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U of A hosts talk on Ukrainian nationalists' role in the Holocaust

By Jeremy Appel

Historian John-Paul Himka, who published a book this year on Ukrainian nationalists' culpability in the Holocaust, presented this year's Toby and Saul Reichert Holocaust Lecture at the University of Alberta on Oct. 29.

Himka said he would provide a "verbal tour" of his book, *Ukrainian Nationalists and the Holocaust: OUN and UPA's Participation in the Destruction of Ukrainian Jewry, 1941 - 1944* at the outset of the lecture, which was hosted by the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies at U of A.

The two groups referred to in the book's title are the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and its armed wing, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), who sought to secure a homeland for ethnic Ukrainians. Their efforts were focused on Volhynia and Galicia in eastern Poland and Bukovina in northern Romania.

After the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact between the U.S.S.R. and Nazi Germany in 1939, Volhynia and Galicia came under Soviet control, as did northern Bukovina a year later. Once war broke out, the Ukrainian nationalists and Nazis shared a common enemy — the Soviet Union.

Himka said Ukrainian nationalists' Nazi ties were obscured until relatively recently. "One of the reasons is history as written by the nationalists omitted accounts of participation in the Holocaust and downplayed their connection with the Germans," said Himka. "For a very long time, it was not clear what they had done."

German documents, which were integral to Raul Hillberg's landmark 1961 work *The Destruction of European Jews* that was formative in the field of Holocaust Studies, likewise downplayed the role other nationalist forces played in the Holocaust.

"Everything was being seen through the eyes of the perpetrators," said Himka.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the view from the

other side of the Iron Curtain was made available to historians, but there were still blind spots, he added.

While victim testimonies were integral to the historical narrative of the Holodomor famine of 1932-33, scholars of Ukrainian history ignored similar types of sources when examining the history of the OUN and UPA, which Himka identifies as a nationalist double standard.

"We use testimony and memoirs for our atrocity, but we don't include it for atrocities we ourselves might commit as a group," said Himka.

OUN, which was founded in 1929, sought to forge an independent Ukrainian state by any means necessary.

For its first decade, it committed assassinations, bank robberies and destruction of property.

"Like many movements of the time, it came under the influence of Italian fascism and German national socialism," Himka said, adding that this was exacerbated when Ukrainian territories came under Soviet rule in 1939. The OUN literature from the time is replete with references to Jews as agents of Communism who deserved their fate, Himka says.

OUN-affiliated militias killed at least 15,000 Jews from July-August 1941, he said. The next month, the Nazis, with assistance from Ukrainian police officers, massacred more than 33,000 Jews at Babi Yar. However, the Nazis didn't reciprocate the OUN's sympathies.

Music classes at Talmud Torah



Talmud Torah teacher Ben Ragosin is teaching grade 5 and 6 students to play English and Hebrew songs on the ukulele.

"The Germans did not agree to a Ukrainian state, and in fact they placed the major OUN leaders and placed them under house arrest, because they did not want the Ukrainian state encroaching on their Lebensraum," said Himka.

By 1943, relations between the Nazis and OUN had frayed, but the recently-formed UPA continued massacring Jews and Poles.

"Certainly, the Germans are absolutely the most responsible for the Holocaust — no question," said Himka, "but they could not have done what they did without local help."

Jeremy Appel is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter for Alberta Jewish News.

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Hanukkah – The Most Universal of Messages



By Cantor Russ Jayne

We Jews know that stories are not simple things. As a people, we tell tales that place us in the drama of world history and connect us with a common past and a shared future. Our national stories challenge us as

individuals and as a community. They provide us with contexts to work out moral dilemmas and help us reflect collectively on what it means to live life well.

We also tell stories about our personal histories. Each of us has a story that narrates the important events and experiences that we believe explain who we are in the world. Sometimes the stories we tell about ourselves expand our opportunities and at times these same stories create self-imposed obstacles.

However, stories are never just stories. We know that narratives, both personal and national, are not only about the past. We Jews know that the stories we tell help create our future as well. Our stories explain not only who we are but also how we want to be in the world.

It is in this context that I would like to reflect upon a story about Hanukkah, but not the one you are probably thinking about. We all know the story of the Maccabees and the story of the miraculous jug of oil. These are two of the most popular stories of Hanukkah, but what I would like to present is a little known third story. The ancient rabbis never explicitly link the following story with the holiday of Hanukkah, but the connections are intriguing. It is a story told about Adam (the first human being) in the Talmudic Tractate Avodah Zarah:

Our rabbis taught: when the first man saw the daylight hours were becoming shorter and shorter, he said, "Woe is me! Perhaps because I have sinned, the world is becoming dark around me and is returning to chaos. This is the death sentence declared upon me by Heaven!" He sat for eight days in fasting and prayer. After the winter solstice when he saw the days becoming longer and longer, he said, "This is simply the way of the world!" He went and made an eight-day festival. He established it for the sake of Heaven. (BT Avodah Zarah 8a)

This Talmudic story invites us to imagine what it must have been like to experience the first winter. The nights grew longer, the days grew shorter. It was difficult to stay warm. Adam feared that G-d was returning the world to

the chaos of pre-Creation. Believing he was the cause of the darkness, Adam prayed and fasted, but when he began to see that the days were growing longer and the nights were growing shorter, Adam realized that this was simply how the world worked. There are seasons, and some periods of the year have more light and others have more darkness. It is because of this realization that Adam made an eight-day festival. Adam established these eight days celebrating the return of the sun as an offering of gratitude to G-d.

Here is a rabbinic text explaining the origins of some unknown eight-day festival, smack in the darkest part of winter, celebrating the return of light to the world... hmmm... curious. I don't think I am going out on a limb to propose the idea that one of the origins of the holiday of Hanukkah has nothing to do with the Maccabees, nor the miracle of the oil. These are highly particularistic stories.

Rather, Hanukkah has, in its distant past, the most universal of messages. It is a holiday about experiencing fear, vulnerability, and darkness and not being consumed. It is a holiday that reminds us that light and security will return again, as sure as we know darkness will return. These are the cycles of life. The challenge is remembering that the darkness will, in fact, retreat. So, this too, like the stories of the Maccabees and of the oil, is a story of profound faith. It is this great, profound faith in the world that I hope will be rekindled in each and every one of us as the light of the menorah fills both our hearts and our souls this Hanukkah.

Chag Sameiach!

Cantor Russ Jayne is the Kolbo and spiritual leader of Beth Tzedec Congregation, an egalitarian conservative synagogue in Calgary.

The Easiest Jelly Donut Recipe Ever

By Shannon Sarna

Latkes are far more popular during Hanukkah than donuts here in North America. While you can find latkes in the freezer section of almost every major supermarket, good quality sufganiyot are much harder to come by, and lots of people I know have a fear of using yeast to make doughs like donut dough.

But there is an easier way to make sufganiyot, and it comes in a can: biscuit dough. What can these doughy babies not do?

Using canned biscuits, you can either make full-sized sufganiyot, or smaller, donut hole-sized bites. Make sure to let them cool before filling, or your jam or pudding will run right out of the hot donuts. I prefer to dust with powdered sugar, but you could also top them with cinnamon sugar if you prefer.

Note: You will need a wooden skewer and a piping bag for this recipe.

Ingredients

1 package refrigerated biscuit dough
vegetable oil, for frying
jam, prepared pudding, Nutella, or other filling
powdered sugar

Directions

Heat around 3 inches of oil in a large, deep pan over medium-high heat (oil should be 350 degrees F). To see if the oil is hot enough, use a thermometer or place wooden

skewer into the oil. If small bubbles appear, it's ready for frying.

Remove biscuits from the can. To make small donuts, cut into rounds using a soda cap or other small circular device. Or, you can fry the biscuits as is.

Drop the small donuts in 5-6 at a time; for full biscuits, 2-3 at a time. Fry for 1-2 minutes on each side, until just golden brown.

Using a spider or slotted spoon, remove from oil and place on a wire rack. Allow to cool completely.

Stick a wooden skewer into one side of each donut and create space inside by wiggling it around gently.

Fill a piping bag with your filling of choice and gently insert into the hole. Gently squeeze filling into each donut.

Dust with powdered sugar.

Happy Chanukah!

Rededicating ourselves to Jewish life

By Rabbi Steven Schwarzman



Rabbi Steven Schwarzman

As we learn in Kohelet (Ecclesiastes), which we're currently studying in our Zoom classes at Beth Shalom, there is a time for everything. Life has its joys and its sorrows, its triumphs and its challenges. And that brings us to the story of Hanukkah.

I wrote in this space two years ago about the miracle of the oil appearing for the first time in the Talmud's tractate Shabbat, finalized some 700 years after the historical events of Hanukkah. The candles that we light today recall how the oil was found to light the menorah in the Temple,

and lasted long enough for more pure oil to be produced.

