to celebrate Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and weddings in synagogues on the mainland.

Another benchmark for a community is the availability of a *minyan*, traditionally a quorum of ten Jewish men. Leiser Rappaport settled with his family in Southport in 1929. They left shortly afterwards because he could not find a *minyan* to say *kaddish*, the mourner's prayer, following his father's death. This not meant to imply that the Jews on the Island did not pray together or observe holidays. Some Jewish celebrations in the mid-twentieth were documented. For example, in 1945 Purim (Feast of Esther) was marked with the Canadian Jewish Congress and local Jewish residents hosting a lunch for twenty Jewish airmen stationed in Charlottetown.

The Jewish residents were recognized locally as a group. For instance, the Patriot in 1908 reported that Charlottetown's Jews were celebrating Passover and consumed unleavened bread for eight days. The Ducoffe-Hoffman nuptials was frontpage news in the *Guardian* in 1913. A rabbi came from Saint John to perform this first Jewish marriage ceremony on PEI.

Mamie Block's 1913 letter to the *Jewish Times* underscored an issue for very small Jewish communities. She wrote: "I am proud I am a Jewess, and never hesitate to say I am, [...] I am the only girl of my age," The fifteen years old wanted to become a corresponding member of a Jewish youth group. Almost all the Island-born Jewish children in the first half of the twentieth century moved away, looking for economic opportunity and Jewish marriage partners.

Organization of a Jewish community group only got under way in the 1970s. For example, Torahs scrolls were borrowed and brought to Island for High Holy Day services in 1975 and a Bar Mitzvah in 1976. Dr. Joseph Naylor was a driving force. Starting in 1982, he published a newsletter, *HA-EE*, Hebrew for "*The Island*" which initially reached 35 families across the Island. Jane Naylor and Rosalie Simone started a Hebrew school which served eight children in the mid-1980s. Rosalie also fostered adult education and study groups. The education of its children was a major reason for the coming together of the community. In 1993 the Prince Edward Island Jewish Community (PEIJC) was formally established, and Dr. Joseph Naylor was elected its first president.

For over forty years, the community has been gathering regularly in members' homes to celebrate Jewish holidays and the occasional Kabbalat Shabbat (Friday night dinner). For Tu B'Shvat, weather and snow conditions permitting, the community organizes a horse-drawn sleigh ride (a PEI tradition!) and Seder, at a local farm. Some events, those expected to draw larger numbers of participants, have been held



in community halls and other venues. The community Passover Seder can draw over 60 people.

The community lobbied for provincial recognition of Yom ha-Shoah. The legislature passed Bill 104, the Holocaust Memorial Day Act of 1999. Annually, the community organizes a Yom ha-Shoah event which draws hundreds of Jewish and non-Jewish Islanders. The PEIJC has been involved in education outreach programs about Judaism and to combat anti-Semitism.

The community has condemned the persecution of religious groups and acts of violence perpetrated against them. As a recent illustration, in January 2017, the PEIJC expressed its solidarity with the Muslim community following the Quebec City mosque attack. In November 2018, the PEIJC hosted a vigil for the victims of the massacre at a Pittsburgh synagogue. Members of different faith communities attended in support of the Jewish community and in condemnation of violence against religious groups.

## DIVERSITY

The composition of the Jewish population changed over the years. The origins of earlier Jewish immigrants, until 1939, were mainly from Lithuania, Russia, Poland, and Germany. Most had passed through other parts of Canada and the United States before settling in PEI. A few persons born in the United States and Canada to parents of Eastern European origin landed on the Island as well.

In the 1940s Jewish refugee doctors from Central Europe reached the Island and changed the population structure and its characteristics. From the 1970s onward, there was increased migration from other Canadian provinces and American immigration. The Provincial Nomination Program for immigration, started in 2001, and it drew Jewish immigrants from Israel and other countries to PEI.

The current residents include Jewish persons born on the Island and those who came from other parts of Canada, the United States, Israel, Brazil, Argentina, England, Russia, Poland, Ukraine, South Africa, and more. The community brings together different Jewish cultural heritages—Ashkenazim, Sephardim, and Mizrachim. The membership displays an array of religious affiliations and observances—orthodox,

conservative, traditional, reform, cultural, and more. And, intermarriage with non-Jews has not been uncommon with mixed couples marrying on the Island or migrating to the Island.

The diversity finds expression at community events with participants sharing their heritages. Members chant and impart their different traditional melodies for prayers and songs. The potluck meals best express the assortment of culinary cultures within the group. For example, one can find different types of fish dishes prepared by participants such as spicy Moroccan fish, smoked salmon, gefilte fish (both sweet and savory), and Russian shuba salad (or “Herring Under a Fur Coat”) all on the same table. The Jewish community embraces and celebrates its internal diversity.

## CONCLUSION

There has been a continuous Jewish presence on Prince Edward Island for 120 years. Evidence has not been found of widespread community organization until the 1970s and none of the basic Jewish institutions have been established. Nonetheless, the Jewish community is thriving and has been evolving, growing, and diversifying.

Today’s dedication of our Hanukkah Menorah in another step in the evolution of the Jewish community. Shortly Amalia and Eli will recite three blessings. The third blessing, called the *Shehechiyanu*, is said only on the first night of Hanukkah thanking G-d for granting us life, sustaining us, and allowing us to reach this occasion, the celebration of the Festival of Lights. This year, when reciting the *Shehechiyanu*, let us also recognize this momentous occasion, the first public lighting of the Hanukkah Menorah on the grounds of the Prince Edward Island legislature, as well as the continuous Jewish presence here for 120 years. 🕯

*1. Due to the cold and windy weather on the evening of November 28, an abridged version of the talk was delivered at the “The Dedication and Lighting PEI Jewish Community Hanukkah Menorah, and also commemorating 120 years of a continuous Jewish presence on Prince Edward Island,” Grounds of the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly (Grafton St. at Church St.), Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, First Night of Hanukkah, 25 Kislev 5782 /November 28, 2021.*

## ORDER A TRIBUTE CARD FROM THE AJC!

Tribute card designs are from original paintings by local artist Jennifer Baig Jacobson, the owner of Studio 14, Gifts & Gallery.

Make a donation in someone’s honour or memory to the AJC and we’ll send them or their family one of these beautiful tribute cards with a personalized message inside!

### PERFECT FOR

- Rosh HaShannah Greetings
- Channukah Greetings
- Messages of Condolence
- Birthday Gifts
- Wedding Gifts
- and more!

Minimum donation \$18 per individual card or minimum \$50 donation for 5 cards. You can also order a complete set of 8 blank cards for \$30

### THERE ARE 3 EASY WAYS TO ORDER YOUR TRIBUTE CARDS:

Online: [www.theajc.ca/tributecards](http://www.theajc.ca/tributecards) Email: [tributecards@theajc.ca](mailto:tributecards@theajc.ca)

Telephone: 902-422-7493



# From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg: A Granddaughter Remembers Abraham Sutzkever

BY PEGGY WALT

When Abraham Sutzkever died in 2010, the government of his native Lithuania observed a moment's silence. They remembered the famed writer who some consider the greatest Yiddish poet of all time, the brave Partisan who hid Jewish cultural treasures in the Vilna Ghetto. But when they offered condolences to Israel where Sutzkever had lived for decades, they were met with silence. No-one in the government knew who he was.

Flash forward. Along with two evocative films (*Black Honey* and *Ver Vet Blaybn/Who Will Remain?*) and new editions of his work, the first English translation of Sutzkever's 1946 memoir and testimony, *From the Vilna Ghetto to Nuremberg*, has finally appeared.

Much credit for this renewed interest is due Sutzkever's granddaughter, Israeli writer, actor and producer, Hadas Kalderon. The mother of two young boys, who's appeared in Israeli dramas *When Heroes Fly* and *My Best Friend*, Kalderon knew from age six she was an artist. But she's proudest perhaps of being the granddaughter of Abraham Sutzkever, (who she called Abrasha, not grandfather) and of reawakening Israel and the world to his importance.

When her grandfather died, "That was a turning point, time for me to do the shift and do a *tikkun*, to bring back the honour of the poet, who was forgotten," she explains via Zoom from Israel. "Now in Steimatzky, the largest chain bookstore in Israel, there are books right up front in the store about him."

One of those is Prof. Justin Cammy's comprehensive translation of the memoir, which begins as the Germans enter Vilna in 1941: "When I turned on the radio the morning of 22 June, a hysterical German scream leapt out at me like a pack of lizards. I realized that the German army had crossed the border." Sutzkever's depiction is a gripping whirlwind, documenting firsthand the immediate intimidation, imprisonment and murder of Vilna's Jews. Two Ghettos are established, and new terms introduced to Yiddish, "such as *khapunes* for the Jew-snatchers who seized Jews off the streets, *malines* for makeshift Jewish hideouts in secret rooms or in hastily hewn cellars and caves, and *provokatsyes* for major assault operations against the Jewish population."

The memoir falls between a diary and a remembrance; it was "breathlessly written... in the style of Soviet reportage, of an eyewitness," between April and mid-summer 1944, says translator Cammy. Sutzkever was commissioned to write a testimony on the Vilna Ghetto for *The Black Book* project after his rescue in 1944 from the Soviet Partisan forests. When Vilna was liberated in mid-July 1944, he rushed back to his city to write a coda about the liberation. Written before the war even ended, the testimony is fresh, immediate and heartbreaking.

Sutzkever describes his own hiding places: for seven weeks he lived in the chimney of a stove, and once hid in a coffin. Entry to baths, hospitals, cinemas, the university, trains, etc. are forbidden and all

Jews ordered to wear the yellow star. His mother and infant son are murdered, and he's rounded up with a young boy and a Rabbi and made to dance naked around destroyed Torah scrolls. Cammy translates one of the most poignant poems, "To My Child":

*... I wanted to devour you, my child,  
when I felt your little body cooling down  
between my fingers,  
as if I'd clasped them  
round a glass of warm tea  
and felt its slow transition into coldness.*

As friends and family disappear, he keeps writing. But earlier, Sutzkever wasn't accepted into the Yunge Vilna artists' group. Kalderon explains: "They told him this is a time of steel, not a time of crystal. He was writing about trees that are talking, grass, stones, how nature speaks to him... Only a poet who sees the world from God's view can find a healing beauty in that dark time."

Sutzkever writes about cultural life in the Vilna ghetto, art events, books borrowed from the Ghetto library: "Whether a creative person... admires the sunset by the seashore or stands by the edge of a grave he has been forced to dig himself, the spirit of creativity does not abandon him." One of thirty-five performances of the ghetto symphony orchestra "inspired the ghetto population like mountain air for those with lung disease. It was worth fighting for beauty."

Kalderon explains what Yiddish and poetry meant to her grandfather: "Like a shield of steel from the German bullets, he was a *sheliach* (messenger) of something that was greater than him, a deliverer of poetry, something that is sacred. He had to write. He wrote every day a poem. He believed he had this pact with the Angel of Poetry, who says to him, 'as long as you bring me brilliant verses, I will protect you with a flaming sword.'" Poetry for him was sacred, to be a writer was "fulfilling his destiny." When asked after the war if he believed in God, Sutzkever replied simply, "Who saved me, if not God?"

Art also saved him. *Kol Nidre*, one of his most famous poems bearing witness to the atrocities, was smuggled through the Soviet Partisans and translated to Russian, arriving in Moscow, where it so impressed Stalin that he personally sent a plane to rescue Sutzkever and his wife, Freda. Kalderon continues, "So he became this great hero in the Soviet... a man who fought the Nazis, who smuggled the Jewish treasures. (Writer) Ilya Ehrenberg said 'in his hand he has a weapon and in his heart he has Pushkin and Gogol's manuscripts, and in his head he is with a poem'... A miracle. A poet believes he's going to survive because of his poetry, and that's exactly what happens... A great belief brings a great reality... like a prophet."

The volume includes Sutzkever's diary entries about his testimony at the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal in February of 1946, where he asked to speak in Yiddish but had to make due with Russian, and where he remained standing for his thirty-eight minute testimony:



“And I, perhaps the only remaining Yiddish poet in occupied Europe, appear now..not only to testify, but as a living witness to the immortality of my people... Which is stronger, my sorrow or my desire for revenge? I told them how I had recognized one of my mother’s shoes from a pile of those... who had been killed, and how my newborn son was murdered in the ghetto hospital.”

There are also three essays about Sutzkever’s time in Moscow, extensive notes, a valuable list of place names in Polish, Lithuanian and Yiddish, photos and a fifty-plus page Afterword.

After two years in Russia, the couple decided to go to Israel, although as Kalderon notes, “He could have gone to every place, Moscow, Argentina, New York, France. But he and my grandmother decided to bring the Yiddish language back to the Jewish land, back here to a safe place among the Jewish people.” Yiddish, however, was the language of the defeated, and in the new Jewish state it was “unwelcome, abandoned, put aside, not popular, not sexy, not anything.” In fact, Kalderon points out refugees could be fined until 1952 for speaking a language other than Hebrew. But “It made him say, I wasn’t afraid of the Germans, and I’m not afraid of the Jewish people.”

Sutzkever kept preserving Yiddish writing, editing the Israeli journal he created (*Di Goldene Keyt*), for forty-eight years. When asked by Ben Gurion why he sent him a poem (*In Midbar Sinai*) in Yiddish, he replied with a poem titled Yiddish, asking if the Prime Minister wanted him to tear out his mother’s tongue. Kalderon translates: “Before you succeed, I will swallow my tongue, but from my throat would come this great roar that will shake the land that you are standing on.” Yiddish rescued him and he rescued it back.”

Despite his serious nature—“He wasn’t the grandfather to take you to kindergarten”—Kalderon remembers Sutzkever’s gentle humour and positive stories. After her first trip to Europe, where she was horrified to find a yellow star in an antique store in Czechoslovakia, Kalderon relayed her experience, adding that it was for sale for \$200. “That’s very interesting,” he replied with a small smile, “I got mine for free.”

Kalderon says that while her mother’s second generation of Holocaust survivors were busy becoming Israeli *sabras*, she wanted to become “a candle of remembrance,” to reveal the secrets that her grandparents whispered to each other about the war. She’s performed in Germany and in Vilna, in the same ghetto theatre as her grandfather, bringing her original show to European audiences. Her time in Germany shocked her: “The State remembers the Holocaust... but in the houses, with individuals, there is silence... No-one says, it was wrong, it shouldn’t have happened... This is why the right wing is getting bigger... Nobody takes responsibility... they learn it as history.”

Sutzkever’s friend Mark Chagall said, “You are such a great and big poet with such a small readership. This is a tragedy.” And it’s incredible that after Hebrew, Yiddish, French, Russian, German and Lithuanian editions, the first English translation is out only now, thanks to McGill Queen’s Press, the Yiddish Book Centre and Justin Cammy. Cammy first read the poet as an undergraduate student in Montreal, a city Sutzkever lectured in “many times,” Kalderon notes, expressing interest in coming to Canada and screening the movies about Abrasha in Montreal and Halifax.

She sees her grandfather as “a hero, a great Yiddish poet, a great man, whose role is to give strength to those who read the poems. He sees the beauty of the world beyond the reality of it. It’s a



PHOTOS: (1) Movie poster; (2) Freda and Abraham Sutzkever with cultural treasures rescued from the Vilna Ghetto; (3) Abraham Sutzkever with his granddaughter, Hadas Kalderon; (4) Sutzkever book cover; (5) Hadas Kalderon in Vilna

metaphysical world. The dead are living in the poetry; he is the mediator between the dead and the living.”

It took ten years to create her two beautiful films, nudging Sutzkever’s poems and story back to their rightful place. “I cared. Who is better to bring it to them than his own granddaughter, to bring it to the country who has forgotten his heroes?”



TO ADVERTISE IN  
**Shalom**

Please contact the AJC: [info@theajc.ca](mailto:info@theajc.ca)

# REMEMBERING DR. RICHARD GOLDBLOOM Z"L

REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE CANADIAN JEWISH NEWS



Dr. Richard Goldbloom, a prominent member of Atlantic Canada's Jewish community, a leader in Halifax's medical community, and an iconic figure in pediatric care across the country, died in Halifax on Nov. 19. He was 96.

Goldbloom followed his father's footsteps: Alton Goldbloom was reportedly Montreal's first trained pediatrician and a former chief of staff at the Montreal Children's Hospital. Richard would accompany his father on house calls.

Richard's uncle was a doctor, as was his brother Victor, who went onto a political career in Quebec and as Canada's commissioner of official languages. Family lore had it that Richard knew he wanted to be a doctor at age six, when he began signing his name "Richard Goldbloom, MD."

He came to Halifax from Montreal in 1967 to work at the new IWK Hospital for Children. Sick children in Atlantic Canada no longer had to travel west or to the United States for treatment.

Goldbloom was known for heightened listening skills and for teaching that a pediatrician should look beyond obvious symptoms of sickness.

"There's a lot of body language and facial language that are so important in evaluating a family and in helping to make life better for them," he told CBC News in 2014. "The child is the one that is brought to you, but often the child is not the real patient."

Dr. Andrew Lynk, a former student of Goldbloom's, told CBC News: "He just had that magic about him."

He was born in Montreal on Dec. 16, 1924 to the late Alton and Annie (Ballon) Goldbloom. He attended Selwyn House School and Lower Canada College before completing an undergraduate degree and medical education at McGill University, his family death notice stated. He met his wife, Ruth, who had grown up in New Waterford, Cape Breton, in Montreal.

He trained as a pediatrician at the Montreal Children's Hospital and at Boston Children's Hospital. Back in Montreal, he was in private pediatric practice with his father and brother Victor before committing to a full-time academic career at McGill University and the Montreal Children's Hospital.

In Canada's Centennial year, he was recruited to be professor and chair of the department of pediatrics at Dalhousie University, and as the inaugural physician-in-chief and director of research at the newly constructed Izaak Walton Killam Hospital for Children. He held these positions for the next 18 years. He also served as Chancellor of Dalhousie University from 2001 to 2007.

Why Halifax? In part, explained Stephen Kimber in a history of IWK Hospital, it was simply that he'd been asked—"and more than just nicely."

Goldbloom was sitting in his Montreal office one morning in 1967 when the phone rang. It was Chester Stewart, dean of medicine at Dalhousie University. Goldbloom had never heard of him.

"I'm staying at the Ritz," Stewart began, as Kimber relates in his history. "I came to Montreal specifically to talk with you about an opportunity in Nova Scotia, and I'm not leaving until we do. So when do you have some time?"

Confessed Goldbloom, "my ego has never been massaged to that degree, before or since."

Goldbloom went on to publish more than 140 scientific research papers in such diverse areas as hematology, nutrition, cystic fibrosis, medical education, and the value of screening for disease.

His textbook *Pediatric Clinical Skills* has become widely used. He also co-edited the book *Preventing Disease: Beyond the Rhetoric*, and for many years served as editor of the popular newsletter "Pediatric Notes." In 2013, he published his autobiography, *A Lucky Life*.

His death notice listed visiting

professorships and distinguished lectureships throughout the world, including the University of Oxford, Shanghai Medical University, Tel Aviv University, and other institutes of higher learning throughout Canada and the United States.

Goldbloom served on the executive of the Medical Research Council of Canada, and from 1984 to 1994, he chaired the Canadian Task Force on the Periodic Health Examination. His obituary noted that he especially enjoyed chairing the Maritime Rhodes Scholars Selection Committee for 15 years, "as he always relished the presence of young and talented people."

In non-medical fields, he became president of the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra. He was the first chair of the Waterfront Development Corporation of Halifax, and founding chair of the Discovery Centre, an interactive children's museum of science and technology in Halifax.

He was known for playing piano at *Kol Nidrei* services at Halifax's Shaar Shalom Synagogue.

He received many honours over his career, including the Order of Canada and Order of Nova Scotia. He was particularly moved when the hospital he led for much of his career named its newest building the Richard B. Goldbloom Pavilion for Research and Clinical Care. In 2016, he was inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

His wife, noted philanthropist Ruth Goldbloom, died in 2012 at the age of 88. The pair founded the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21. "Ruth was his energy source and he was forever weakened by her death," Goldbloom's obituary stated. "She said the only disease he would ever die of was optimism. His optimism was not fatal but rather a sustaining life force for nine decades."

Victor Goldbloom, his brother, died in 2016. Richard Goldbloom is survived by his children Alan, Barbara, and David; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. 5



# Identity Theft

BY LARRY FINKELMAN

Don't you dare  
try to show or wear  
the Jewish star  
to draw attention to your cause,  
and presume they are the same,  
because they're not!

And don't compare  
those forced to wear  
the yellow badge  
with those of you who choose, not to take your shot,  
and say, you are victims too,  
because you're not!

Using words like 'genocide'  
and 'crimes against humanity'  
in the same breath  
as 'anti-vaxers' liberty',  
makes mockery  
of those who died.

Maybe it's just an innocent error  
of which you are the bearer,  
or a blind spot  
in your cross-cultural vision  
that caused this collision,  
but I don't care—  
it can still pave the road  
to hatred all the same.

The Shield of David,  
symbol of God's protection,  
has been our seal and our affection,  
for centuries  
before Hitler perverted its meaning  
and turned it into something vile and demeaning.  
It's been used for synagogues and art,  
jewelry and monuments,  
and emblems from the heart,

even on our homeland's flag.  
You can't take it as your own,  
because,  
it's already ours.

You wouldn't portray yourselves  
as JC on the cross  
or use residential schools as your gloss,  
or swipe slavery from the blacks  
to plaster over all the cracks  
and bolster up your case,  
so why do that to us?

Don't think you can escape unscathed,  
like some baby being bathed,  
because the next time  
you breach the peace,  
I'll report you to the police,  
for identity theft!

And to those of you who say,  
Don't give oxygen to their display,  
I reply,  
Should we just wait  
until they come to stamp our fate,  
when it will be too late  
to act?  
Or should we  
trust the powers that be  
to protect us and keep us free?  
We did that once,  
and look where that  
got us.  
And besides,  
after they come for us,  
guess who's next?

Larry Finkelman lives in Fredericton, NB and you can read more of his  
poetry and contract him at: <http://www.larryslinesofpoetry.com>

**SEND A Partnership2Gether GIFT CARD TO CELEBRATE!**

**HELP SUPPORT OUR VALUABLE PROJECTS IN NORTHERN ISRAEL**

Contact [info@theajc.ca](mailto:info@theajc.ca)

# Holocaust Education Week

## All Flesh is Grass: A Post-Memorial

Solomon NAGLER Angela HENDERSON Natalie GOULET Aleksander SCHWARZ

Canadian artists Angela Henderson and Solomon Nagler continue their collaboration with Polish artists Alexandra Janus and Aleksander Schwarz, presenting a site-specific intervention that maps the unmarked graves of Jewish victims of the Holocaust into an architectural space within sight of Elpaqkwitk (Georges Island). In November, 2021, they presented All Flesh is Grass: A Post-Memorial at Pier 21 in collaboration with Holocaust Education Week. Using installation, photo-based works, print-making and sculpture as forms of experimental mapping, they presented works that were a continuation of their artistic research within the forested landscapes of Eastern Poland. At Pier 21, this work intervened in a national museum that memorializes settler immigration on Turtle Island, contextualizing the Shoah within a space of difficult history.

When presenting our research on the Shoah, we acknowledge the territory and space that we are in, and our implication as uninvited

guests in Mi'kma'ki. As a post-memorial, we strive to explore the inter-relationship between memory, witnessing and institutional inertia. Here, we created an exhibition in an interstitial space—a hallway in this case—traditionally not used for exhibition at Pier 21, to explore this work as an unsettling juxtaposition.

כָּל־הַבָּשָׂר חֵצִיר (All flesh is Grass) is an oft quoted biblical verse that refers to humanity's fragility and the connection between ecology and divinity. In the context of this exhibition, our land-based research practices are informed both by non-anthropocentric agents and fragments of human interventions. Our collaborations with the Zapomniane Foundation in Poland explore how the remnants of these past tragedies have been imprinted on nature and, how commemorations of sites of difficult history serve to acknowledge these sites of genocide. 5



### Phytograms

ARTIST: SOLOMON NAGLER

16 mm colour celluloid / 2019

Fashioning an impromptu lightbox in the windows of Pier 21, we have installed images that were created in five separate, unmarked mass graves in the forests of eastern Poland; Głodno, Polichna, Stary Franciszków, Radecznica and Pikule. In each site, the vegetation is different, depending on the location, sunlight or soil type. To document this vegetation in-situ, phytograms were created on 16mm film, an alternative process of exposing celluloid film, which transforms the internal chemical structure of plants into textures of light. Local plants, after soaking in a bio-developer, were laid on film and exposed to the natural light available in the location of the mass grave. This process resulted in cameraless exposures that express the biochemical particularities of each site of trauma.

ARTIST: ALEKSANDER SCHWARZ

photographic print / 2021

This panoramic image was taken – using a drone – in a village called Chroberz, in central Poland. It depicts the landscape surrounding a burial site of twenty four Jewish people, man, woman and children. Additional layer of this landscape is what is not visible on the site – the structure of the ground. Thus, the work uses a form of a collage to combine three different perspectives on the same site: two captured from above and one that allows us to look underground. The black and white waves at the bottom of the image are a processed image of the GPR data. For an untrained eye it is impossible to interpret that, but for an expert in non-invasive research these waves indicate the burial site, located in the middle of the wavy stripe. This work explores the (in)visibility of the violence in the landscape, but at the same time, it introduces the scientific data into the familiar image of a winter scenery, creating a very particular type of *landschaft*.







## Frottage Archives ARTIST: ANGELA HENDERSON

poplar, cotton paper, graphite / 2021

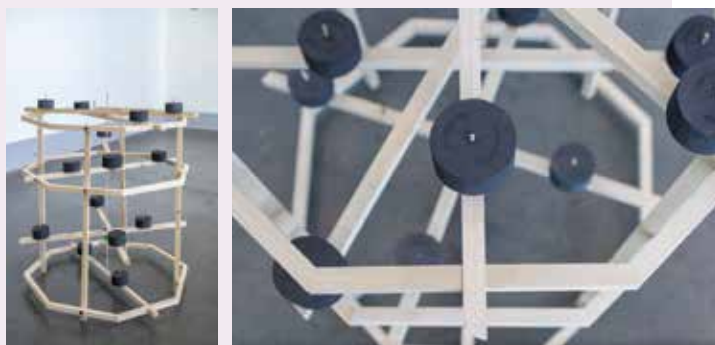
Contact prints, archived within wooden forms, layer and fold frottage fragments of monuments erected to settler colonial figures throughout Kijipuktuk. This collection of prints becomes a multi-directional archive that records the built environment of colonial appropriation. Presented as a temporary intervention within a federal institution, this work is juxtaposed with our research in Poland, asking for unceded land to be acknowledged beyond protocols as a possible means of participating in reconciliation. The sites from which these frottages were created are part of an ongoing project that aims to assemble a database of sites of difficult history. This open source database is being developed as a web-based platform that functions as an open-source educational tool for artists, activists, historians and the general public.

## Survey Markers

ARTIST: ANGELA HENDERSON

laser-cut graphite and poplar (a cartographic tool) / 2021

Accompanying the structures that house the frottages are survey monuments sculpted from graphite. Created as two sets; one set contains geodetic data used to identify a mass gravesite in Chroberz, Poland, while the other set contains GPS coordinates that identify locations attributed to nation building in Canada. The former have been stacked vertically beside the panorama photo documentation of the site in Poland, and horizontally in a cartographic tool designed to assemble the data. The latter are engraved with coordinates from sites of difficult history in Kijipuktuk, installed individually, unarchived with unobstructed views of the data.