But the real story of Hanukkah isn't about the oil. It's about the Hasmoneans, or Maccabees, going against the grain to re-establish Judaism as the religion of the Jews. Yes, it's rather astonishing, but the post-Biblical books of Maccabees make it clear that many Judeans were perfectly happy to give up Judaism, and not just in a metaphoric sense, to become Greeks like everyone else. The Maccabees saw what was happening and did what they needed to do to defeat the Syrian Greeks and their Judean sympathizers.

The Temple had been defiled, so the Maccabees got to work to fix it up once the battles were over. They built a new altar, crafted new vessels for use in the Temple service, and made the preparations to resume the service. And on the 25th of Kislev, they rededicated the Temple. As it happens, that was the very day on which the Temple had been defiled three years earlier.

Since the holiday of Sukkot had passed while the Temple and Jerusalem were in foreign control, the Hasmoneans celebrated a delayed Sukkot - they actually called it Sukkot in Kislev! - for eight days. The eight days of Hanukkah were not because of the oil story, which surfaced seven centuries later, but because Sukkot (in Israel) is seven days, followed by Shemini Atzeret on the eighth day. The second book of Maccabees tells us that

they brought their lulavs to the Temple - for Hanukkah!

It's not hard to see a parallel to our own day. For almost two years now, we have not been able to gather in our synagogues as we did before. No foreigners or sympathizers were the cause, but the pandemic and the precautions we've all needed to take to keep everyone safe. We've adapted, each synagogue in its own way, but it has been two long years of limiting how we can gather together to be Jews, rejoicing at simchas and sharing grief at shivas.

It looks (as I write a few weeks before Hanukkah) that things are now moving in the right direction. The vast majority of people are now fully vaccinated, and it appears that children will soon be able to get vaccinated as well. Perhaps by Hanukkah, or perhaps a bit later, we hope to welcome everyone back in our synagogues.

We won't bring lulavs for the occasion. But we will rededicate ourselves to Jewish life and our synagogues, and that is what Hanukkah is really about. Happy Hanukkah!

Rabbi Steven Schwarzman is the spiritual leader at Beth Shalom, Edmonton's Egalitarian Conservative Congregation.

"Jump up" campaign honours Stevie Schwartzberg OBM

By Jenna Soroka

How much of an impact can a single box jump make?

With the help of social media, Daryl Schwartzberg believes it can make a significant impact.

Four years ago, her brother Stevie, passed away from a rare genetic disorder called Familial Dysautonomia (FD), at the age of 35, leaving behind devastated family and friends.

Despite the numerous challenges of living with FD, Stevie lived his life with optimism and laughter. He was a Grade 9 Class of 1998 graduate of Edmonton Talmud Torah School and was very active in Edmonton BBYO. Known for his smile, love of life, and kindness, his heart of gold was felt by everyone who had the opportunity to meet him.

To honour Stevie's memory, his parents, Rowena and Jack Schwartzberg, established a mental health program at the Dysautonomia Center at NYU Langone back in 2018. Psychotherapy sessions are offered over the phone by licensed mental health counselor, Lily Armstrong, which have acted as a lifeline for patients during

COVID. Children of Ashkenazi Jewish heritage are almost exclusively affected by FD, and only 350 people are currently living with FD globally according to the Familial Dysautonomia Foundation. As one can imagine when dealing with an incredibly rare disease, generating awareness and funds for FD support programs can be a challenge.

In recent years, the family held a successful golf tournament to help continue the mental health program established in Stevie's honour. When COVID-19 hit, they had to find a new way to shine a light on FD that would keep the momentum going.

"A few years back I had the idea of some sort of box jump challenge," Daryl shared. She recounted Stevie's love for posting videos of his box jumps and how that inspired the current Box Jump Challenge which aims to put a spotlight on FD.

One of the special features of this fundraiser is that it is about challenging yourself. No matter how big or small the box or surface you choose to jump on, the Schwartzbergs encourage you to be safe and creative when filming.

Not only has the Edmonton Jewish community stepped up to the challenge, but you can find other familiar faces, such as Dean McDermott, Canadian actor and host of Chopped Canada, who have jumped on board as well.

In an Instagram post to

promote the #JumpforFD campaign, one of Stevie's past trainers reiterated the Schwartzbergs' sentiments about their son's larger than life personality and infectious smile that would light up a room. "Stevie would accept no limits, he always stepped beyond what was expected of him and never backed down from a challenge," Simon Bennett's caption reads.

Whether or not you knew Stevie, or have a direct connection to FD or the Jewish community, the family hopes people will simply challenge themselves and continue to build this momentum.

There is no need to wait to be nominated! Jump for FD with your colleagues, sports team, household, at your school, or with anyone in your circle to share the message and incredible perseverance found in the FD community.

You can learn more about the Box Jump Challenge in honour of Stevie Schwartzberg, including how to participate, and how to donate at bit.ly/jumpfordf. Every contribution has a meaningful impact no matter the dollar value.

For further information about FD, head over to www.famdys.org.

Daryl hopes that "people across the country, and hopefully the world, will start to jump on board and not just to raise funds but also to increase awareness of this horrible disease."

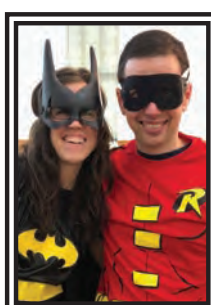
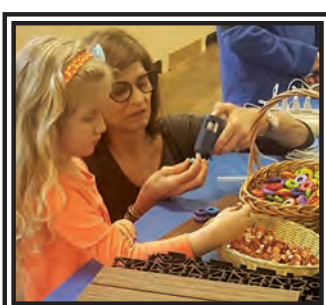
Are you ready to jump?

Jenna Soroka is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter for Alberta Jewish News.

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Oilers star Zach Hyman to attend Giant Menorah Lighting at the Ledge

(Edmonton) – There's going to be Oil this year at the Giant Chabad Menorah Lighting at the Ledge! That's Oilers star Zach Hyman who will be joining Chabad Rabbi Ari Drelich, government dignitaries and the whole community as he lights the Giant Chabad Menorah at the Legislature grounds in Edmonton on Sunday November 28 at 5 pm.

There is guaranteed to be fun for the whole family at this outdoor event, says Rabbi Ari, with more details to follow soon.

And for those who can't attend, they are invited to join the event on Zoom with this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83137756162?pwd=S2ZmSG1yMm9aUEFYYSIBneGJTejlMdz09>

Chanukah, the festival of lights, celebrates the victory of the few against the many, the weak against the mighty and the righteous against the wicked. The festival also

commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, during which only one day's supply of oil for the Temple Menorah miraculously lasted eight full days.

In addition to the celebration of eight days of oil with Oilers star Zach Hyman, this beautiful event will include holiday treats, entertainment for both young and old and of course the ceremonial lighting of Alberta's largest Menorah standing at 21 feet and weighing 5000lbs.

"The Menorah represents the light and strength that we need to overcome the challenges we encounter in our everyday lives," says Rabbi Ari. "Every person is like a candle, we each have the ability to brighten the world."

For more information see ad on page 20.

The Giant Menorah Lighting is also sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Edmonton and National Council of Jewish Women - Edmonton Section.



#18 Zach Hyman will attend the Giant Menorah Lighting at the Legislature Grounds on November 28.

Gluten-Free Churros for Hanukkah

By Tannaz Sassooni

It started with a question for Jonathan Gold. Hanukkah 2011 was nearing, and a friend sent a query to Ask Mr. Gold, the advice column of the late Pulitzer Prize-winning food critic renowned for putting Los Angeles on the map as a destination for culinary diversity. She told Gold that she wanted to participate in the Hanukkah tradition of eating foods fried in oil, but didn't want to smell up her apartment frying latkes. Instead, she sought the city's best churros. A tradition was born.

One night that week, a small, merry group got together and headed, per Gold's recommendation, to the Salinas Churro Truck. At the truck, we ran into friends who'd also read the Mr. Gold column and biked over to heed the call for sweet fried dough. Our groups joined forces. Someone's tinny boom box provided the soundtrack as new friendships were forged on a temperate LA winter night over bag after grease-stained bag of fresh, warm, crisp churros.

A couple of years later, we met again. This time at Mr. Churro on historic Olvera Street, a main square in Los Angeles from back when California was still part of Mexico. In this little shop, you could get churros with fillings like guava paste and cajeta, Mexican goat milk dulce de leche. We played digital dreidel on someone's phone, tried to remember the words to our favorite Hanukkah songs, and danced in the plaza as Olvera Street lit up with crowds of people for Las Posadas. Our Hanukkah tradition was not just delicious; it

embodied the spirit of our city's pluralism.

Churros have become a special part of my family's Hanukkah celebrations, too. Since my nephew was diagnosed with celiac disease, sufganiyot can no longer be part of our festivities. Luckily, my neighborhood taco stand has gluten-free churros.

For those who don't happen to have a gluten-free taco stand within walking distance, this treat is easy to recreate at home. Instead of the classic cinnamon-sugar topping, you can pair them with dipping sauces that nod to traditional Hanukkah flavors: sweetened sour cream and raspberry jam.

Note: You'll need a pastry bag fitted with a Wilton 1M or other large open star tip.

This recipe is adapted from "Boulder Locavore."

Ingredients

For the churros:

1 cup water,
8 tbsp unsalted butter (1 stick)
¼ tsp salt, 1 ½ Tbsp granulated sugar
1 cup gluten-free flour (I used Bob's Red Mill 1 for 1 Gluten-Free Flour, but any gluten-free flour with xanthan gum should work)

3 large eggs, room temperature, 1 tsp ground cinnamon
canola, vegetable, or rapeseed oil, for frying

For the dipping sauces

½ cup raspberry jam, ½ cup sour cream
½ tsp vanilla extract, 1 ½ tsp granulated sugar

Directions

1. Combine water, butter, salt, and sugar in a medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Bring to a boil.



Cook until butter is melted, whisking to combine all ingredients.

2. Lower heat to medium, add flour, and stir constantly until mixture comes together into a loose dough, about 2 minutes. Remove from heat.
3. Place dough in the bowl of a freestanding mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Add eggs one at a time, mixing on high speed to fully incorporate each one. You can do this by hand or with an electric hand mixer, but a freestanding mixer gives the smoothest results. Continue to mix for 2-3 minutes, until the mixture comes together into a smooth batter.
4. Heat 1 inch of oil in a large pan or shallow pot over medium heat. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or paper towels to hold cooked churros.
5. Fit a pastry bag with a 1M or equivalent tip. Place the bag in a tall glass or jar and fold the top of the bag over the edge of the jar. Fill the pastry bag with dough. You may need to do this in batches, depending on the size of your bag.
6. Check oil temperature by placing a small piece of dough into the oil. If many small bubbles form around the dough, it's ready. Pipe dough into the hot oil in about 4-inch lengths, using a sharp knife or scissors to cut off the end. Use tongs to turn churros as they fry, until they are golden brown all around, about 2-3 minutes on each side. Remove cooked churros to the prepared baking sheet.
7. To make sour cream dipping sauce, mix all ingredients (minus raspberry jam) until combined.
8. To make raspberry dipping sauce, heat jam in a microwave-safe bowl until it is slightly runny, about 30 seconds on full power.
9. Serve churros with dipping sauces while they are still warm and fresh.

Wishing you a happy Chanukah!



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Leaning in



By Rabbi Zolly Claman

I have noticed that there are two categories of activities that fill our time. You can tell right away which of the two categories any given activity belongs in just by looking at the body language. Picture the way we enjoy a movie, we are sitting back, relaxed and enjoying the show. Compare that to that way someone would be sitting while playing a video game, sitting at the edge of the chair and leaned in.

Rabbi Zolly Claman

It is clear to me that the body language is an outward manifestation of something that lies deeper. Different activities demand varied degrees of heavy lifting on our

part. A movie supplies it all for us: the visuals, audios, tone and emotions are all there for us to take in. If we don't fall asleep we will receive everything the activity has to offer. A video game on the other hand, much of the heavy lifting is done on our part. If the joystick isn't moved, the game will not react – the whole experience is very dependent on us, so we lean in.

Allowing this phenomenon to resonate in our spiritual endeavors can guide us to more meaningful growth. When we pray, study Torah, or are involved in mitzvot – what is our body language like? There is most definitely a time and place for both - but remember this rule of thumb: inasmuch as we are doing the heavy lifting and leaning in, the activity will have a lasting impression and impact on us. Sometimes it's more enjoyable in the moment to passively engage in the experience, but it won't make as much of a lasting impression on us.

The Chanukah story is one of the most celebrated miracles in our rich and exciting past. The strong and many, fell to the weak and few. After that victory the Jewish people desperately searched through the ransacked Temple to find any remanence of purity, and that search was proven to be a success as well when a small jug of oil was found – still closed shut with the seal of the high

priest. The modest amount of oil was poured into the Menorah and it miraculously lasted long enough until they were about to replenish their stock – 8 days.

The bravery to take on a larger army and the tenacity to search through the Temple were all active engagements on the part of the Jewish people, and it left an impression that we are still celebrating. The same goes with all other miraculous moments in Jewish history. The sea did not split until the Jewish people were nose-deep in salt water. The Purim salvation did not happen until Esther had the courage to orchestrate the salvation from within the palace – and the list goes on.

If we realize this lesson in our own personal life, relationships, professional sphere and spiritual journey, we will be able to create a meaningful growth much faster. Want to see miracles in your personal life? Start leaning in more.

May we all have a healthy winter and a Chanukah that fills our own life and others with light!

Rabbi Zolly Claman is the spiritual leader of Beth Israel Congregation in Edmonton.

BI greets winter with creative programs

By Regan Treewater-Lipes

Community unity through Jewish learning is the name of the game at Beth Israel Synagogue. As the seasons change, and Edmontonians begin to wake up to layers of frost on their windshields, Beth Israel's Shul Director, Moshe Siderson and the team have already cooked up, quite literally, some truly exceptional programming for the winter months to come.

"We want to continue to engage the community in a safe way, and build on our success from our summer activities," commented Siderson. "We are finding even more ways to come together for Jewish learning – we have been challenged to get creative." It is through this necessity for creativity that BI organizers been able to stir up community engagement in a whole new way, with some truly innovative ideas!

"We know people are frustrated. It's difficult to go out with all the restrictions, but even when we can, we don't have any kosher restaurants in town. Plus, people may not

feel completely comfortable with the idea of eating out yet," Siderson began thoughtfully.

The team at Beth Israel had an exciting answer for that.

"We had huge success with our take-out food orders this past year, so we wanted to take this to the next level and add a component of Jewish learning to the mix."

On November 4th, Edmontonians picked up pre-ordered authentic kosher Indian cuisine right from the BI kitchen! Scrumptious Indian favourites like: butter chicken, chicken chicken, keema kafta, and aloo gobi were but a few of the mouth-watering delicacies featured on the menu.

"Registration began the week of October 18th," explained Siderson. "Then on November 4, over 140 people picked up their orders and took them home to enjoy with their families, but that's not where the fun ended!"

Rabbi Zolly Claman hosted an online Zoom event in conjunction with dinner. "For our first meal the Rabbi was joined by none other than Sylvia Benjamin. Since Sylvia grew up in India before moving to Israel, and eventually to Edmonton, she was the perfect person to pass along some interesting knowledge and perspective about the Jewish world of India. The Zoom portion was called 'In Conversation' and the Rabbi and Sylvia were able to contextualize the meal in terms of culture and the global Jewish consciousness."

What could be better than good food and an interesting discussion. Edmontonians may not be traveling internationally any time soon, but their taste buds

certainly were!

"We have three of these events planned," said Siderson with an audible grin. "For the next two, I'm going to keep you in suspense!"

A couple of weeks prior to the "In Conversation" event Beth Israel hosted a virtual Challah Bake. Edmontonians have long been familiar with the annual Challah Bake. Veterans of the event have fond memories of gathering with friends, comparing challah braiding techniques, and enjoying the warmth of literal togetherness. This year, it was about 'Together, Whoever, Whatever, Wherever' and finding a new way to celebrate the yearly gathering – just virtually.

"We had thirteen community partners," explained Siderson enthusiastically. "They helped us to engage the greater community and spread the word. This was a Zoom event, but it was Edmonton's largest virtual Challah Bake with visitors and friends participating from across the country and even internationally!"

Participants registered online for a nominal fee of \$10. Siderson and the team prepared bags including all the necessities for successful challah baking complete with a recipe card and instructions. "There were lots of other little goodies in the packages," Siderson elaborated. "We wanted to make sure that there were plenty of treats, edible and not, along with the ingredients – we wanted to ensure meaning and value."

On the evening of October 21, participants signed onto Zoom for this year's Challah Bake, hosted by Rebbetzin Penina Claman. "The Rebbetzin virtually guided the challah preparations, and while the dough was rising, there was a special surprise guest speaker," said Siderson, emphasizing the word "surprise" excitedly. Chief Rabbi of South Africa, Warren Goldstein, the pioneer of the International Shabbat Project, addressed the group with a pre-recorded message directed specifically to the Edmonton Jewish community. "We realize that people are getting tired of Zoom events, but the Challah Bake is very active and hands-on by nature, and we really think we

Continued on page 9

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Courage in Motion: An inspiring journey with IDF's wounded veterans

By David Wallach, Beit Halochem Calgary

After a long wait of two years since our previous *Courage in Motion* cycling event in Israel, and with COVID-19 rules changing constantly in Israel and Canada, we were thrilled to get the green light for *Courage in Motion* 2021 from the Israeli Ministry of Tourism!

Courage in Motion is among the most significant fundraising events for Beit Halochem Canada, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel. The majority of funds raised during the ride are directed toward the Beit Halochem Centres' rehabilitative cycling programs to benefit Israel's wounded veterans. The cycling programs in Beit Halochem Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem, and Beer Sheva consist of three different categories: Mountain Biking, Road Biking two-wheels, and Hand Bikes for the more severely injured veterans. The demand for the program is at all-time high, as it gives the injured men and women the opportunity to ride with friends and spend time in the outdoors.

Our five-day cycling tour took us through northern Israel. I decided to ride with the Heroes group, the more severely injured veterans, with the majority of them using Hand Bikes.