# Artist's Biographies

## Solomon NAGLER

Solomon Nagler is a filmmaker and installation artist living and working in Kijipuktuk (Halifax, Nova Scotia). Nagler works with 16mm celluloid to engage with experimental architecture in galleries and in public space.

## Aleksander SCHWARZ

Aleksander Schwarz is a photo-based artist and member of the Rabbinical Commission for Cemeteries (Office of the Chief Rabbi of Poland), where he works as an expert on Jewish law (Halacha) specializing in cemeteries and burials. He is a co-founder of Zapomniane Foundation dedicated to commemorating unmarked graves and killing sites related to the so-called 'Holocaust by bullets'—a process of mass killings happening outside the infrastructure of the camps, in the villages of Eastern Europe.

## Angela HENDERSON

Angela Henderson is a visual artist and educator, living and working in Kijipuktuk (Halifax, Nova Scotia). Henderson uses installation, sculpture and drawing to explore absence as a generative condition for mapping the evolving relationships between memory and place. Interested in the potential of fallow spaces that emerge within the built environment, Henderson's work seeks to develop a poetic form of commemoration.

## Natalie GOULET

Natalie Michelle Goulet (she/her) is an interdisciplinary artist working within the realms of analog photography. Her work often revolves around the concept of instability, and seeks an empathic approach to destructive human tendencies.

# Holocaust Education Week

## All Flesh is Grass: A Post-Memorial

Solomon NAGLER Angela HENDERSON Natalie GOULET Aleksander SCHWARZ

Star-Wounds (Radecznica and Stary Franciszków) ARTIST: SOLOMON NAGLER



### 16 mm black and white film stills / 2021

This collection of images are stills from a film that documents various interventions by Polish Memory Activists in forested sites; Radecznica and Stary Franciszków. One set is from Radecznica, where a memory activist carved a cross in the trees surrounding a mass grave. He then erased the cross and replaced it with a misdrawn Star of David. The site contains the body of his childhood friend Razli who hid with her parents and extended family in a shelter perched on a gorge overlooking a ravine. His village knew they were there, and helped them when possible. They were eventually betrayed by someone in a neighbouring village. The memory activist heard their murder when he was walking in the forest looking for a tree to cut down for Christmas. As the snow fell, he heard a series of shots and fled back home. He returned weeks later and discovered a shallow grave, the family was shot on site in their shelter, their bodies dumped in the gorge. He quickly marked the site with a cross and continued to document, mark and archive this and other Jewish mass graves in the area. The misdrawn star has two triangles overlapping one another (an embrace?). The Zapomonie Foundation officially commemorated the site just before this memory activist died, erecting a permanent granite marker with the names of Razli's family and a picture of his misdrawn star on the grave to honour his dedication to preserving her memory.

The misdrawn star has two triangles overlapping one another (an embrace?). The Zapomonie Foundation officially commemorated the site just before this memory activist died, erecting a permanent granite marker with the names of Razli's family and a picture of his misdrawn star on the grave to honour his dedication to preserving her memory.

The second set of images are from Stary Franciszków where an anonymous memory activist carved a Star of David in a beech tree beside a mass grave decades ago. The star has since been embedded in the tree as a wound, the bark folds over new growth like scar tissue.



### Water Splashed On It By The Waves & Gateway

ARTIST: NATALIE GOULET

### Pinhole camera exposures / 2021

Artist Natalie Goulet's work is a continuation of her *slow seeing project*, which recontextualizes settler narratives within historical canons of landscape photography. This body of work utilizes recyclable materials such as aluminum drink cans to create homemade pinhole cameras. The cameras are installed publicly, generally facing bodies of water, for extended durations ranging from several days to months. In the context of this exhibition, these images were made with the apparatuses facing Elpaqkwitk (Georges Island). Installed in an interstitial space that was designed for casual viewing of the Island at Pier 21, this provocative abstract photograph further queries forms of settler photography, while also proposing a juxtaposition of difficult histories in this exhibition.



# ARNOLD CHIPPIN

## JEWISH NATIONAL FUND ATLANTIC NOMINEE

It is with great pleasure that JNF Atlantic offers a hearty Mazel Tov to Fredericton's Arnold Chippin, as this year's celebrated JNF Atlantic Honouree.

Born in Fredericton, the youngest of three siblings, Arnold was raised with a strong work ethic under the guidance of his father, Joe (z"l) and with a strong spiritual belief in his religion and Jewish cultural traditions by his mother, Jennie (z"l). He came from a strong Zionist family, and so it followed that he would eventually make aliyah to Israel which he did after receiving his BA in sociology. Once there, he established himself by becoming fluent in the Hebrew language, worked on a kibbutz in the Negev and served in the IDF infantry. After completing his active service with the IDF, Arnold worked in Dimona, as a social worker. A few years later, Arnold returned to Canada to join his father in the Real Estate business which he currently runs with his sister Ruth. He married his wife Rose and together they raised their 3 children.

Although Arnold moved back to Canada, he continued to make yearly trips to Israel, sometimes accompanied by his wife, Rose. Arnold enjoyed seeing the country and saw firsthand the concrete diversity of medical, scientific and agricultural efforts supported by JNF. Arnold still travels across the water to Israel where he volunteers with Sar-El, providing civilian support on IDF bases. He is also a supporter for the Israel Centre for the Blind.

In Fredericton, Arnold, garnered a well-respected reputation as a land developer in his own right. As a Fredericton businessman, he made his mark on the Fredericton business community. He has served as the President of Downtown Fredericton Inc., is a past recipient of the Mazzuca Award, is an honourable member of the Fredericton Real Estate Appraisers Board and was recently honoured for his thirty year tenure in the Real Estate field. He is an active member of the Fredericton Jewish Community. He has served as President of the Sgoolai Israel Synagogue, currently serves on the Board of the Chevra Kiddisha, is a past recipient of the Atlantic Jewish Council Community Service Award, and remains a cornerstone of the Fredericton and Atlantic Jewish community today.

*Recognizing the needs of a community and providing the vehicle which can effect change in a positive way to better the lives of individuals within that community, is what Arnold is able to do. Whether at home in Fredericton, or abroad in Israel, love and commitment to community is the impetus to his making a difference in the lives of others.*

Over many years, Arnold has been a strong supporter of Israel's Jewish National Fund and its broad range of projects. He has chosen to allocate all funds raised at this event to go to the ADI Negev-Nahalat Eran Neuro Therapeutic Rehabilitation Centre in southern Israel, a world renown centre, which treats individuals of all ages, who have suffered severe debilitating trauma. We were privileged to hear more about this project in an engaging presentation from Major General



PHOTOS: (1) Standing: Marilyn Kaufman, Ruth Chippin, Matthew Chippin, Judy Budovitch, Arnold Budovitch. Seated: Arnold Chippin, JNF Atlantic Nominee; (2) Arnold Chippin and Family at the Negev Gala L-R: Matthew, Arnold, Rose, Michelle and Daniel

**Doron Almog**, the founder and Chair of the ADI Negev-Nahalat Eran Centre, and hear of the wonderful achievements the centre has made in the medical field and the positive impact it has had on the lives of its patients.

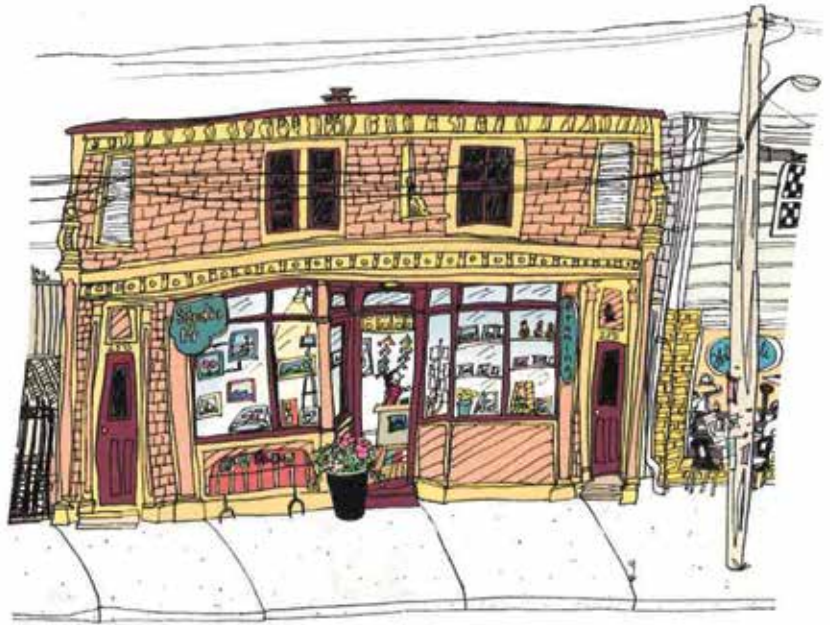
Thank you to **Sharon Diamond**, our JNF Ottawa/Atlantic Executive Director, to our committee members: **Judy and Arnold Budovitch**, **Rachel and Howard Budovitch**, **Ruth Chippin** and **Matthew Chippin** for helping us to make this event possible. Thank you to our esteemed unflappable JNF Atlantic Regional Coordinator, **Sue David**, who managed to keep communications flowing smoothly while ensuring deadlines were met. As well, a vote of thanks goes out to our videographers, **Michael Robert Stafford** and **Alex Vieginghoff**, and the **Delta Hotel** staff. *But most of all, a sincere thank you to our advertisers, sponsors and donors for your generous contributions to making this a successful event to honour Arnold Chippin as the JNF 2021 honouree.*

Yasher Koach!

**Marilyn Kaufman**—JNF Negev Gala Event Chair. 📍



Custom Framing expert  
with over 25 years experience.  
In home art consultation  
and appraisals available.  
Unique gifts with  
complimentary giftwrapping.  
Atlantic Canadian and  
Indigenous Art.



2698 AGRICOLA STREET, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA | 902-407-1414

---

## The Abraham Leventhal Memorial Scholarships

The Atlantic Jewish Council invites applications from residents of Atlantic Canada for Abraham Leventhal Memorial Scholarships towards tuition fees for future post-secondary studies in the Halifax Regional Municipality. The award will normally be to a maximum of \$5000.00 for each application. The biannual application deadlines are May 31st (for studies beginning the following September, or later) and September 30th (for studies beginning the following January, or later).

Applicants can apply once in any 12-month period.

Abraham Leventhal Memorial Scholarships may be used towards either part-time or full-time studies.

In order to receive this scholarship, all successful applicants must agree to volunteer a minimum of 18 hours to a/several qualifying Jewish organization(s) in Atlantic Canada in the 12 months following receipt of this scholarship. Up to 8 of these hours may be spent attending Hillel Atlantic Canada events for post-secondary students. Successful applicants will be provided more details about this volunteering commitment.

*Applications available at: [theajc.ca/scholarships](http://theajc.ca/scholarships)*

---



# Mazel tov our Fall 2021 Abraham Leventhal Memorial Scholarship Recipients



**Keren Bar**  
IT Programming  
NSCC



**Netali Bar**  
Commerce  
Dalhousie



**Naomi Black**  
Foundation Year Program  
King's



**Lila Brock**  
Bachelor of Arts  
SMU



**Zane Brown**  
Medicine  
Dalhousie



**Eliza Chernin**  
Arts  
Dalhousie



**Georgia Chernin**  
FYP  
King's



**Jordan Collins**  
Business  
NSCC



**Nir Etin**  
Science  
Dalhousie



**Ron Etin**  
Computer Science  
Dalhousie



**Sapir Gadilov**  
Commerce  
Saint Mary's University



**Yarden Gedalia**  
Bachelor of Science  
Dalhousie



**Anastasiya Gurevich**  
Applied Computer Science  
Dalhousie



**Alex Kounkes**  
Practical Nursing  
NSCC



**Meggie Leiter**  
Applied Computer Science  
Dalhousie



**Michelle Levin**  
Criminology & Psychology  
Saint Mary's University



**Leah MacDonald**  
Speech Pathology  
Dalhousie



**Boaz Melech**  
Commerce  
Saint Mary's University



**Abigail Mendel-Elias**  
Engineering  
Dalhousie



**Hannah Novack**  
Occupational Therapy  
Dalhousie



**Eliza Novitski**  
Applied Computer Science  
Dalhousie



**Roei Omessi**  
Engineering  
Dalhousie



**Tomer Reznikov**  
Science  
Dalhousie



**Mai Shomrat**  
Arts & Social Sciences  
Dalhousie



**Shely Tchulak**  
Counselling Skills + Social  
Human Services Diploma  
Maritime Business College



**Naomi Vogt**  
Masters of Public  
Administration, Dalhousie

## THE EIGHTH ANNUAL & FIRST HYBRID AJFF!



AJFF chair Lynn Rotin, left, enthusiastically welcomed all to the gala event.

# Atlantic Jewish Film Festival

AN ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL PRODUCTION

This past November saw another successful Atlantic Jewish Film Festival, eight years since the very first, and more than ten since Edna LeVine, AJC Director of Community Engagement, approached me with the idea. We both agreed that Atlantic Canada was more than ready to host a film series, the first east of Montreal, featuring Jewish life.

We decided that, though we would be screening films with a Jewish context, they needed to have broad appeal well beyond our community; themes would be universal. Our intention was and continues to be education through entertainment. We believe that the more one understands and knows about the “other” the more aware one becomes, recognizing that we are all the same.

Our mandate hasn’t changed since the debut and the festival remains small and accessible. We were pleased this year, especially after last year’s wholly virtual festival, to be able to go hybrid.

Opening night saw a good turnout of “real-in-the-flesh-people” at Park Lane despite the continued presence of COVID-19. It was good to say hello to community members but also to see unfamiliar faces sitting in the audience.

For the second time, we partnered with Autism Nova Scotia, inviting Cynthia Carroll, Executive Director of the organization, to deliver the opening remarks. Cynthia’s current passions include increasing community capacity for autism supports across Nova Scotia and advocating for person-directed planning for people in the disability community.

Cynthia spoke about autism then introduced the film, “Here We Are”, an Israeli drama, featuring a father/son duo who live together in a co-dependent relationship. Son Uri is autistic and an adult now. It’s time for him to move into a specialized home. Father, Aharon, however, isn’t ready to part with him but insists that it’s Uri who won’t be able to handle the separation. Evocative and well-acted, this film is powerful and relatable. It can be difficult to let go of our children—no matter what their capabilities—to let them find their own way...

Our other in-person event was the always fun Gala on Saturday evening. This year it followed the Israeli/German film, “Kiss Me Kosher”. Schuyler Smith gave an open and honest introduction speaking to his own experiences and



feelings as a gay man. This film is a subversive love story between clashing cultures and families; it’s about love and relationships, and people who are meant to be together.

After the film, guests mingled and noshed on an array of food prepared by Bassie Feldman—delectable sliders, salmon, burekas, hummus and herring, and delicious pastries, all served COVID safe.

Yulia Elgin, Project Manager for Limmud Labs FSU, Atlantic Canada, along with a large group of newcomers created a fun environment with their beautiful clothes and photo-taking. Many good friends were seeing each other for the first time in a while. In fact, the whole atmosphere was one of celebration, laughter, and talk after so much isolation.

Paul Hirschson, the Consul General to Canada from Israel was also present Saturday evening, having flown in from Montreal the day before. He has a particular interest in the Maritime region and promised to return soon.

Once again the festival went off without a hitch thanks to our volunteers and committee members. Sadly, this year we said goodbye to founding members Rosalind and Philip Belitsky who moved to Toronto to be closer to family. We wish them all the best.

I would be remiss if I didn’t send out heartfelt thank yous to our many loyal backers, advertisers, donors, and ticket buyers. Your continued support sends a strong message.

**Todah rabah,**  
**LYNN ROTIN, AJFF Chair, for Committee Members:**

**PHILIP BELITSKY | ROSALIND BELITSKY | JON GOLDBERG**  
**ANNA HAZANKIN | LINDA LAW | JORDAN SCHELEW | FLINT SCHWARTZ**  
**SCHUYLER SMITH | ANN THAW | HOWARD THAW | PEGGY WALT**





AJFF committee member Jordan Schelew coordinated the COVID-19 vaccination checks and registration for the in-person gala evening.



AJFF committee member, Schuyler Smith, right, introduced the gala film and AJFF sponsor and special guest, Paul Hirschson, Israel Consul General, Montreal, brought greetings.



Yulia Elgin, project manager, Limmud FSU Labs, centre, mingling with attendees.

PHOTOS BY IRENA KAZATSKER

### **AJFF—Limmud FSU Labs, Special Program— Yulia Elgin, Project Manager, Limmud FSU Labs, Atlantic Canada**

This fall I coordinate a special event during the 8th Annual Atlantic Jewish Film Festival in Halifax. As part of their Saturday evening's film and gala reception at the Canada Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, I successfully organized a group program with the intent of building community togetherness around burning topics of multiculturalism and social diversity. Limmud FSU Labs—Atlantic Canada sponsored the participation of more than 40 Russian-Jewish community members who engaged in discussions with AJC members, helping to build an understanding of important issues that Israel and the Jewish world are dealing with today.

# CHRISTMAS AT SPENCER HOUSE

BY EDNA LEVINE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PHOTOS BY SHERI LECKER

For 10 years the AJC has proudly organized a team of volunteers from the Jewish community in Halifax to serve-up some Christmas cheer to more than 30+ members of Spencer House Seniors' Center in Halifax.

Throughout the years we hosted a very social, in-person event—the holiday festivities included inspiring conversations, serving up a delicious homecooked meal, musical entertainment, lots of singing, and gift-giving.

For many in the Jewish community this event became a holiday tradition—Schuyler, Myrna, and Gregory always in charge of the kitchen, the Lecker-Evans family always willing to do everything, with many volunteers coming together each year to make sure the seniors experienced a warm holiday celebration, providing a relief from the isolation that the holidays can bring.

This year, as we did last year, due to COVID, we continued this holiday tradition in a pandemic-safe way: delivery only.

Volunteer drivers delivered 30+ meals and gifts, and a limited number of volunteers worked in Spencer House Seniors Centre to prepare the food and package up the meals and gifts. All the volunteers were fully vaccinated, wore masks, and practiced social distancing.

We are so grateful for the overwhelming support we continue to receive for this initiative and cannot wait to see everyone when we return to our in-house festivities next year! 🌟

## *Thank you to the volunteers:*

*Martin Alpert & grandson / Nancy Cieplinski / Mark Evans & Sheri Lecker with their children Bessie, Joey & Sam Shelley & Mike Fitzgerald / Rhonna & Thomas Gaum / Lauren Klein / Vicki & Paul Lipkus / Jen Pink & daughter Freya Aviva & Jonathan Schneider / Schuyler Smith / Gregory Shepshelevich / Myrna Yazer.*



PHOTOS: (TOP ROW, L-R): Myrna Yazer freshly baked and frosted a special holiday cake for the Christmas meal; Gregory Shepshelevich cooking up an appetizing soup; Schuyler Smith packing up the hot turkey dinner; Bessie Evans & Lauren Klein packaging up the four-course Christmas meal. (BOTTOM ROW, L-R): Lauren Klein generously portioning out servings of Myrna's homemade cranberry sauce; kitchen preparations in Spencer House Seniors Centre; Sam Evans checking off the guest list.



# CAPE BRETON NEWS

BY SHARON JACOBSON

*"Let's withdraw And meet the time as it seeks us."—Cymbeline (Shakespeare)*

As a new virus attacks our planet, it brings to mind—A Legion of Super Villains COVID-19, Delta, and Omicron. Our Super-Heroes assemble in the galaxy—Pfizer, Moderna, and AstraZeneca. Their mission of course, is to fight this enemy and restore peace and normalcy to our everyday lives. If only, this were just a movie! We would not dread the sequel... So, Cape Breton in the past 5 months?

Our Shul services continued unabated into the Fall. With our seasonal visitors, Heidi, Rose, and Margo Schwartz, Leslie Dubinsky and his wife Josine, Shirley and Charles Goldman, Phil David, the perennial Schicks, Kuriloffs, and Yazers and probably some others I surely missed, we ate well at the Whitney Avenue Temple. Indeed, I have dubbed Myrna Yazer, our Challah Kallah? Her Leaven is Heaven.

Elayne Shore Cohen, Susan (Shore), and Aviva Abramovitch, Sybil (Shore), Lauren, Max, Kennedy, and Ellia Fineberg, visited Bella Shore, their mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, who had turned 99 years old in July!

The Shore visitors made it to the island as well- Jack and Karen Agulnik Shore, Rona Siegal, Sharon Derevensky, and Matthew Jacobson. The Alexanders, and the Tragers from Halifax walked the Old Town Trail in Louisbourg too.

Stanley's brothers, Semon and Barry And Barry's wife, Jacque Jacobson visited Us this summer too!

This past Rosh HaShannah was our first inkling that a minyan might be difficult to achieve! BUT, we did it with 17-18 members above Bar/Bat Mitzvah age in attendance...of course, weighted at the senior end!

Angelica Feign and children, Ruby and Max of Port Hood were a new addition. They augmented the High Holiday regulars from Inverness, Kate and Shelley Falik, Ellen Adler, Anton Selkowitz, and the inimitable, B.J. Korson.

Due to the pandemic, many services across the country have been set up "virtually". B.J. Korson had written a poignant note in September of 2020 when COVID had restricted her travel. She had hoped the Temple Sons of Israel in Sydney, NS could Zoom the High Holiday

services.

"The services have been part of my life for the past 22 years. I will especially miss the sweet chanting of the choir and the reading of the story of Jonah before the Neilah service late in the day of Yom Kippur." She continues..." I think Zooming is the wave of the future as it will allow absent members to become part of the congregation and to contribute to it. Say hello to Rabbi Ellis and everybody else at the BREAK FAST at the conclusion of Yom Kippur... Gut Yontif to all and Zay gezunt!"

This note should probably be read before all High Holidays that follow...her words resonate with the sweet yearning to come together and be a part of a small Jewish community that gathers to pray.

Another lady with a fabulous sense of the present, Faye (Tootsie) David, was recounting to Stanley Jacobson how she had fallen asleep in Shul during the Yom Kippur service! What dismayed her, was that upon awakening, her first response was to look for "the Remote"!

Leslie Dubinsky informed me that the choir was hoping to produce a musical tape for these services, so others could learn the melodies and sing along with himself and Leon, Ella, Bethsheila, Barrie, Darren, Marty and anyone else familiar with Rabbi Kenner's arrangements.

Yet, there have been sad moments in the past few months:

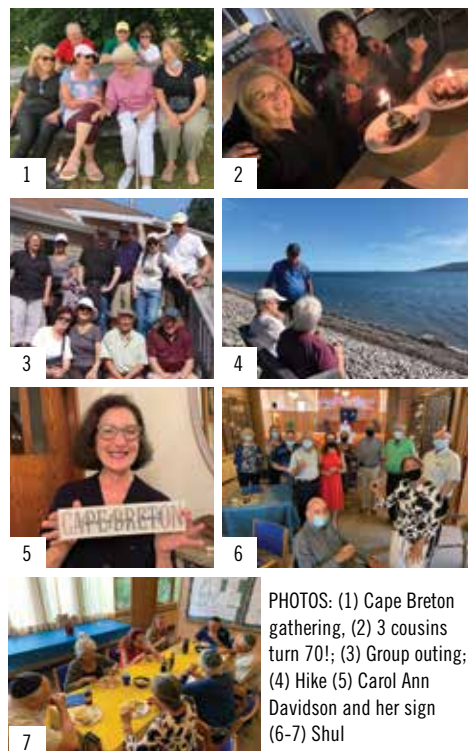
Moe Lief's brother, Steve Lifsches passed away. He lived in Fredericton, NB. He was a police officer, a paramedic, and a professional sax player for many years. It is difficult to lose a sibling and we offer Moe the deep sympathy of the community.

A personal friend of mine from St John, NB, Dr. Michael Davis passed away in Toronto. I first met Michael at a Young Judea Conference in Sydney. We will miss him deeply.

Nettie Simon's unveiling was held in Glace Bay at the Jewish cemetery. The Simon and Allen families met to remember and honour a fine woman.

Rhea and Paul and Noah Gold, Lisa and Barry Green, Irwin and Daryl Simon, and their friend from NYC, Stacy; Lorne Simon's children, Spencer and Dawson as well as Jonathan and Ellen Allen. All "came from away"!

The Kel Maleh Rachamim, a prayer for the



PHOTOS: (1) Cape Breton gathering, (2) 3 cousins turn 70!; (3) Group outing; (4) Hike (5) Carol Ann Davidson and her sign (6-7) Shul

soul of the departed was played. The plaintive notes sailed above the graves of her many neighbours. Nettie had come home. Afterwards, the family hosted the community to a lovely luncheon at Trio in the Cambridge Suites hotel where we all "caught up" on our shared history and present lives.

There were happy occasions too. Avi Drucker, former resident of Sydney, celebrated his 90th Birthday Milestone.

Bella Shore reached 99 years of age, as mentioned previously.

Sophie David, the daughter of Matthew & Gayle David of Toronto and granddaughter of Irwin and Alydia Claener as well as Raphael and Janet David celebrated her Bat Mitzvah in October. Mazel Tov!

As an aside, in December, we visited Bev Bernick, formerly of Sydney, and her husband Fred Jacobson in Pasadena. They both were fine and enjoyed "chewing the fat?" about all things Past and Present. They are die-hard Nova Scotians and miss the Maritime life.

We enjoyed 2 Fall Activities: what they would call in Israel, a "tiyul" I believe?

Hike Louisbourg—The Olde Towne Trail—Followed by a breakfast at Missy's Diner in Albert Bridge on the Mira River. Ironically, we sat Orthodox-style at the 2 tables available due to COVID. At one table, there were Four men: the 2 David's, Ein and Schick; Barrie C and

*Continue on page 34*



*Continued from page 33*

Stanley J At the other table, Six women: Anita S, Paula M, Marlene E, Bethsheila K, and Peshe K, and me. This was followed by another outing- Hike Red Island Trail, (enroute to Ingonish) topped off with a picnic table lunch at The Clucking Hen. Hikers included: Barrie Carnat and Marcelle; Kuriloffs and Jacobsons; Beth MacCormick.

Anita and David Schick left for home in the USA after a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner at Paula & David's. David Schick has been a core "Davenner" at services, another voice on the Bimah. We miss him.

Though we are away, Stanley still sends out his stock emails as to who is available for Shabbat, and, well, there have not been as many cancellations as one would expect!

This goes to show, as I freely quote Leon Dubinsky, "east of Montreal, there are 2 small but notable Jewish communities flourishing on CB Island—Englishtown and the Mira River..."

I include a photo of Carol Ann Davidson holding a sign she has in her Toronto home-CAPE BRETON HOME OF MY HEART and so, a segue into Ralph Benmergui's CJN Podcast, highlighting the former Glace Bay Jewish community. Susan Chernin, now residing in Toronto, was approached on this project and put him in touch with me. He was doing stories about "growing up "Jewish" in small communities across Canada. We tried to assemble various representatives of different generations. Technology is not everyone's game... nevertheless, Inez Goldman Schwartz, Judith Medjuck Goldberg, Jack Shore, Mark Simon, Arthur Zilbert, Lowell Shore and myself, and, oh, Stanley Jacobson who "married into the Island", offered up fond, funny and poignant reminiscences. It was an interesting exercise. I would enjoy hearing from more of my compatriots and continuing the discussion. It is a long road from our Cheder days, but Memories sharpen the lines of what did shape us... We will miss Naomi Rosenfeld and wish her well as she returns with her growing family to what she explained to us as her Village. I read that Pedro Almadovar who likes "to use melodrama to recount the painful history of his country reaffirms an essential truth about motherhood... History is the work of mothers- civilization can't move on without them." I thought of Naomi when I read this...and ever attuned as she usually is, she thought I would be interested in the focus group for JPPI's (Jewish People Policy Institute) 2021 World Jewish Dialogue.