This year I received a special assignment. Sivan's chaperone couldn't participate and I was asked to ride beside Sivan and be his companion during the ride. At age 19, Sivan suffered a serious head injury during his service in southern Lebanon. As a result, he lost much of his motor skills. While he has regained most of his speaking ability, it is sometimes difficult to understand what he is asking for or what he needs. One must listen carefully and focus on what he was saying – something I was privileged to do to allow Sivan to have an enjoyable experience of the ride.

Our road tour was controlled by Police, who directed us

towards the right lane to leave the left lane for traffic. Sivan used his hand bike while I rode to his left, blocking him from traffic. During breaks, I helped him drink by bringing water to his lips. He sometimes got angry with me, "David, you don't need to stop every few seconds while you give me water. Just keep the cup to my lips." To help him regain his energy during our breaks, I prepared and served his food as seen in the accompanying image. At the end of each day's cycling, I lifted him from his hand cycle to his wheelchair and onto the bus. Sivan's one complaint through *Courage in Motion* was "why do we stop so often? We should go faster with less stops!" Sivan is 57 years old, and in the 38 years since being injured, he got married and has four kids!

Yes, we Albertans have faced and are still facing issues such as COVID-19, the oil and gas industry under attack, the economy, etc. However, riding beside those Heroes gave me a different perspective on our lives here, how lucky we are, and the differences between real life challenges and the temporary issues we are facing.

This was my second *Courage in Motion*. Like my first ride, I have returned humbled, inspired by the spirit, love and support of each other and the zest for life these injured veterans have. If you participate, I guarantee that

meeting and riding with these Heroes is an incomparable life experience.

Due to the difficulties because of COVID-19 and the constantly changing rules, I was the only Albertan to ride this year. We hope to have a bigger group representing the province next year. *Courage in Motion* will take place on October 23-27, 2022 through southern Israel. The ride will end at Beit Halochem Jerusalem. If you are interested in joining me or learning more about the ride, feel free to contact me at dwallach@barclaystreet.com or 403-290-0178.

If you would like to learn more about this amazing event, go to www.courageinmotion.ca

Wishing you all Happy Chanukah filled with Light and Love (and latkes),



David Wallach and Sivan, during the Beit Halochem 2021 Courage in Motion. Photo by Mike@BioArt Online

Jewish shoppers call out Hanukkah mistakes. It's working.

By Shira Hanau

(JTA) — "Deck the halls with matzo balls"? Hanukkah menorahs with 12 candles?

Products with misfired Hanukkah messages have been drawn gripes for years, but this year major retailers are responding quickly to customer complaints about Hanukkah products they say are culturally inappropriate or misinformed.

It took just one day from when the Instagram account Hanukkah Fails posted about Target's Hanukkah

"Countdown Calendar" before the major retailer changed the product description to "Happy Hanukkah Wall Hanging Menorah."

The Instagram account, which is dedicated to pointing out culturally inappropriate Hanukkah-related products or product descriptions, posted about the product on October 31. The original product description — which suggested a connection between Hanukkah and Advent calendars that count down the days until Christmas — was altered by November 1 to remove any reference to counting down.

Bed Bath and Beyond removed a Hanukkah product altogether after customers pointed out that its message mixed up two different Jewish holidays. The product, a pillow printed with the words "Why is this night different from all other nights? Happy Hanukkah," used perhaps the most iconic phrase from the Passover seder.

After images of the pillow went viral — and after Alma, JTA's sister site, wrote about the "worst Hanukkah pillow of all time" — Bed Bath and Beyond removed the product from its website.

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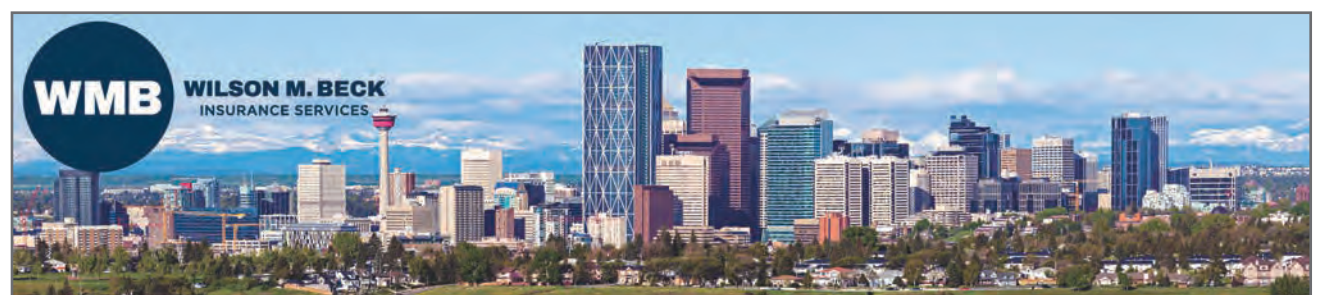
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Where does light come from?

By Rabbi Gila Caine



Rabbi Gila Caine

In the Talmud we find a fabulous story (one of many) about Rabbi Yohanan, nestled within a series of conversations about suffering, death and illness. This small incident begins as Rabbi Yohanan comes to visit his very sick friend Rabbi Elazar. Here is what happens:

“Rabbi Yohanan entered to visit him and saw that he was lying in a dark room.

Rabbi Yohanan exposed his arm, and light radiated from his flesh, filling the house. He saw that Rabbi Elazar was crying, and said to him: Why are you crying?” (BT B'rachot 5b)

We don't know if the darkness was physical, metaphorical, or both. We don't know if the illness was physical, emotional, spiritual or a combination. But entering into the room felt like entering thick shadowy

despair, and before healing could begin there needed to be some light and it shines into the story from within Rabbi Yohanan's body. How interesting that the body itself shines a light, and with this light he can see the tears of his friend. This midrash teaches that light doesn't only come to us from the outside - from the sun, stars, fires and candles, but also burns inside our body, and it is this fire which allows us to see others and be with them when they are in the darkest places. It also shows us that in order to be open to seeing another person's pain we need to have some form of inner fire/strength to really open our eyes.

Our midrash continues with R' Yohanan trying to figure out what caused his friend to cry so bitterly, and in a sense he's also attempting to find the cause and cure for his friend's ailment. He tries guessing (perhaps, he says, you're sad because you didn't study enough Torah, or earned enough money, or your children have died?) and for each reason, he gives a calming answer. But Rabbi Elazar tells him, no, “All these could have been the reason, but I am not crying over my misfortune, but rather, over this beauty of yours that will decompose in the earth.” Rabbi Elazar is deeply saddened by the realization of human mortality both in himself but also in society around him and all he can see, even when he sees glowing beauty beside him, is the image of decay.

At this point R' Yohanan first cries together with him, and then asks him a simple question: “Is your suffering dear to you?” - the very same question the rabbis ask in the

stories leading up to this, and which function as a sort of healing incantation. It is as if R' Elazar wakes up from a spell, because once he hears these words, he gives the correct response: “I welcome neither this suffering nor its reward,” after which R' Yohanan gives him his hand and helps him get up.

Today we live in a society which “awards us points” for suffering, and in which individuals and communities find their own intrinsic worth in the amount of “suffering points” they can acquire. As a society, our suffering has become dear to us, this is a culture of martyrdom, and a place of darkness and decay.

Light comes into this story not only through R' Yohanan's glowing arm (his strong life force and deep appreciation of this world's beauty), but is also embedded in his stark question, and in his ability to awaken in his friend his own inner flame of light and life.

The small candlelights of our Chanukiya are a symbol and image of our soul's flame, and since we are all prone to darkness, they are also the symbol of a fire we can help each other rekindle. This isn't work we can (or should) do alone, but it is work we can and should all be involved in.

With blessings for a happy Chanukah, for a time of light within our Kehillot and within our homes.

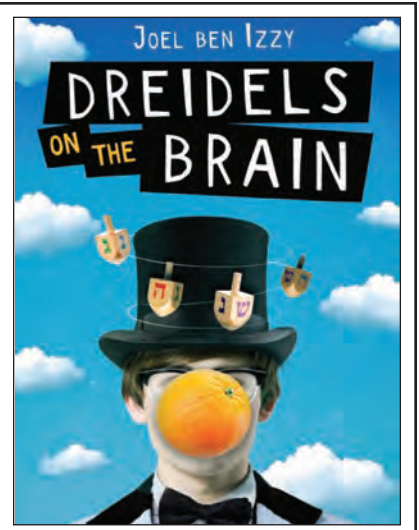
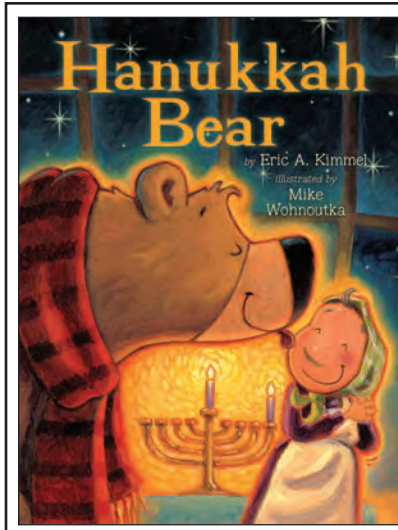
Rabbi Gila Caine is the spiritual leader at Temple Beth Ora in Edmonton.