The JPPI was created by the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI). The JPPI is a Jerusalem based think tank which studies the challenges facing the Jewish People. This virtual meeting dealt with Israel-Diaspora relations. Despite the fact the ties between the State of Israel and the Jewish People globally have a cultural, historical, and religious heritage, there are troublesome areas arising. The Holocaust and the tenuousness of the birth of a Jewish homeland in Israel had united most Jews in one cause- survival. But, as time has evolved, so have the different worlds of Judaism in the Diaspora and Israel. There seems to be a perception that the politics of Israel is viewed as changing to a less liberal status. Always held to a higher standard, Israel has been censured by Human Rights reports. Words like persecution, apartheid, occupation, annexation, and settlement growth fill all types of media. Israel probably describes the position it finds itself as surrounded by an enemy who has refused all possible means of peace? But this message seems to be tired and not have any impact.

I suppose Jews in the Diaspora would like a different message coming from Israel—one that will NOT lead to anti-Israel or anti Zionism sentiment which is eventually painted with that one big fat brush—anti- Semitism/ Jews... Jews always thought they were the Good Guy. Now, even Jews themselves are wondering just who they are.

I mentioned to this group that perhaps the Israel/ Jewish message was "not thinking outside the box", was not capturing the new form of communicating to the greater population in a clever, insightful way. They were not capturing anyone's imagination.

Even Angela Merkel was able to change to some extent, Germany's image!

They were not conveying our predicament, our insecurity with enemies inside and out, our willingness to understand all Middle Eastern stories, our attempts for a common understanding that would lead to peace... that all we wanted was a solution for a decent future for all peoples.

One young gal, Gabrielle MacKlin shouted back to me that, yes, there were excellent Israel Jewish activists who were clever and powerful as they engaged their counterparts on social media! But, she added, that although they are out there, NOBODY CARES... I contacted Gabby afterwards, and she gave me the names of 5 people to follow.

There was a blip in our schedules, but I do hope to call her and speak more; there is much

to glean and understand from her world.

Naomi somehow perceived this fire in my soul and drew me in... So many issues-so many sensibilities... The Toronto School Board vs Alexandra Lulka, Desmond TuTu, Anti- Vaxxers wearing the Jewish Star... intention and impact... What will history Re-Write; what will History Re-Right?

Well, we do have CIJAC, CJFC, CIPAC and our AJC to explain, defend and protect.

Watching the Joan Didion documentary, there were 2 things she said that lingered in my mind- One was about the Centre not holding when she was trying to understand the reality of her world as she knew it, and the other was the title to her book, *The Year of Magical Thinking*.

"We all have a tendency to see the world the way we want it to be than the way it actually is." (Rachael Sharman) And so, on a less serious note, A joke, I sent to Naomi who was well-versed in all organizations. If you have heard it, please skip over...

## LEMON SQUEEZING

"The local bar patrons were so sure that their bartender was the strongest man around that they offered a standing \$1000 bet. The bartender would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass, and hand the lemon to a patron. Anyone who could squeeze one more drop of juice out would win the money. Many people had tried over time: weightlifters, longshoremen, etc., but nobody could do it.

One day, a little fellow comes into the bar, wearing thick glasses and a polyester suit, and says in a small voice, "I'd like to give it a try."

After the laughter had died down, the bartender said okay, grabbed lemon and squeezed away. Then he handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little fellow.

But the crowd's laughter turned to total silence as the man clenched his fist around the lemon and 6 drops fell into the glass. As the crowd cheered, the bartender paid the \$1000 and asked the little man: "What do you do for a living? Are you a lumberjack, a weight-lifter, or what?"

The little fellow replied, "I work for the United Jewish Appeal."

(Hope this does not offend but bolsters one's admiration for fund-raisers!)

By the way, we drove by a sign on California's Central Coast Highway. The name of the place—Chumash. I would have thought nothing of it, but it was Shabbat. 5

# PEI NEWS

BY JOSEPH B. GLASS

Over the past four months, the Prince Edward Island Jewish Community's (PEIJC) activities were subject to the vicissitudes of COVID-19 public health guidelines. In anticipation of the easing of some restrictions and the reopening of Canadian border with the United States in early August, the PEIJC decided to postpone its annual community summer picnic until late August. The event was an opportunity to reconnect and welcome summer residents who had been unable to come to the Island earlier in the year. The PEIJC held its Annual General Meeting during this occasion with reports from the president, treasurer, and representative to the Atlantic Jewish Council. The potluck picnic was graciously hosted by Ayelet and Larry Stewart. The participants enjoyed a beautiful afternoon along the banks of the Hillsborough River.

\*\*\*

In August, the musical "OLD STOCK: A Refugee Love Story" made its Island premiere. Many members of the PEIJC enjoyed this internationally acclaimed production presented by Nova Scotia's 2B Theatre Company. Some attendees got much pleasure from a series of largely Klezmer-infused songs in the performance. One community member reviewed the show in "One word...Brilliant!" A different member raved: "Old Stock is, without doubt, a Broadway level production. It's sensational...please do yourself a favor if you've not seen it, go and see it." This life-affirming musical had a four-week run at the Mainstage of the Confederation Centre of the Arts in Charlottetown and told the true story of two Romanian refugees meeting at Halifax's Pier 21, as they await entry into Canada.

\*\*\*

Rosh Hashanah services were conducted at the home of Rachel Kassner and Joel Palter. They again welcomed community members from across the Island. The participants carefully adhered to public health measures. Leo Mednick skillfully blew the shofar to the delight of those in attendance. The celebration continued with kiddush, which included Island apples and

Island honey, and was followed by a shared lunch. Attendees walked down to the Hillsborough River shore and performed *tashlich*.

Beverly and Leo Mednick kindly opened their home to the community for Kol



Nidrei and Yom Kippur services.

\*\*\*

Raquel Barbosa Hoeristing and Rafael Baliardo erected a *sukkah* in their yard

and invited the community to join them and their family in reciting the blessing for sitting in the sukkah before partaking of a meal in the sukkah. After a short stay, "just enough to eat some bread, drink some wine and shake the lulav," the potluck meal was moved indoors due to the inclement weather. Community members also had the opportunity to say the blessing over the *lulav* and *etrog*.

\*\*\*

Congratulations to J.J. Steinfeld on the October release of his newest publication. Award-winning fiction writer, playwright, and poet J. J. Steinfeld's twenty-second book and seventh poetry collection, *Somewhat Absurd, Somehow Existential*, was published by Guernica Editions. Through the far-reaching and searching poems of *Somewhat Absurd, Somehow Existential*, J. J. Steinfeld's work continues to not only orbit a multitude of realities and multifaceted worlds, but to interrogate various aspects of being, whether they appear as the worldly or the otherworldly, the ordinary or the extraordinary, the physical or the spiritual.

\*\*\*

This year, the Hanukkah celebrations were numerous and momentous. They started on November 28, the first night of Hanukkah, with the dedication of PEIJC Hannukah Menorah on the grounds of the Provincial Legislature in Charlottetown.

Last year, a community member raised the question of why there was no Jewish presence or display during the winter holiday season. He wrote: "Today my

family went to downtown Charlottetown to walk around and get some fresh air on a beautiful sunny Saturday morning. There were so many wonderful Xmas festivities. It was fun. Music, horse & wagon rides, 'Whoville' theme, the whole Charlottetown Xmas festival, even the little mouse on the corner of Victoria and Queen was dressed in Xmas attire. I am curious...for all of us and our kids, is it possible to get a light up Menorah or anything that we can see and to visit during this time of year?"

The Hanukkah Menorah Committee was subsequently formed and investigated various options for the design of the menorah and its placement. The committee was chaired by Leo Mednick and included Shamara Baidoonsonso, Joseph Glass, Martin Rutte, and Leslee Sack. Through the generous donations from PEIJC members, supporters, and the Atlantic Jewish Council a programmable nine-foot Hanukkah Menorah was purchased. Permission was given to step up the Hanukkah Menorah on the grounds of the Provincial Legislature at the corner of Grafton and Church Streets. The dedication and lighting ceremony also commemorated 120 years of a continuous Jewish presence on Prince Edward Island.

Leo Mednick opened the ceremony by welcoming guests and the Jewish community. An estimated 70 persons showed up despite the cold and windy weather. Leo provided some insights into the meaning of Hanukkah and its traditions. The Honourable Colin LaVie, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, delivered greetings and remarks. The Honourable Dennis King, Premier of Prince Edward Island addressed the audience and welcome them on behalf of the Government. In concluding, he called on the Island Jewish Community to eat even more latkes this year and, of course, made from PEI potatoes. Six days earlier, the suspension of certification for PEI potato exports to the United States was announced. These restrictions are a serious blow to the province's economy.

*Continue on page 36*

Continued from page 35

The next speaker, Joseph Glass, who is researching the Jewish history of PEI, gave a short talk on “Jewish Continuity, Community, and Diversity on PEI.” He underscored 120 years of a continuous Jewish presence on the Island and stages in the Jewish community’s development. The full text is available in this issue on page 18.

Amalia Barbosa and Eli Litvak Mamalashvili led the audience in the Hebrew blessings for the lighting of the Hanukkah Menorah. These two young members of our community, aged nine and seven respectively, were prepared by their devoted Hebrew teacher Ilana Clyde. Those assembled joined Amalia and Eli in singing “Maoz Tsur” (Rock of Ages) and “Sivvon Sov, Sov, Sov” (Dreidel, Spin, Spin, Spin). Their parents and the community *shepped nachas* from their outstanding performance.

Martin Rutte shared some concluding thoughts and thanked all those involved in realizing the dedication and lighting of the first public Hanukkah Menorah on PEI. As a token of its gratitude, the community made a donation to the Jewish National Fund and planted trees in honour of the Speaker, Premier, MLA Hannah Bell, and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Joey Jeffrey.

A recording of the full ceremony is available on YouTube, “PEI Menorah Dedication”



The Hanukkah Menorah stood on the Legislature grounds for the eight days of Hanukkah and attracted media attention. Matt Rainnie, of CBC Radio’s

*Mainstreet PEI*, conducted an interview about Chanukah with Martin Rutte. CBC PEI featured a story “P.E.I. Jewish community celebrating Hanukkah with 3-metre electric menorah” which was picked up by *As It Happens* and broadcast it nationally. International news outlets from as far away as Israel and American Samoa shared the story. *The Canadian Jewish News* ran a feature story, with photos, and



L-R: Leo Mednick (President of the PEI Jewish Community), Joey Jeffrey (Clerk of the PEI Legislative Assembly), the Honourable Colin LaVie (Speaker of the PEI Legislative Assembly), Martin Rutte (Member of the PEI Jewish Community), the Honourable Dennis King (Premier of PEI), Hannah Bell (Green Party Member of the PEI Legislative Assembly); and Dr. Joseph Glass (Member of PEI Jewish Community Executive).

a podcast entitled: “They don’t have a shul or rabbi, but P.E.I.’s few dozen Jews just celebrated their first public Hanukkah ceremony.” The *Guardian* also printed a photo of the event.

The Hanukkah Menorah was viewed by many visitors to downtown Charlottetown. Some, like the Powers family, snapped and shared photos. Featured below are the Powers—Erica, and daughters Shoshana and Juliet (in the stroller)—posing in front of the Hanukkah Menorah.

Following the lighting at the Legislature, Shamara Baidobonso and Michael Fleishmann welcomed the community into their home for a potluck Hanukkah party. The highlights of the event, as summarized by Shamara, were: “There were six children in attendance, from 3 months to about 10 years old. The children all played dreidel together and had lots of dreidels and gelt. We marked 120 years of a continuous Jewish community in PEI with a birthday cake. We welcomed several new members to the community and some returning members who have not been to a community event in many years. Fresh latkes were being made throughout the evening, courtesy of Michael and Michal [Goldman]. We followed the guidance that is in place, we had a great time, and no



COVID-19 cases have been linked to the party.”

A surprise to the Jewish community was the initiative of the Town of

Stratford to erect a Hanukkah Menorah in front of the Town Hall. Stratford has developed various programs and projects to promote cultural and religious diversity. And this year, it commissioned a decorative Hanukkah Menorah that was produced at a local workshop in Malpeque. On the third night of Hanukkah, Mayor Steve Odgen hosted a lighting ceremony and invited Jewish residents of Stratford and the Jewish community to join in the holiday celebration. Leo Mednick recited the blessings and led those assembled in song.

The last night of Hanukkah was marked by a party hosted by Debra Buckler in Wilmot Valley on the outskirts of Summerside. Debra, the owner of the hobby farm Rustic Cart, laid out a *hey mish* table with Hanukkah favourites. Debra’s yearly get together provides a wonderful opportunity for the Jewish community to meet in Prince County. 🕊



# NEWFOUNDLAND NEWS

News from the far east BY RABBI CHANAN AND TUBA CHERNITSKY

It's hard to believe that it's the second week of December (as we write this column) and Chanukah is already behind us!

\*\*\*

Just before Rosh Hashana St. John's was treated to a "Deli Night" with smoked meats and pastrami. Did we mention the salads?

The Deli Night was similar to the Falafel night—people had the choice to "eat-in" at Chabad while socially distanced or to pick up their order.

Feedback included comments like "it reminds us of the delis in Montreal". Wow!

## SHOFAR FACTORY

What is a Shofar? Where does it come from? What makes a Shofar kosher?

Rabbi Chernitsky answered all these questions and more at the interactive Shofar factory on the Sunday before Rosh Hashana.

Attendants got to see and feel horns from different animals.

## ROSH HASHANA

This was the first Rosh Hashana at the new Chabad house, thank G-d.

The added space came in handy as we were over 30 people for the sounding of the Shofar and a traditional brisket feast.

A number of people dropped by throughout Rosh Hashana to hear the sounding of the Shofar from Rabbi Chernitsky.

\*\*\*

Sukkot was as busy as it gets! Between tourists, locals and university students our Sukkah was never empty.

For the first time since Chabad opened its doors in NL we had a Sukkah on campus at Memorial University, during the intermediate days of Sukkot. A kind campus enforcement officer saw us putting up the Sukkah under windy conditions and quickly volunteered his help!

Besides shaking the Lulav and Etrog, people got to enjoy Tuba's homemade chocolate chip cookies inside the Sukkah.

\*\*\*

For Simchat Torah a nice crowd gathered to dance and celebrate the completion of the

whole Torah.

Rabbi Chernitsky spoke about taking the inspiration and joy of Sukkot and Simchat Torah into the daily grind, as the holiday season ends and we get back to our respective routines.

After the month of Tishrei, where we feasted and fasted, laughed and cried together, we need to slowly unpack that inspiration and those special moments to help us get through the rest of the year where there are less holidays and we don't get together as often as we did. L'chaim!

\*\*\*

On Saturday night, after Shabbat on November the 20th we hosted on Zoom a Ted Talks event.

We heard from a local lawyer, Richard Rogers, senior partner at Rogers Rogers Moyse about what to do and not to do in the event we find ourselves in a car accident, G-d forbid.

He was followed by inspirational speaker Sheldon Crocker, who delivered his famous talk about his journey: "From disability to dis(this)-ability". Everyone was moved and inspired by Sheldon's positive attitude and resilience.

## AND HERE ARE SOME BIG NEWS!

We started a chapter of the Friendship Circle, right here in Newfoundland. Friendship Circle, under the auspices of Chabad, hosts and organizes events for children with special needs. The kick off event was on Sunday November the 21st—17 families signed up and 20 volunteers were recruited. Thank G-d it was a great success. In the pipeline for Friendship Circle is the "buddy program", where 1 child with special needs is paired with 2 "buddies", adult volunteers who spend an hour a week hanging out together, just being their friend.

\*\*\*

We are happy to share that Story Hour and Hebrew School are back! After a short hiatus.

\*\*\*

## CHANUKAH MENORAH LIGHTING

For the second year in a row, the yearly Public



PHOTOS: (1) Daniel Fingrut lights Menorah; (2) Lieut Gov arrives at Menorah lighting; (3) Participants at the Friendship Circle Kick off Event; (4) Putting up the Campus Sukkah

Chanukah Menorah Lighting was a drive-in event at the Viking Building on Crosbie road, one of the office buildings here, on Sunday November the 28th.

Approximately 100 cars drove in for the ceremony.

Our kind volunteers approached each car with complimentary donuts and hot drinks.

\*\*\*

Present at the Menorah lighting were The Honourable Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador Judy Foote, Minister Sarah Stoodley representing Premier Andrew Furey, interim NDP leader James Dinn and St. John's mayor Danny Breen. The Lieutenant Governor lit the Shamash and shared greetings, followed by Minister Stoodley, Mr. James Dinn and Mayor Breen.

\*\*\*

Daniel Fingrut was honoured with the lighting of the first candle of the Menorah and we finished off the ceremony with the singing of "Maoz Tzur". Menorahs and candles were available for whomever needed.

\*\*\*

Best Wishes for a healthy and warm winter! 🍷

*We are open 24/7 (with social distancing practices). For more information you can reach us at 709-341-8770 or through e-mail at [chabadofnewfoundland@gmail.com](mailto:chabadofnewfoundland@gmail.com).*

# FREDERICTON NEWS

## MEETING JENICA ATWIN, FREDERICTON'S MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

The events of the Gaza/Israeli crisis last Spring resulted in a Pro-Palestinian Rally on the steps of Fredericton City Hall. Politicians at different levels from different parties made public comments with which individual members of the Fredericton Jewish community took issue, which resulted in letters, phone calls and meetings with our government representatives by Fredericton Jewish constituents.

It took weeks of perseverance and an accidental meeting which afforded us an opportunity for **Ricky Peled** and myself to finally meet with **Jenica Atwin** in our Synagogue days before she was to return to Ottawa to be sworn in as Fredericton's Liberal MP. Ricky had previously met Jenica by chance when Jenica was canvassing door to door during the last election campaign. Ricky knew immediately who Jenica was. Ricky had attempted to book an appointment to see her (to no avail), written her a couple of e-mail letters re- the Gaza /Israeli conflict receiving no response. And Jenica? She found out who Ricky was when Ricky introduced herself by name. There was that flash of recognition in Jenica's eyes at the sound of Ricky's name. And that in brief is how the connection between the two was made.

At Ricky's invitation, Jenica, Ricky and I met for a little over an hour. We discussed a multitude of issues and in many cases found it was a matter of educating an individual on the historical indigenous context of Jews, Israel and antisemitic rhetoric.

## THE THREE OF US CONVERSED ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES:

- Local history of the establishment of the Jewish community in Fredericton. The internment camp in Ripples, NB.
- The rise of antisemitism globally and its impact on Jewish communities in Canada.
- Personal experiences of antisemitism in school and at work. The experience of feeling the impact of being both a visible and non-visible minority. Life as an Israeli immigrant and a new Canadian citizen.
- The impact of the May, Gaza—Israeli conflict on the local Jewish and Canadian communities, our children (local antisemitic incidents in schools), removal of mezuzahs

from doorposts, replacing or covering kippot with baseball caps. It is important to understand that events in Israel have an affect on Jews worldwide, even in Fredericton, NB.

- Indigenous rights of Jews to the land of Israel.
- The contributions this small democratic country has made to the world in science, medicine, technology, agriculture and many other fields.
- The diverse make-up of the Israeli Knesset and diversity in heading Israeli institutions. eg. Hadassah Hospital.
- Recognizing the difficulties in negotiating a Middle East peace (complex issues) when there is discord among Palestinians themselves- Hamas and Abbas (PLO).
- The Abraham Accords—emphasizing the importance recognition of the State of Israel is by Gulf States.
- Antisemitism conferences held in the UK, Europe, and Canada are more numerous, and countries are taking strategic steps forward to combat antisemitism.
- The importance of identity to individuals, their traditions and culture, yet having an understanding of others outside of our own ethnic communities. The importance of building and sustaining partnerships with others. The Trudeau government initiative to combat antisemitism and hate speech online.
- The appointment of Special Envoy Irwin Cotler and the adoption of the IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance ) working definition by Canada and New Brunswick.

Education is key, and Jenica has expressed a willingness to work with us and the Provincial Minister of Education to find ways of educating students in the schools through curriculum (all ages) and supporting the possibility of a High School Symposium on Anti-racism, Antisemitism and Hate. It is recognized that education is under provincial jurisdiction but that does not preclude other forces from working together to bring about a positive result.

Regarding her comments last Spring, Jenica admitted that they were said out of ignorance and that she had a lot to learn. She did not anticipate the strength nor the severity of the backlash her comments on the Gaza/

Israeli conflict engendered. Jenica expressed a wish to meet the Jewish community as a whole, willing to attend functions we host if she is in the city. **She recognizes that facts are important as is the verification of information.**

*A big todah rabah to Ricky for bringing this meeting about.*

\*\*\*

New co-presidents of the Sgoolai Israel Synagogue are **Louis Budovitch** and **Shelley Stephens**. They may be contacted through the Shul website. Both offer belated Chanukah wishes.

\*\*\*

We are now entering another winter with COVID as our unwanted sidekick. Despite the challenges of the mutating virus, we have managed to hold Shabbat services in the Synagogue, celebrate a Bat Mitvah, organize a committee on antisemitism, participate in initial stages of a Municipal Anti-Racism Task Force and pull off a JNF Negev Gala fundraiser. We appreciate the efforts Daniel Chippin has made studying with Rabbi Goldman and leading a few of the Friday evening services and presenting the D'var Torahs.

\*\*\*

**Arnold Chippin** was honoured as the 2021 Jewish National Fund Atlantic Negev Gala nominee at the Delta Hotel in Fredericton. Chair, **Marilyn Kaufman** welcomed everyone to this hybrid virtual event. She then read a letter of greetings and congratulations from Prime Minister, **Justin Trudeau**. A prerecorded Land Acknowledgement, and singing of O Canada and Hatikvah followed. Marilyn introduced **Sharon Diamond**, Executive Director JNF Atlantic who in turn introduced **Beth Price**, who brought greetings from JNF National.

Prerecorded testimonials were presented on Arnold's behalf by **Jon Goldberg** (Halifax), **Francis Weil** (Moncton), **Eric Price** (Fredericton) **David Hashey** (Fredericton), **Noach Braun** (Israel Guide Dogs) and **Maj. Gen. Doron Almog** (Israel).

Guest speaker was **Maj. Gen. Almog**, Founder and Chairman of the ADI Negev- Nahalat Eran residential and rehabilitation complex in southern Israel. Doron delivered an informative and engaging slide presentation featuring the Center, its successful rehabilitative work with patients suffering from severe trauma, and its world renown research. **Ruth Chippin** thanked our speaker. A conversation with Sharon Diamond and Arnold ensued in which

Arnold talked about the need for such a facility as ADI Negev-Nahalat Eran in the Negev and the integral part it plays in making a positive difference in the lives of many.

On behalf of JNF, **Arnold was presented with a certificate honouring him for his dedication and commitment to Israel.**

As well, he was presented with an original sculpture by Israeli artist, Yaron Bob, the creator of Rockets into Roses, by which the artist turns into art, pieces of kassam rockets shot from Gaza into Israel.

Marilyn thanked her committee, **Judy and Arnold Budovitch, Matthew Chippin, Ruth Chippin and Howard and Rachel Budovitch.** She also thanked **Sharon Diamond, Sue David JNF Atlantic Regional Coordinator, videographers and the Delta Hotel staff for their efforts in making this a successful event.** Thank you to photographer **Ayten Kranat.**

**Most of all, Marilyn extended a huge thank you to the advertisers, sponsors and donors who contributed to making this event a success!**

\*\*\*

**Larry Finkelman** spearheaded the organizing of the Sgoelai Israel Synagogue Antisemitism committee with the intent of proactively combating antisemitic incidents and hate speech here in Fredericton. At the first organizational meeting, objectives and goals were voiced by attendees from which a mission statement was drafted. Those participating were **Marilyn Kaufman, Larry, Eileen DuGuay, Ricky Peled, Ivan Levine, Shelley Stephens and Brenda Purdy.** Since then, both Larry and Marilyn have taken

CIJA's national antisemitism training. They will follow up with a series of classes that they will first deliver to committee members. Marilyn also attended the two day **Kyiv Jewish Forum** in December titled **Antisemitism and Hate Speech—Today's Challenges** via Zoom, which brought together world leaders fighting global antisemitism.

As has been recently well documented in various media sources, the **distortion of Holocaust imagery** at an anti-vax rally in Fredericton, brought swift reaction from the Jewish community. **Jon Goldberg and Naomi Rosenfield (AJC)** in conjunction with Martin Sampson from CIJA responded to inquiries from ATV. Locally, Marilyn Kaufman, Larry Finkelman, Eileen DuGuay and Mark Kranat, responded to the issue via local radio, TV and print media.. Marilyn and Larry were also swift in sending letters of concern to the city's Mayor Kate Rogers to which a quick positive response was received.

Calls of support for the Jewish community have come in from the broader community as well.

#### IN OTHER NEWS:

**Paeyton and Mercedes Lacusta with their Bubbie, Marilyn Kaufman,** participated in a hybrid Antisemitism training workshop for students and parents. **Headlined by Senator Linda Frum,** the event took place in person at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, Toronto, and by Zoom.

\*\*\*

Wishing Mazel Tov to **Ava Brown** on her recent Bat Mitzvah, proud parents,

**Anne Israeli and Neil Brown** and proud grandparents, **Roz and Robert Brown.**

\*\*\*

**Marilyn and Seymour Kaufman** participated again this year in the National Festival of **Lights on the Hill** via Zoom. Co-sponsored by the **Hon. Anthony Housefather** and the **Hon. Ya'ara Saks,** the event saw coast to coast participation via Zoom with leaders from all Federal political parties taking part.

\*\*\*

**Josh Stephens** surprised his mom, **Shelley Stephens,** arriving on her doorstep from Toronto. They had a nice visit home for Chanukah.

\*\*\*

Fredericton's Sgoelai Israel Synagogue celebrated a virtual 8th night of Chanukah, lighting their menorahs on Zoom with **Rabbi Yosef and Shaindy Goldman.**

\*\*\*

Wishing **Daniella and Jonathan Lazarev,** Mazel Tov on their 1st wedding anniversary, Dec.15th,2021.

\*\*\*

Wishing **Arnold Chippin and his wife, Rose,** Mazel Tov on their recent wedding anniversary.

\*\*\*

Our thoughts and best wishes are with **Morton Cohen,** formerly of Fredericton, during his time of illness.

\*\*\*

From the Fredericton community to our counterparts in Atlantic Canada, as we move forward keep safe and be well. ☺



## A CALL FOR RECIPES B'tayavon

The Atlantic Jewish Council food booklet "Breaking Bread" is looking for family recipes with stories and memories.

For more information or to submit:  
Edna LeVine [engagement@theajc.ca](mailto:engagement@theajc.ca)



# MONCTON NEWS

BY FRANCIS WEIL

As everyone else in Canada, the Greater Moncton Jewish community (Moncton, Sackville, Dieppe, Woodstock, Riverview, Miramichi, Salisbury and Johnston Point) is living with the COVID-19 rules imposed by the provincial government.

Since our last article in this Magazine we celebrated the 5782 High Holidays as well as Sukkot and 'Hanukkah.

**Rabbi Yagod** and his youngest son, **Pinchas**, a rabbi in training, were in Moncton for the High Holidays. R. Pinchas remained in town, leaving for the US only after a Bar-Mitzvah in December.