PJ Library celebrates Hanukkah

This year, Hanukkah, the holiday of lights, runs from November 28 through December 6. PJ Library, supported by both the Calgary Jewish Federation and the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, has long been a leader in providing engaging ways for families to connect with Jewish life. It offers a wealth of free resources including kid-friendly Hanukkah stories, printable recipes and activity ideas, book lists, as well as two new story-based podcasts that help kids learn more about the traditions behind the festival of lights.

PJ Library is a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, in association with Jewish communities, which delivers more than 680,000 free Jewish storybooks to kids around the world each month. Jewish families of all backgrounds, including interfaith households, and at all levels of Jewish knowledge and observance may sign up every child in their home for a free subscription to receive a new, age-specific book each month. What could be a better Hanukkah gift than to receive a delightful, beautifully illustrated book arriving in the mailbox each month? PJ Library's team of experts and educators curate the book list to provide the very best children's stories that celebrate Jewish values, traditions, and culture to engage all Jewish families.

Beyond the books, PJ Library's experts have updated their Hanukkah Hub, which offers child-friendly versions of the Hanukkah story along with myriad craft ideas, delicious holiday recipes, and printables. For example, check out these 10 Easy (and Kid-Approved) Hanukkah Recipes, The Ultimate List of Books about Hanukkah or The Easy Hanukkah Guide: Recipes, Gifts



and Activities For Each Night.

New for 2021 are the two new PJ Library Presents podcasts for kids: “Afternoons with Mimi” and “Beyond the Bookcase.” The November episodes will be perfect Hanukkah listening (on your favorite podcast platform): Grandma Mimi prepares a delicious plate of *sufganiyot* and tells her grandchild the story of Judah Maccabee. Then, on “Beyond the Bookcase,” follow Miri and Micah as they are transported back to Mashal to help Jack Be Nimble find the courage to jump over a *hanukkiyah* full of candles. When they launched, the two new story-based audio series climbed to the top 10 of Apple's podcasts for kids.

Long a valuable resource for interfaith families, PJ Library also offers guidance this year, including their list of Hanukkah Books for Interfaith Families. They are co-presenting two webinars with 18Doors, an organization dedicated to empowering interfaith families and individuals to engage in Jewish life and make educated Jewish choices. For those balancing both big end-of-year

holidays, these webinars will be engaging and informative: What to Do in December: A Live Q&A for Grandparents Balancing Hanukkah & Christmas and What to Do in December: A Live Q&A for Parents Balancing Hanukkah & Christmas.

For more Hanukkah gift ideas, PJ Library has set up shop at amazon.com/pjlibrary where families can find colorful aprons for cooking and crafting and books from the PJ Library imprint, PJ Publishing, including recent additions *Havdalah Sky* and *Laila Tov, Moon*.

In Alberta, PJ Library is a gift for Jewish children and their families from Calgary Jewish Federation's UJA Campaign and Jewish Federation of Edmonton's UJA Campaign, along with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, the PJ Library Alliance, and generous donations from local supporters. For more information about PJ Library Calgary, contact Kathie Wainer, PJ Library and PJ Our Way Manager at 403-537-8592. In Edmonton contact Jennifer Browbridge at 780-487-0585.

To find out more, visit pjlibrary.org.

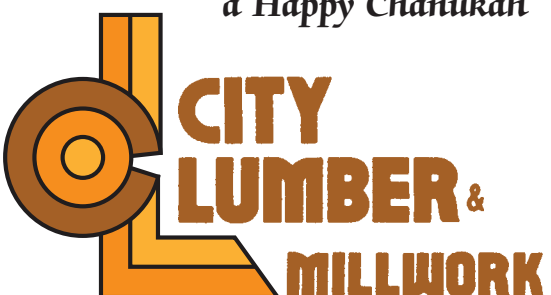


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Shine a light on antisemitism

By Tammy Vineberg

Chanukah brightens the darkness around us with the lighting of the menorah each night. This Chanukah is a chance to bring another meaning to the brightness of the menorah. This Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, is a time to Shine a Light on antisemitism and fight it in all its forms.

The Jewish Federation of Edmonton is creating a mosaic art piece in the shape of a menorah as part of the Shine a Light awareness campaign. We are asking you to participate in this project by voicing how antisemitism makes you feel or how it has impacted you through painting a tile for the mosaic art piece. By creating this art piece, we are coming together as a community to speak out and about antisemitism.

During the week of Chanukah (November 28 to December 5), the Federation is asking Jewish organizations and their members to paint tiles. Talmud Torah School, Jewish Family Services, the Jewish Seniors Citizens' Drop-in Centre, Hillel, B'nai Brith Youth Organization, and Shalom Baby will be given packages of tiles and acrylic paint pens so they can organize their own sessions.

A drop-in event for all members of the Edmonton Jewish community will be held so everyone has an opportunity to paint a tile on the last day of Chanukah, Sunday, December 5, between 2 and 5 p.m. at the Westridge Community League Hall. Proof of vaccination is required for participation (children under 12 are exempt).

Mosaic artist Lewis Lavoie of St. Albert will be assembling the piece once all the tiles are collected. An announcement in December will detail how the mosaic menorah will be unveiled for the public to see.

The Jewish Federations of North America funded this mosaic art project, which is one of many grants that provided for the Shine a Light on Antisemitism awareness campaign to Federations in Canada and the United States. The Jewish Federation of Edmonton had to submit an idea for a project, apply for this grant and received the maximum available funding of \$10,000.

This initiative's goal is to shine a light, with positivity

and by defining what we are for, using the powerful story of Chanukah to champion the message. It is not about being anti antisemitism and it is not about being a victim. Antisemitism is spreading online, in public discourse, and in popular culture. It is a darkness that threatens, not only the Jewish people and faith, but all of us, no matter creed or background.

The trend in the number of measured hate crimes committed against Jews per 100,000 population is upward. According to a 2018 Survey of Jews in Canada from the University of Toronto and York University, one-third (34 percent) of Canadian Jews say they believe Jews in Canada "often" experience discrimination in this country, with another 50 percent who say this happens "sometimes."

The same survey revealed one in 10 (11 percent) Canadian Jews report having been called offensive names in the past 12 months because of being Jewish or having a Jewish background. It shows that, annually and on average, six anti-Jewish hate crimes were committed per 100,000 Canadians—a total of 360 such crimes in 2017. In 2019, Statistics Canada found police-reported hate crimes against Jewish people accounted for the highest number of religion-based hate crime in Canada.

Antisemitism is on the rise. It is used to justify stereotyping and violence against Jewish people. Shine a Light asks people to become aware of antisemitism and act to fight it in all its forms.

Jews in North America feel alone. They are silently absorbing antisemitism - in their communities, at work, on social media - and they feel unsafe speaking out. Many of their friends and neighbours aren't speaking up. Nearly 40 percent of the general public - and nearly 50 percent of Jews - think antisemitism is taken less

Nov. 11 Remembrance Day Service



A moving ceremony was held at the cenotaph at the Edmonton Jewish cemetery to commemorate Remembrance Day and honour members of the community who have served in the military.

seriously than other forms of hate and bigotry.

Be aware that antisemitism is taking place in the workplace, at schools and on campuses, and online. Very few people are paying attention to antisemitism, and it's concerning.

How you can help is by participating in the Shine a Light initiative. Just as you'd reject any other kind of hate, reject antisemitism. You can do this by speaking up to send a message that antisemitism won't be tolerated in Edmonton and in Alberta.

Visit www.shinealight.com to learn (and teach) about antisemitism and how to fight it. Spread the word about the art mosaic. The Jewish Federation of Edmonton looks forward to seeing your messages on this important art piece.

Tammy Vineberg is Director of Communication for Jewish Federation of Edmonton.

BI greets winter

Cont. from page 6

found a way to make things engaging and fun," Siderson concluded.

But the Challah Bake and Dining In are not the only programming that BI has in store for the greater Edmonton Jewish community. Siderson and the team have

built upon the success of this past summer's 'Outdoor Torah Adventures' for the nippy winter months to come.

"We really recognize how much people need special things to look forward to, and as Edmontonians, winter temperatures won't stop us."

Once a plentiful snowfall has blanketed the City, BI organizers will spring into action yet again. "We are envisioning skating, tobogganing, and a ski trip. Like our programming over the summer, there will be an outdoor

activity that allows for social distancing to be observed, some sort of enriching engagement with Torah learning, and obviously food!" With so much on the horizon, the Jews of Edmonton might even start looking forward to the first snow-dump of the season.

So as the weather takes on that unmistakable bite of cold, things at Beth Israel are just warming up! Stay tuned to familyshul.org, so you won't miss out!

Happy Chanukah!