As usual, the bulletins from the congregation can be seen and downloaded from [iferesisrael.com](http://iferesisrael.com). Do not hesitate to go on this website to see more details.

A few sad news—**Joe Vender**, z”l, **Hyde Morrie Jochelman**, z”l and the mother of Ury El passed away.

**Joe Vender**, z”l, left us on September 11. He was born (more than ninety years ago) and brought up in Edmundston and became, for the last sixty-one years, a wonderful husband/confidante/friend to Mona. He was very well liked in Edmundston, volunteering for the Victorian Order of Nurses, the Rotary Club and the Foire Brayonne. Often, he would just go in and clean the driveways of elderly people without even asking for a penny. In the junk business, he was known for having the neatest junkyard of the whole city.

**Hyde Morrie Jochelman**, z”l, passed away on October 27. Here are a few words pronounced by Judge Irwin Lampert at her funeral: “Anne, I know I speak for our entire community when I describe the heartbreak we ALL feel. You are a big part of our community, always the first person to show up to help and assist and the first to offer support. We are all here for you... and with you. None of this will ever make sense, Anne, but I know Hyde was meant to be yours. She knew it, too. You gave her the world and were such a wonderful mother to her. I will always remember her big smile, enthusiasm and kindness. We will all miss her terribly. Children should never die before

their parents. I remember, many years ago, when a member of our community died at a very young age, leaving a widow and many young children. I was at my grandfather’s house when he returned from the funeral, crying. I asked him: “Why does G-d allow such terrible things to happen”. He replied in Yiddish: “Meer torneet freggin Got kushis”; we cannot ask G-d questions...REST IN PEACE Hyde...”

On a positive note, the community is welcoming two new families. Both are arriving from Israel and both are living in Riverview.

The family of **Liz Shmueli** with husband and five children, Noam and Livi (12-year-old), Omri and Aviv (7 years old) and Shay (4.5-year-old).

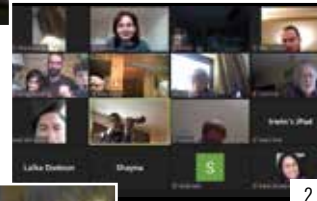
The family of **Leonid Kozovsky**, with the Grandmother and 4 children (Miriam, 15-year-old), Andrew (18), Maxim (5) and Eric (5y).

On Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Tevet (December 4) **Samuel Haller** had his Bar-Mitzvah. It was a beautiful ceremony, Samuel being perfect in the reading of the Maftir and the Haftarah. Mazal Tov to parents **Jack Haller** and **Nicole Druckman**, Grandmother **Betty Rubin** and brother **Joshua Haller**.

'Hanukkah was well celebrated with two public ceremonies of lighting the Menorah. One at City Hall and the other one at the Moncton Hospital. In addition, we had a virtual gathering through ZOOM on Sunday September 5. During the ceremony we were entertained to beautiful violin music by **Neri Harris** a young virtuoso.

The community is waiting for its AGM. Unfortunately, neither Irwin Lampert, President, nor Emmanuel Maicas, Vice-President, will reoffer. Thank you very much, Irwin and Emmanuel, for all the work you have accomplished.

The community is examining new ways to collaborate with Rabbi Yagod and his son, R. Pinchas. This period of COVID-19 is not an easy one. Travel across the US- Canada border is not simple. Let us hope that things will become better very soon. Religious instructions will continue online as both R.



PHOTOS: (1) Lighting the Menorah at the Moncton Hospital, December 1, 2021; (2) ZOOM 'Hanukkah meeting, December 5, 2021; (3) Lighting the Menorah at City Hall, November 30, 2021; (4) Père Noël

Yagod and R. Pinchas are making themselves available through the internet to all who need learning.

Wishing all a very healthy and prosperous New Year 2022. 🌟



**ARE YOU ON THE AJC  
WEEKLY MAILING LIST?  
FIND OUT ABOUT  
LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS!**

**Subscribe online:  
[www.theAJC.ca](http://www.theAJC.ca)**

# REPORT FROM THE SAINT JOHN JEWISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

BY KATHERINE BIGGS-CRAFT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CURATOR

The Saint John Jewish Historical Museum closed for the summer season just before Thanksgiving. From June to early October, we welcomed about 350 visitors. Another 150 participated in the lecture series we held over Zoom in conjunction with our exhibit on Travels to Israel. We gave a few tours by appointment during November and December, including one for a group of high school students. All in all, a good turnout. Thank you all who visited.

\*\*\*

In October, we held our 8th Annual Saint John Jewish Film Festival and were able to show six films to our sponsors and supporters. As much as we had hoped to hold an in-person event, we arranged for all films to be shown virtually and received good reviews from those who watched them.

\*\*\*

Also in October, we launched our online exhibit—Open For Business—to share stories and images of the Jewish-owned businesses that once lined the streets in Saint John. You can view the exhibit at: [communitystories.ca/v2/open-for-business-en-affaires](http://communitystories.ca/v2/open-for-business-en-affaires)

\*\*\*

We were unable to hold our public Chanukah menorah lighting event due to the pandemic restrictions, however, our curator spent two days at Bayside Middle School in Saint John, teaching more than 130 grade six students about the holidays and leading them in a lively series of dreidel games.

\*\*\*

At the end of September, a long list of “to-do” list of projects to start and finish over the winter months was compiled. One is already completed—more than 550 *yahrzeit* biographies have all been written, edited and shared with the members of Congregation Shaarei Zedek and the Saint John Jewish Historical Society.

\*\*\*

A review of the museum collections is underway and inventory lists for documents, photographs, books and recordings are being updated. Once complete, we will be able to locate any of our tens of thousands of items instantly. Another large project will be updating the database that has been compiled for all burials in the Shaarei Zedek Cemetery—this document includes important information and links individuals and families together.

\*\*\*

In the new year, time will be spent researching and writing on three interesting projects:

- 1 *Saint John Jewish Family Tree* which will share the stories of at least 20 Saint John families in an online blog.
- 2 *Following Their Footsteps* will be available in 2022 as a walking tour past the former Jewish homes found on Orange Street and King Street East and the business locations found on Charlotte and King Street.
- 3 *Every Stone Tells A Story* will explore the stories to be found in the Shaarei Zedek Cemetery and look into the lives of many of those who were part of the Saint John Jewish community.

\*\*\*

In the 1980s when Marcia Koven began collecting the community's history, she sat with many former residents and recorded interviews with them about their lives in Saint John. They shared lots of interesting facts and wonderful memories. This project has been revived and community members have been interviewed on video—some in person and some by Zoom and they have shared many interesting stories. If your family came from Saint John, you are invited to participate in this project.

\*\*\*

With all of that to accomplish, the winter should pass quickly and we can look forward to next spring and summer. By then, we hope the world will have found its way out of the pandemic and that we can welcome visitors, not just from Atlantic Canada, but from across Canada and around the world. 5

## east coast bakery

### FRESH. DAILY. DELICIOUS.

Just one bite and you'll be in love with our fresh-baked bagels in Halifax.

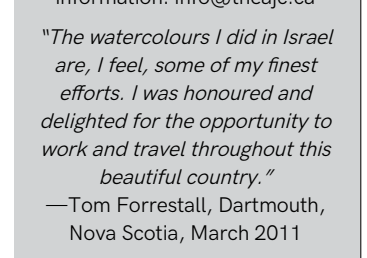
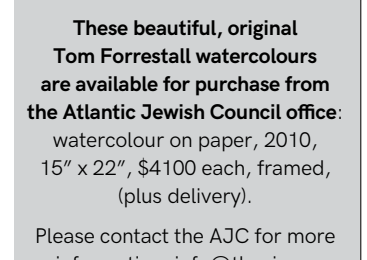


Bagels • Challah bread • Challah hot dog and hamburger buns • Challah raisin bread • Kosher pareve • Cookies • Brownies

PEANUT-FREE, NUT-FREE AND DAIRY-FREE FACILITY

[eastcoastbakery.ca](http://eastcoastbakery.ca) | 6257 Quinpool Road | 902-429-6257 | Hours: 7:00 am-3:30 pm daily

From the series **35 DAYS IN ISRAEL** by Tom Forrestall



These beautiful, original Tom Forrestall watercolours are available for purchase from the Atlantic Jewish Council office: watercolour on paper, 2010, 15" x 22", \$4100 each, framed, (plus delivery).

Please contact the AJC for more information: [info@theajc.ca](mailto:info@theajc.ca)

*"The watercolours I did in Israel are, I feel, some of my finest efforts. I was honoured and delighted for the opportunity to work and travel throughout this beautiful country."*

—Tom Forrestall, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, March 2011



**MOSKOWITZ**  
**CAPITAL** Alternative Mortgage Lender

**A PROUD SUPPORTER  
OF THE ATLANTIC  
JEWISH COUNCIL**

Brian Moskowitz

416.781.6500

[brian@moskowitzcapital.com](mailto:brian@moskowitzcapital.com)

[moskowitzcapital.com](http://moskowitzcapital.com)



# HOLIDAYS

FROM THE PHILOSOPHICAL MUSINGS OF **RABBI PINCHAS YAGOD**, SON OF **RABBI YITZCHOK YAGOD**, CONGREGATION TIFERES ISRAEL, MONCTON, NB

A very happy part of the calendar for the world, yet the Jewish heart is troubled.

How do I take care to fortify my faith during this very celebratory season?

It is a deep question which sits deep in the Jewish heart.

The answer truly is that one has to be able to do something which is called in mystical terms, *Havdala*. This is a name which is

shared by the Saturday night ceremony which is done over a candle and a cup of wine.

The term *Havdala* means to be able to discern between the dark and the light.

The light is the positive aspects, and the dark is the specific elements which challenge the faith. When one is faced with this challenge, it is tremendously helpful to look at the menorah image.

The Menorah of Chanukah is the symbol of that light of faith which cannot get extinguished from any measure of darkness.

I feel that we can continue to carry the light of Chanukah through all of the various times that we may face both the challenging times, and the fun times.

May we merit much wonderful blessing in the future. ☺

## THE RUNAWAY SHEEP

BY **RABBI MENDEL FELDMAN**, CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF THE MARITIMES

The Midrash (Shemot Rabba) explains:

Moses was a shepherd, tending the flock of his father-in-law Yisro (Jethro) in the wilderness of Midian. One day, as Moses was working, a young lamb ran away. Moses, unwilling to risk the loss of even one lamb, chased the animal across the fields. Finally, the lamb stopped on the banks of a stream and drank its fill, Moses then gently picked up the lamb and carried it back to the flock.

At that moment, says the Midrash, Moses heard God's voice call out: "Just like the lamb was thirsty for water, so the Jews are thirsty for freedom, and just as you, Moses, brought the lamb back with kindness and understanding, so, too, will you lead my people to the Promised Land."

The Midrash explains the nature of Moses qualities that earned him to be chosen to lead the Jewish people. It's all too easy for a shepherd to get angry at the rebel sheep, but Moses catches up with the sheep and discovers that it ran away because of an essential thirst for warmth, love and care. The runaway lamb is symbolic of the lost Jew, and Moses represents the leader who lovingly reaches out to every last Jew even those who have disaffiliated.

The 10th day of Shevat (Wednesday January 12, 2022) marks the 72nd Yahrzeit of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok Schneerson OBM (1880-1950) as well as the day on which his successor Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson OBM (1902-1994) took on the mantle of leadership of the Chabad movement.

As leaders of the Jewish people in their respective generations, they too embodied this quality of love, care, and concern for every Jew

the world over.

I wish to share with you a story of both Rebbe's that captures the above message:

Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok who was famed for his indiscriminating love and concern for all Jews, was once challenged: "Does not the Torah command one to 'rebuke your fellow' when he is guilty of wrongdoing? Does not the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law) classify certain types of sinners who are to be rejected outright? So why are you so tolerant of so many sinful people?"

Replied the Rebbe: "The Shulchan Aruch (code of Jewish law) consists of four sections, each containing hundreds of chapters. The laws of which you speak of are contained in chapter 425 of Choshen Mishpat—one of the last 10 chapters of the fourth section. The truth is that were you to set the Shulchan Aruch before an illiterate boor, he would soon come upon these laws, he would open it as he would any other book from left to right. But as you surely know, in Hebrew we read from right to left.

"What I suggest to you," concluded Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak, "that you open the Shulchan Aruch at the beginning. After you have studied the first three sections and the first 424 chapters of the fourth volume, and you have fully implemented them in your daily life, you may then take it upon yourself to sit in judgment of your fellow. Then you may decide if he is indeed to be counted among the utterly wicked defined in chapter 425."

This underscores the lens of love through which Rabbi Yosef Yitzchok viewed every person. So too, with Rabbi Menachem Mendel. In 1975, the head of a Yeshiva in

Har Nof, Jerusalem visited the Rebbe. During their meeting the Rebbe urged him to get more involved in reaching out to help all types of Jews outside of his own community as well.



As the conversation intensified the head of the Yeshiva was not becoming persuaded, the Rebbe finally turned to him and said: I have a question. Which is the most important limb after the brain? "The heart," he said. And which is the more important side according to Judaism? Right or left? "For sure the right" he said. (Joseph became upset when his father Jacob places his right hand on his younger son instead of on the older son). The right is associated with more prominence, distinction, and vigor.

So, asked the Rebbe, why is the heart on the left side of the body? The Rosh Yeshiva remained silent. I will tell you the answer, said the Rebbe. The heart is really to the right, not to the left. You see, the heart of a person is made to feel, empathize, and connect, to the other. My heart was given to me (not only for myself and my feelings but also) to experience the soul and the heart of the person standing in front of me, and from your vantage point, my heart is on your right!

This sums up so much of the Rebbe's life perspective, and mandate to each of us. Do not shut your eyes to the pain of your people. Do not turn a deaf ear to the cry of a child, teenager, man, or woman, who can use your love, your help, and your kindness. For the Rebbe, your heart is meant to care, to reach out, to do something for our people, for our community, for our world.

With best wishes for a healthy winter! ☺

# "L'HADESH ET HAYASHAN—RENEWING THE OLD"

BY RABBI GARY KARLIN, SHAAR SHALOM CONGREGATION, HALIFAX, NS

For some time now, I have taught a weekly adult education class over Zoom. Initially, I chose a different topic each week, having to do with a holiday, perhaps a look at a timely issue. Attendance was stable, if light, and

participants were generally enthusiastic. We had a small and steady group.

Then, after the most recent High Holidays, we made a change. At the request of participants, we went from a topical focus,

varying the subject each week, to an ongoing series of classes studying the Mishnah sequentially.

Why the Mishnah? For many, the basic starting-point text of Judaism is the Torah and its five books, or perhaps the larger *TaNakh*, the Hebrew Bible. However, others would argue that Judaism is really a tradition and civilization shaped by the Rabbinic interpretation of Scripture, expressed in the central text of the Mishnah, the six-part encapsulation of Jewish law of the first two centuries of the Common Era, and its later refinement, discussion, application, and expansion in the Talmud (Gemara).

So, back in October 2021 we embarked on a study of the Mishnah, beginning with Tractate *Berakhot*, ostensibly the rules and forms of Jewish prayer, blessings, and other liturgical matters. In the weeks since then something surprising has happened: we have doubled or even tripled our attendance.

Why?

First of all, people crave novelty, but they need consistency. There is something incredibly attractive about reading a text—in this case, a very large text—on a regular basis. Seeing progress, making connections, knowing what you've mastered and what lies ahead fills a very deep human need. There's deep satisfaction in long-term endeavours. That's why so many of us hate it when a loved TV series comes to an end!

Second, enjoying the teacher's or the rabbi's take on a timely topic may be exciting, but there is something very satisfying about studying material that has been at the heart of Judaism for 1,800 years. For us as Jews, authenticity is more important than novelty. We feel it, and we know the difference between the enduring, and things which may be captivating and interesting, but are soon forgotten.

Third, people appreciate a challenge. The ancient Mishnah is not only inherently difficult (the Hebrew language is legalistic in its antiquity), but it also invites us to think through many ideas we think we hold. We



EST. Bishop's 2003  
CELLAR

Visit our recently expanded retail location on the Halifax waterfront. Over 3,300 square feet dedicated to a broad selection of local and imported wine, beer and spirits.

KOSHER WINES FOR EVERY OCCASION

WINE BEER SPIRITS  
BISHOP'S LANDING | HALIFAX, NS  
WWW.BISHOPSCELLAR.COM

Continue on page 45

# PESACH, PURIM AND VACCINES

BY RABBI YAKOV KERZNER, BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE, HALIFAX, NS

As we read the Torah portions concerning the open miracles in Egypt and at the Red Sea, we also begin our approach to the holiday of Purim. These two historical events display two types of miracles that are diametrically opposed to each other.

The ten plagues and the splitting of the sea represent G-d's direct intervention in nature, G-d's clear and unambiguous involvement in the working of the world. We read of those miracles and are inspired to believe in a G-D who can change the course of nature and save us and humanity from the horrible realities of life and who can change the direction of history.

But then we encounter Purim and read Megilat Esther. We are introduced to a different G-D. A G-D who works within nature. The events of Purim extend over many years. The ascent of Esther, the dangers of Haman's plot, the pleading of a woman for the survival of her people to an adoring husband are all events that are definitely not supernatural. Fortuitous but not unbelievable. Stranger things occur all the time. The hand of G-D is not evident. Yet, our Sages established a holiday, directed us to read the story of Esther and preceded it with a Blessing stating, "Blessed are you, G-D... who performed MIRACLES for our forbearers..." Our tradition teaches us that Purim is a prime example of Hidden Miracles. Miracles that are embedded in nature and not obvious except to discerning individuals.

There is a well-known Midrash asserting that in the Messianic future, all holidays will be abolished except for the holiday of Purim. Commentators explain that the hidden

miracles and the lesson they teach us are greater and more significant than the great open miracles that we celebrate on Pesach. It is simple to see the hand of G-D and recognize the truth of G-D's involvement in our everyday lives when we experience the clear hand of G-D. It is much more difficult, more praiseworthy, and more valuable to understand the presence of G-D in our mundane, everyday lives.

Which is a greater G-D? A G-D who needs to change the course of his creation to get the desired results? Or a G-D that can foresee events and build a system that can correct and better itself. Could anyone a few hundred years ago foresee the technologies that man has discovered lying within the nature that G-D created. Our wildest imagination would never have predicted the invention of telephones, radio, TV, computers, space travel or any of the other myriad miraculous inventions that we take for granted in our modern world.

There are those that see a tension existing between modern science and medicine and religious beliefs. They see the advent of science and technology and the scientists that study it as an oppositional force directed against religious belief. As a result, a denial of science and medicine and their purveyors become foundational beliefs in a narrow vision of the world that they inhabit.

Many refuse to see the hand of G-D in the development of medical technology, miracle drugs and vaccines that prevent diseases that at one time decimated mankind. They create an alternative reality in which their narrow and twisted view of the world define a distorted lens through which they

understand the workings of nature.

In short, they refuse to see the hand of G-D in nature, the beauty of the hidden rules which have been discovered to the benefit of mankind.

They are holding on to the open miracles of the past which have translated into a superstitious belief in nonsensical remedies and selfishly refuse to follow the hand of G-D that is directed to help us conquer the evils and the illnesses of this world.

Our modern sensibilities have directed us to be sensitive to everybody's beliefs and nonjudgmental of others' decisions. We are taught to respect all opinions and avoid dismissing the choices of our friends and neighbors. But the freedom to deny the hidden hand of G-D should not be welcome when the harm it causes to others and to society at large is so obvious.

If I have not been clear, I am voicing my disappointment in those that deny the Hidden Miracles embedded in nature and refuse to celebrate the gift He has granted human beings to discover and apply the secrets of nature. By refusing the products of nature's miracles, such as vaccines, many have put themselves, their families, their friends, and their community in a danger that is easily avoidable. I believe that we must voice our opposition to behavior that is harmful and that denies the miraculous benefits that G-D has planted in His unbounded nature. My wish is that we don't differentiate between Open Miracles and Hidden Miracles but see the hand of G-D and the beauty of His creation in the advances of science and medicine that G-D has graciously granted mankind. ❧



*Continued from page 44*

may like to be affirmed and made to feel comfortable, but a deeper human need is to ask to reconsider our assumptions. Thoughtful people don't run from deep questions, but are invigorated by them. The Mishnah, a text which comes from a very different civilization with very different norms is remarkably captivating, even to twenty-first century Jews.

Fourth, Mishnah study is anything but one-dimensional. It is not what you would image a legal discussion to be: technical, single-minded, closed. The most surprising topics come to bear in learning Mishnah. For example, in the past few months we have touched on topics as unexpected as: how to deal with difficult people (and difficult rabbis), sex, the institution of slavery, social mores and horology. Talmud Torah (Torah study) is anything but predictable.

In a very different (Israeli) context, Rabbi Abraham Isaac ha-Cohen Kook popularized the idea of the importance of *l'hadesh et ha-yashan*—renewing the old. This is the heart of Torah study, where we regularly confront Divine surprises in the written word of revelation. If you have made it this far in this article, I invite you to join us on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 over Zoom. Just contact the Shaar office ([shaarshalom@eastlink.ca](mailto:shaarshalom@eastlink.ca)) to receive weekly reminders and access links. ❧



# ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

BY RABBI YOSEF GOLDMAN, SGOOLAI ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE, FREDERICTON, NB

The Talmud states (Tractate Bava Bathra 12b) that “from the time that the Temple was destroyed—we do not have the ability to have prophecy that is completely the Word of G-d”. This means that a person may have a dream or a vision of what they should tell people in their community, but it won't have the same quality and clarity that our Prophets had during the time when Hashem's SH'CHINAH (presence) was amongst us! The example the Jerusalem Talmud gives (in a different context Ta'anith Chapter 4 Halacha 5) is how Rabbi Akiva shared a vision that he had, that Shimon bar Kozeiba (known to us as Bar Kochva) was, in fact, the true Messiah—and even declared that the verse: “Darach Kochav Mi'Ya'akov” (Numbers 24:17) is referring to Bar Kochva!

I am not claiming that I had a vision or that I am a true prophet, however, one of the things that I learned about myself in this very difficult time of the pandemic, is that it is up to me how to see things that are happening to me and our community. If I look at things

with the attitude of gratitude, and I thank Hashem for what I do have—everything looks much better! For some very strange reason, I can't remember any good prophecies that I learned in Yeshivah, but I definitely remember all the horrible things that our Prophets said about the People of Israel... this affected how I used to look at life and seeing too many things that bothered me! I have decided just over 20 years ago (9/11 2001) to stop watching, hearing & reading news, but somehow people still manage to “get to me” and upset me when they share all the negative that is going on in the world!

Here is a short list of the things we can be grateful for:

- 1 We have a roof over our head—even (or especially) when it is 15 below as it is when I am writing this.
- 2 We have warm clothing and plenty of food—even fresh! Bananas & Avocados from Mexico! That's amazing! In the time of the Mishnah (2nd and 3rd Centuries CE) only two people (in the Middle East)

had summer produce in the winter and vice versa: Rabbi Judah the Prince and his buddy Mark Anthony! (Talmud Tractate Berachoth 57b).

- 3 Our Government (locally & nationally) does not have a “special” tax bracket for Jews (or any other ethnicity), Jewish people are able to work & live anywhere they wish, and the majority of Anti-Semitic attacks are treated very seriously by the authorities! We definitely do NOT have government-organized pogroms like we had suffered from less than 100 years ago...

\*\*\*

So, in conclusion, let us have gratitude to Hashem for all these things (and more), and we will see with our own eyes how life is so beautiful, especially as seen in the larger picture, Amen!

Wishing you all a very healthy & safe winter! 🍷



# YOUR PURE JUG OF OIL

BY RABBI CHANAN CHERNITSKY, DIRECTOR, CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Did you ever wonder why Chanukah is celebrated for eight days?

Seemingly it should only be seven days of celebration...

## What's the miracle of the first night?

You know the story—The Jewish people are cleaning up and re inaugurating the Holy temple in Jerusalem after their victory against The Syrian Greeks in the second century BCE. And when it came time to light Menorah As part of the daily routine. They were able to find only 1 jug of oil, enough for that night.

A miracle occurred and the oil lasted for eight nights. So, what's the miracle of the first night? Seemingly there was nothing special that night. The rest of the nights are when we should celebrate the miracle!

So why is Chanukah eight nights? The miracle of the first day is for the fact that the Jewish people searched for the jug of oil and

found it.

They found the temple violated, contaminated. All the cruises of oil usually used for the menorah were broken, shattered. When they went into the holy temple, everything was in absolute chaos.

Who would even think to search for a jug of oil? What are the chances of finding any? But the Talmud says that they searched and searched, and when they found it lasted for 8 nights.

**Isn't this the story of our lives?** We grow up and we have seen so much dysfunction, disarray, so much corruption. **We stop searching for it.** We don't believe we could find purity in this world.

Wholesomeness, joy, love, authenticity. We become cynical, jaded.

We give up on our hopes, our dreams.

We have had too many disappointments. We have been backstabbed too many times.

It's much easier to stop hoping and stop dreaming, surrender to mediocrity and making believe you died.

In many ways the miracle of the first day is greater than the other seven.

The first day we celebrate the human miracle, the courage and the conviction and persistence of the human soul never to give up on its dreams, on possibility

Never stop searching for the jug of oil in your life even if there's debris and dysfunction.

Even if you have so many issues. And you have a traumatic past. Don't stop searching for a jug of oil that's present, that's wholesome, untouchable, potent.

Because you will find it. And when you find it, you will kindle it and it will light up your life and it will light up the world.

Have a healthy winter! 🍷



# Atlantic Jewish Film Festival

AN ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL PRODUCTION

**We express our sincere gratitude to all  
our generous sponsors without whom the  
AJFF would not be possible!**

## FILM SPONSORS

The Azrieli Foundation | The Consulate of Israel |  
Israel Bonds Canada | Moskowitz Capital | Bishop's Cellar  
*The Atlantic Jewish Film Festival is proudly supported by the  
HALIFAX Municipality's Regional Event Grant.*

## CAST MEMBERS

Karen & Howard Conter | Dawn Frail & Tim Margolian |  
Linda Law & Lloyd Newman | Vicki & Paul Lipkus |  
Valerie MacDonald & Jim Spatz | Einat & Ron Omessi |  
Elizabeth & Darrel Pink | Lynda Suissa | Goldie & Morris Trager

## FILM FANS

Carol & Simmy Airst | Rosalind & Philip Belitsky |  
Ethel Cooper-Rosen & Mark Rosen | Judith & Victor Goldberg |  
Roselle Green & Family | Katrina Hurley & Arik Drucker |  
Sharon & Stanley Jacobson | Shirlee & Ralph Medjuck |  
Lezlie Oler & David Zitner | Debbie Pestell | Rita & Joel Pink |  
Rosanne Reeve-Newson | Darcie Richler & Leigh Lampert,  
LawGiC | Debbie Stover & Jeffrey Schelew |  
Ann & Howard Thaw | Louise & Andrew Wolfson

## SUPPORTERS

Jane & David Alexander | Anonymous | Nancy & Seth Bloom |  
Wendy Katz & Alan Young | Saralee Lewis | Dan O'Connor |  
Laura & Andrew Offman | Janice Zatzman Orlansky |  
Jack Waller | Yolana Wassersug & Sam Worthington |  
Myrna & Harold Yazer







United Jewish Appeal  
of Atlantic Canada



*Thank you!*  
תודה רבה

To our 500+ donors for making our  
**2021 UJA CAMPAIGN** a huge success!

Your support makes a meaningful impact.

5640 Spring Garden Road, Suite 300, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3M7 | [theajc.ca](http://theajc.ca)