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CMDA: Bridging Cultures and Savings Lives

By CMDA staff

(AJNews) - On September 30, the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Canadians from coast to coast to coast stopped to remember and honour the lost Indigenous children and survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities. CMDA Western Regional Director Sharon Fraiman acknowledged the solemn day on her popular social media channels. Sharon's heartfelt post included a photo of herself and a member of the Tsuut'ina Nation, both holding brochures for the MDA's world famous *First Seven Minutes* program. The lifesaving seminars will soon be available to members of the Nation.

Inspired to build a cultural bridge with the members of the Tsuut'ina Nation, located right next door to Calgary, Fraiman reached out to former Chief Lee Crowchild who accepted her invitation to join the local CMDA Board.

"Our friendship and mutual respect came first," says Fraiman. "When Lee was Chief, I saw an inspirational leader with the ability to bridge cultural gaps and bring people together. I knew he would be an excellent fit for our Board, and help provide opportunities to teach life saving skills to the Tsuut'ina people through our *First Seven Minutes* program."

"I see myself as a peace builder," says former Tsuut'ina Chief Crowchild. "This is a time of great change for our Nation and we can learn from other cultures as they learn from us. It's the opportunity to work collaboratively."

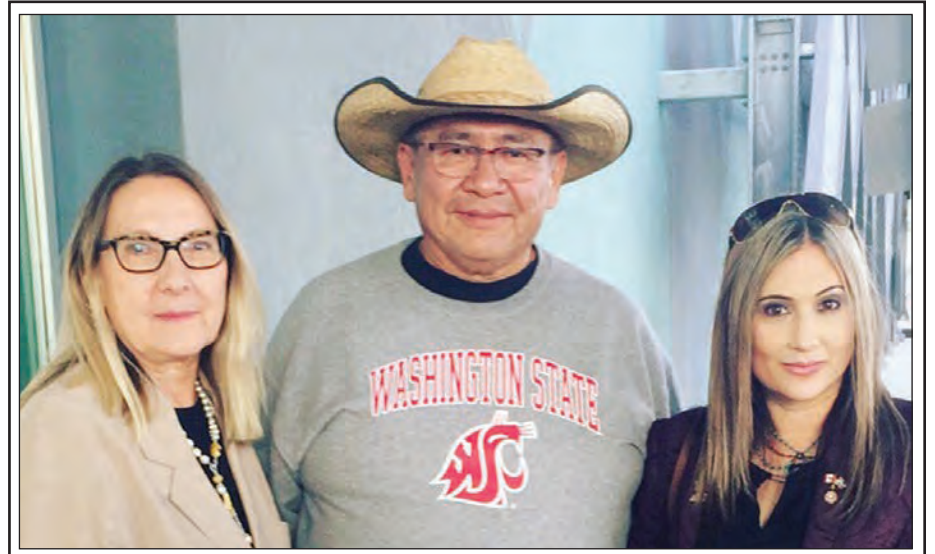
CMDA Honorary Calgary Chair Lenny Shapiro, a long time volunteer and supporter has been encouraging Fraiman to build strong relationships with the Tsuut'ina

Nation and other First Nations. "Reconciliation needs to happen at many levels," says Shapiro. "Through respect and understanding we can work together to everyone's benefit."

First Seven Minutes is a state-of-the-art seminar on community preparedness and response training for medical emergencies developed by MDA and available to communities in dozens of countries around the world.

Pandemic restrictions have delayed the first classes but the program will be readily available to Tsuut'ina Nation members. There are plans to provide workshops to staff of the Grey Eagle Casino and Resort. It will also be offered to business and community leaders and anyone interested in taking the seminar.

"The program will be a good fit for many members of our Nation and in particular for those who like to hunt and get out into the bush. And with more traffic and people moving around the Nation, there's absolutely going to be the need for people with this vital skillset," says Crowchild who adds that saving lives is part of Dene tradition. "The Apache are Dene like the Tsuut'ina. Many Apache became fearless firefighters throughout Arizona and New



Chief Lee Crowchild (centre) with Sharon Fraiman and Sonja McDowell.

Mexico."

The presenter to the Tsuut'ina Nation members will be CMDA paramedic Don Sharpe, who will train attendees and award certificates of training completion. Sharpe has been a paramedic in Calgary for nearly 40 years. He has held dozens of *First Seven Minutes* seminars and trained hundreds of Albertans.

For more information visit cmdai.org or email sfraiman@cmdai.org.

Education Minister removes official document that urges both-sides approach to Nazism

By Jeremy Appel

Alberta's Ministry of Education has disavowed and deleted a document from its website that encourages

educators to portray positive aspects of Nazism, as well as settler Canadians' treatment of Indigenous peoples.

The ministry's Guidelines for Recognizing Diversity and Promoting Respect, which is dated January 2020 and can still be seen on the Wayback Machine, recommends class resources provide "both the positive and negative behaviours and attitudes of the various groups portrayed."

As an example, it asks whether a video that depicts Nazi atrocities in the Second World War also acknowledges that prior to the war, the "German government's policies substantially strengthened the country's economy."

Additionally, the same section suggests resources that "dwell on the mistreatment of FNMI (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) people by Caucasians" should also include examples of non-Indigenous people who opposed these policies.

"Without omitting or glossing over the many instances when members of one group have cruelly wronged persons of another

group, the resource should attempt to provide some balance by presenting factors causing the behaviour or portraying positive qualities exhibited by members of the group that have acted inappropriately," the document reads.

On Twitter, Education Minister Adriana LaGrange said on Nov. 12 that the document "contains extremely disturbing and completely unacceptable views," and denied she, nor anyone at the ministry, had seen the official document that is labelled as having been created by Alberta Education.

"To be clear, this document has nothing to do with the curriculum process and the content dates back to some years ago. Under no circumstances would my office approve horrendous content like this being taught to Alberta students," she added.

Earlier that day, Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre said it wrote to LaGrange asking for the content to be removed.

"It is shocking that the Alberta Ministry of Education would consider the genocidal Nazi regime as a good example of a group that had positive behaviours, given Nazis murdered six million Jews and millions of others, in addition to completely destroying their country because they initiated a war," FSWC president Michael Levitt, a former Liberal MP, said in a statement.

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) publicly called on the government to substantially revise the document.

"Striving for 'balance' by minimizing racist & genocidal behaviour is contrary to Canadian values, does a disservice to students, & minimizes the lived trauma of Jews. We encourage @YourAlberta to review and ensure these guidelines meet #Canadian educational standards. #abpoli," CIJA tweeted.

NDP education critic Sarah Hoffman called the guidelines "atrocious" and "garbage".

"This is so out of touch with the reality of the human experiences, the atrocities, the genocide that existed," she told CTV News.

LaGrange thanked FSWC, B'nai Brith and CIJA for

Continued on page 12

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FSWC hosts State of the Union: Fighting back against hate

By Maxine Fischbein

Albertans who joined the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies (FSWC) *State of the Union: Fighting Back Against Hate* online conversation on November 3 encountered three remarkable women who are in the front lines in the war against antisemitism and antizionism.

Armed with Jewish pride, Eve Barlow, Noa Tishby and Bari Weiss are hunkered down for what they say is a long fight. And they are urging the organized Jewish community to be more proactive and less reactive when responding to the world's oldest hatred and its virulent spread on social media platforms, where popularity trumps facts.

The trio is not surprised that antisemitism has found a fertile environment on Twitter and other digital platforms. And they rue the fact that Israel's detractors are abetted by some in the Jewish community who—due to trauma and the need for acceptance—cast their lot with “woke” progressives.

Barlow, Tishby and Weiss know first-hand the effects of the mob mentality Jews are up against worldwide. Weiss, the author of *How to Fight Antisemitism*, was so bullied by colleagues at the New York Times for her pro-Israel stance, that she resigned her position there. Barlow, a Scottish-born LA-based popular culture writer was “ratioed” on Twitter following sophomoric personal attacks by actor Seth Rogen.

While Barlow said she takes personal attacks with a grain of salt, she characterizes the online onslaught as “extremely real” and “growing all the time.”

“It's been an incredible space for any conspiracy theory to fester and grow...It has contributed vastly to the amount of physical violence that happens offline,” Barlow said.

“There is a world-wide war on facts,” noted Tishby—an LA-based Israeli-American author, actress and award-winning producer—who urges community members to dig in for what she sees as a long battle.

It is important not to get “triggered” by Israel's detractors and for Jews to get “comfortable with uncomfortable opinions,” Tishby said.

Weiss expressed concern about monopolistic big tech companies with “the power to unleash social pandemics.”

“They're more powerful in certain ways than the government,” Weiss said, adding that the group-think at many of these companies includes the belief that Zionism is racism.

Weiss nevertheless urges the community to resist calls for censorship, a proposition that could eventually lead to the silencing of Zionist voices.

Tishby says that online attacks targeting Israel and the

Jewish people are part of a concerted, well-funded twenty-year old campaign against Israel that began at the infamous Durban Conference where Israel was proclaimed an “apartheid state.”

She characterizes this well-planned delegitimization of Israel as a “slow-moving terrorist attack” in which Israel's detractors have infiltrated unions and gay rights and women's organizations with the specific intent of dismantling the Jewish state.

Jews active in gay rights and women's movements were among those who first found themselves “in the teeth” of ideology that shames and isolates those supporting Israel's right to exist, noted Weiss.

Barlow described it as a “bosom of discomfort,” adding “That alarm went off for us years ago.”

While she and her co-panelists have paid the price for their views—losing both friends and opportunities—they eschew victimhood and acknowledge that Jews have at other times in history paid a much higher price for maintaining their distinct identity and their support for Jewish self-determination in Israel.

Weiss cautioned the community against becoming engaged in a constant game of “whack-a-mole” with detractors.

“Every hour of every day there is another outrage we could be combatting, and the more that you combat it, the more it comes up again,” Weiss said. “We need to think a lot more deeply about what is the best use of people's time.”

Weiss urged the community to rethink a “fundamentally defensive, reactionary posture” and instead to ask “How are we going to fight antisemitism in a way that actually... nurtures us a community.”

Antisemitism and antizionism have “...become part of this humanitarian umbrella of causes that people proudly wear as a badge, and it's part of the menu,” said Barlow.

“We've been pushed off the social spaces where this conversation is being had, and it is being had without challenge,” Barlow added.

Tishby, author of *Israel: a Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth*, said the situation will not be solved by more tweets or by Hollywood celebrities (though she did describe how supermodel Bella Hadid—who has triple the number of Twitter followers as there are Jews on this planet—has proved influential in her online vilification of Israel).

“One side has been in a war. The other side has been

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asleep. That is us,” Tishby said.

“The Jews throughout history have had a tendency to not ruffle feathers. It just doesn't work,” warned Tishby.

“There's never been a clearer time to be courageous in your own independence and to speak freely,” Barlow stated.

Correcting the false narratives so easily spawned on social media will be a tough task, but it is “just the tip of the iceberg,” Tishby said.

“We need to be forcing social media platforms to have a more widespread, educational, engaging breadth of resources that can actually speak to these matters in an intelligent, truthful, historically rooted academic sense,” Barlow said.

Weiss, who speaks to many young Jewish audiences, urges against self-abnegation and self-censorship, instead encouraging co-religionists to wear their Judaism and Zionism as “a badge of honour.”

“The mere fact of doing that is radical and contagious and changes the whole conversation,” Weiss said.

“I do think that now more than ever, we need to instill a sense of Jewish pride among ourselves and in a global sense,” Barlow said.

That effort is damaged when some Jews abet antisemitic and antizionist rhetoric.

“It's the most damaging of all because... it is koshering antisemitism,” said Barlow. “They are feeding into the power of those who are being racist toward them and oppressing them, and they are strengthening the antisemitism that we see in those progressive spaces.”

Weiss urges empathy for the choice being forced on young progressive Jews who are pressured to disavow Israel in order to be counted among the “good.” That pressure has been applied to the Jewish people continuously, dating back to the Hellenists, Weiss noted.

Tishby believes that a “breakdown in Jewish education” is part of the problem.

“When the Seth Rogens of the world are not given historical context to what has actually happened, they

Continued on page 14



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Happy Chanukah

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United Conservative caucus

Chabad of Edmonton welcomes three rabbinical students

By Regan Treewater-Lipes

The landscape of Edmonton's Jewish community has changed dramatically over the past two years. Many of these developments have arisen out of necessity, while others have been innovations born of recognized new opportunities. Chabad Lubavitch of Edmonton, with the generous support of the Ghermezian family, is proud to be able to announce its first cohort of rabbinical candidates at the Yeshivas Lubavitch of Edmonton. Rabbi Ari Drelich now supervises three young rabbis in training as they visit Edmonton for a one-year stay of study and community outreach.

"When Menorah Academy and the Kollell closed, we knew that there would be an immediate void to fill and a need for access to Torah study within the community," explained Rabbi Drelich. "Of course, we have resources in Edmonton, and we are in no way trying to compete with what already exists but add to it. With the arrival of our young rabbinical candidates, we are able to offer something unique."

Every evening, Sunday through Thursday, from 7 to 8:30 pm these young Yeshivah scholars are on site at the Chabad House for one-on-one face-to-face Torah learning sessions, studying with boys and men from the age of 7 and up: "7 to 120, and beyond!" added Rabbi Drelich with exuberance.

What people need to know is that our visiting young Torah scholars can facilitate learning surrounding any subject, any topic, for all age groups, and for any level of learner – and this is completely free of charge."

Rabbi Drelich is scheduling those interested in this exciting opportunity for individual learning sessions of 45 minutes. "This allows for some focused instruction and discussion, and each of our Yeshivah students will be able to see two people a night and engage a larger portion of the community."

Although Edmonton only welcomed these three inaugural Yeshivah boys in early October, Rabbi Drelich is already beginning to identify their areas of strength. "These young men are just out of high school, so they are still finding their footing. But yes, I can already see where their individual talents are developing."

Those interested in availing themselves of this

unprecedented opportunity for one-on-one face-to-face spiritual enrichment should contact Rabbi Drelich to be matched with one of Yeshivas Lubavitch of Edmonton's new rabbinical candidates for an intellectually stimulating evening of meaningful Torah study.

Housed by the hospitality of the Ghermezian family, furnished in a lovely home with their own personal chef, these three young gentlemen live together in Old Glenora and help to ensure a daily minyan Downtown.

"Edmonton has had a steady minyan Downtown for the last 30 years," explained Rabbi Drelich. "We hope in the future to be able to welcome 10 yeshivah students per year, but the work being done by these three boys now is such a contribution to our community and to keeping Yiddishkeit active in Edmonton," he concluded.

All three new arrivals come from Chabad families – two from Toronto, and one all the way from France!

"Our boys can converse with the community in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, and French," explained Rabbi Drelich. "Having Russian too would have been a huge asset, but these students are extremely knowledgeable, and really can dive into any topic. In future years we hope to grow the program and invite at least 10 rabbinical candidates."

In different times Rabbi Drelich would dispatch the students to visit those recovering in hospital. "We can't do hospital visits right now except for the most unfortunate and dire of cases. It is a little easier with old age homes. But, needless to say, the boys will go where they are needed, restrictions permitting."

Rabbi Drelich is sensitive to the varying levels of COVID-era social contact comfort. "We know that everyone is finding their own balance and what feels safe for them," he said sympathetically. "We have a lot of online resources in Edmonton at the moment, and there is no shortage of



Three Chabad Yeshiva students are in Edmonton for a year of study and community outreach - offering one-on-one Torah study to members of the community. Pictured above with Rabbi Ari Drelich.

access to our local Rabbis through Zoom and all that, but that is why what we are offering here every night, Sunday through Thursday, is really unique."

With a limited number of people inside the building during sessions there is an ability to social distance while maintaining a much-needed sense of human contact while learning. "I understand that people have been reluctant and scared to start coming out in general, but there is also a huge need to reconnect with Torah learning in a non-virtual form," he emphasized.

The greater Edmonton Jewish community sends a great big Mazel Tov to Yeshivas Lubavitch of Edmonton and the innovators of this monumental new initiative, as well as a hearty welcome to the first group of rabbinical student visitors! What is taking form at the Chabad House is inspiring, and the potential for breathing new energy into face-to-face Torah study after so many months separated by computer screens is refreshing and plants seeds of hope looking forward. Please contact Rabbi Drelich directly to set up your learning session, or one for your son, and begin an exciting journey of discovery and investigation through Torah. Rabbi Ari Drelich can be reached by email at chabad@shaw.ca or by phone six days a week at 780.993.1818.

Regan Treewater-Lipes is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter for Alberta Jewish News.

Both-sides approach

Cont. from page 10

bringing the issue to her attention.

Her press secretary Nicole Sparrow explained the terrible oversight. She said, "The content in this document dates back nearly four decades ago to 1984.

"In 2019, following the passing of the Education Act,

numerous documents from Alberta Education were updated to remove references from the previous legislation, The *School Act* to the *Education Act*. A general review of the document content was not done at that time and at no point did this document come to the Ministers Office for approval. As soon as it was brought to our attention, we took immediate action to remove it.

"To be very clear, the comments contained in the 1984 document were just as wrong then as they are today."

"Following this incident, we have initiated a review of all

documents on the Alberta Education website for content, with a particular focus on long standing documents that have not been recently reviewed," she concluded.

"We are pleased that the Ministry of Education responded quickly to this outrageous situation by removing the document in question, and we thank Minister LaGrange for engaging in conversation with Jewish organizations and denouncing this very troubling material," said Levitt. "In addition to having the document removed, we urge the Minister to call for a review of how this material made it online and also to ensure that no other disturbing documents are on the Alberta government website."

Jeremy Appel is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter for Alberta Jewish News.



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Siona Benjamin paints the world with a multi-cultural lens

By Art and Scroll Studio

Art and Scroll Studio presents renowned international artist Siona Benjamin Dec. 1 at 7 pm.

The art of Siona Benjamin defies categorization; at once there is the impact of images and patterns, as well as the perception of deep meaning as the characters come alive. Born out of her diverse background she uses colour and form to create powerful impact through beautiful shape and sinuous lines.

Art and Scroll Studio is proud to present Siona Benjamin on Wednesday Dec 1, 2021 at 7:00 MTD. To register for free tickets go to www.artandscrollstudio.com. An international artist and author she will share the backstory behind her art, her story of immigration and growing up in India. Program host Shelley Werner spoke with Siona in preparation for the episode.

SW: Would you say your work speaks to intolerance in the world?

SB: I am an Indian Jewish artist of colour, I have been in America for 34 years, and I think I have always been the “other” whether I’m the “other” in India, or the “other” in Israel or the “other” here. “Finding Home” is my initial series and I continue to explore it as it reflects my journey.

SW: You’ve said that you look at your own skin sometimes as blue. Do you think this is a way of creating “the other”?

SB: The blueness came about slowly and it came about thoughtfully and I thought it has become so real for me in my life now because I feel that it evolved. I thought what skin colour would I paint myself in the beginning? Which

shade of brown would be suitable? And then I found that actually instead of choosing the shade of brown, I could become the colour of the sky or the ocean and this would give me a neutrality of belonging everywhere because the sky over here is no different from the sky over India or any other country.

I became a visual storyteller. In the bargain this blue character was created and she became an icon for me of being able to express these thoughts, values, issues and being able to ask all these difficult questions. She became an appropriate theatrical character to be able to act out on the stage of my paintings.

Beauty and lyrical line are really important for me so it becomes even more dangerous when you hide danger and something more precarious under the beauty.

SW: Are biblical stories important to you?

SB: I like to recycle mythology; Whether it’s Indian or Islamic or Christian or Buddhist or even my Judaism; I’ve studied bible stories with some amazing rabbis who taught me how to recycle mythology. They taught me how to process it and not just paint it the way it is said. They said, “you can challenge it, you can reinterpret it.”

I’m sometimes influenced by Hinduism, by Christianity, by Islam by my Jewishness and everything because I come with all of that, it was like a baggage at first. Now I don’t think of it that way, it’s more like a lot of information that I can draw from.

SW: In the painting “Lilith” You have the words to a song that says “I know how to burn when in love.” What were you thinking when you included that?

SB: That is another pop symbol that I drew from. It’s from a Bollywood song in Hindi. It means “I know how to burn in love.” It’s actually a romantic song, but I’ve completely taken it out of the context. I’ve connected it to this woman who has a bandaged hand, who has a gas mask, who is looking three, four ways around her, who is sinking into the water, who has Jacob’s ladder on one of the threads so she’s trying to ascend to someplace. When you say you burn in love it could be love which is positive but



Tune in to Art and Scroll on Dec. 1 for a fascinating conversation with Artist Siona Benjamin, pictured above on an incredible tile floor installation of her art.

it also could be a negative kind of love that you commit yourself to.

All of Sonia’s works create a totality of experience that challenges the viewer and that draws them in, and asks them to ask themselves how they feel about the “other” and the impact of the outsider both as the viewer, and as the object.

Siona’s work can be seen at artsiona.com. Also view her gift items at bluelikeme.com, where many beautiful purposeful gems are available incorporating her powerful designs. She is the author of *Growing up Jewish in India*, *The Zodiac Floor*, and illustrator for the children’s book *I am Hava*.

Siona Benjamin has an MFA in painting from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Ill., and an MFA in theater set design from the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign. She has exhibited in the United States, Europe and Asia.

She was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in 2011 to India, and a second Fulbright fellowship in 2016-17 to Israel. As not just a Jewish artist but also as one who crosses cultural boundaries, she’s received praise in numerous high-profile American publications. Her multicultural art has also been featured in *The Jewish Week in New York City and New Jersey*, *The Jerusalem Post*, *The Times of Israel*, and other publications.



Lilith © by Sonia Benjamin

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Nazi Memorabilia pulled from Alberta stores following B'nai Brith action

Submitted by B'nai Brith Canada

EDMONTON — B'nai Brith Canada credits the owners of three antique stores in Edmonton for showing the moral clarity to remove contemptible Nazi memorabilia from their shelves.

Abraham Silverman, B'nai Brith's Alberta Manager of Public Affairs, reached out to the owners of Old Strathcona Antique Mall, Blue Jar Antique Mall, and Mykel's Antiques & Collectables. Silverman informed the owners of those stores of the Nazi memorabilia's offensive nature. The owners appropriately removed the items from display. They also acknowledged the harm of selling Nazi memorabilia, which often encourages the romanticization of Nazi ideology.

B'nai Brith continues to monitor stores and flea markets across Canada, some of whom steadfastly refuse appeals to cease selling Nazi items.

While the sale of Nazi materials in Canada is not illegal, B'nai Brith denounces efforts to commercialize Nazi memorabilia and the unethical practice of profiting from genocidal paraphernalia. Items from the Nazi era belong in the collections of museums that can educate visitors

about the tragic and horrendous history of Nazi Germany.

The Nazi regime killed 12-million people in the Holocaust, including 6-million Jews.

"We are encouraged by the wise decisions of the three antique stores we contacted," Silverman said. "B'nai Brith will continue to monitor the situation in Alberta to ensure our stores are free of such disturbing items."

"Artifacts from Nazi Germany belong in a museum, not private collections," reiterated Michael Mostyn, Chief Executive Officer of B'nai Brith Canada. "Antique shops that sell Nazi memorabilia risk propagating Nazi ideology by selling to those such as white supremacists. Exalting the Nazi era is particularly

something completely different."

Barlow says some young Jews are making inroads, including Ben M. Freeman. Fortuitously, the Hong Kong-based educator and author of *Jewish Pride: Rebuilding a People* will be speaking to Albertans on January 27 in a live virtual program co-sponsored by the Jewish Federations of Calgary and Edmonton and the Calgary and Edmonton public libraries.

Calgary Jewish Federation Holocaust and Human Rights Remembrance and Education co-chairs Marnie Bondar and Dahlia Libin spearheaded Federation's sponsorship of the FSWC State of the Union event, which enabled an Alberta audience comprising some 140 households to log in free of charge.

"We had wanted to invite each of them to speak in Alberta, but the opportunity to hear the three of them together was amazing," said Bondar. "We share their

repugnant on the eve of Remembrance Day, when we remember the sacrifices of our brave Canadian soldiers who gave their lives fighting the Nazis in defence of our freedom."

values and are so impressed by the strength and support they lend each other. That is the atmosphere we are trying to build in our community."

As Bari Weiss observed during the State of the Union program, "Leadership comes from really unlikely places. Theodor Herzl was putting up a Christmas tree in his house in Vienna while he was writing *The Jewish State*," Weiss said, inviting viewers to expand their thinking by considering just who the next Herzls might be.

"There is a very good chance that they are going to be young and that they come from the periphery of Jewish life," added Weiss, "so it is very important that we heed those voices."

Maxine Fischbein is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter for Alberta Jewish News.

FSWC hosts *Cont. from page 11*

arrive on campus and think we lied about everything else."

"We wanted to brush away...and not discuss the issues," Tishby added. "If we do that, we allow the conversation to get confiscated and taken away from us."

"I think that the Jewish institutions have by and large failed us by not being forthright enough in tackling this," agreed Barlow.

Weiss said the community needs to be "counter-cultural."

"There is nothing that young people want more right now in this culture than meaning and belonging in their lives," Weiss added. "If what we are offering as a Jewish community is a pale shadow of what's going on out there, you'd better believe they are going to win. We need to offer



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Dr. Cyril Kay receives Alberta's highest honour

The province announced this month that eight Albertans will be inducted into the Alberta Order of Excellence this year, including Dr. Cyril Kay from Edmonton. The award is considered the highest honour a citizen can receive as part of the Canadian Honours System and is awarded to people who have made outstanding provincial, national or international impact.

A total of 197 Albertans have received the honour since its inception.

"All of the recipients show a remarkable talent for innovative creativity in their fields. Whether in business, research, education or community building, their leadership has made all of our lives better, safer and richer," Premier Jason Kenney said in a news release.

Dr. Cyril Kay is among the top protein chemists in the world. For over 60 years, he has built highly successful, multi-disciplinary research teams dedicated to seeking answers to leading biomedical questions.

Cyril Max Kay was born on October 3, 1931, in Calgary, Alberta. His parents had immigrated 10 years earlier from what is now Belarus. To support the young family in their new country, Cyril's father sold fruit and vegetables at Calgary's old City Hall market. But tragedy struck when Cyril was 12. His father passed away. His mother took over the family's stall, but money was tight, and Cyril's dream of attending university seemed unattainable.

A family friend suggested he apply for McGill University's new J. W. McConnell scholarship, which would pay for tuition, room and board for four years. Thanks to his outstanding grades, Cyril received one of only four McConnell scholarships available in 1949.

Cyril wanted to study honours chemistry, but McGill was strapped for space, because many veterans had enrolled after the Second World War. So the first two years of the honours chemistry program were based in St. John's, Quebec, some 70 km from Montreal. Cyril had not come all the way from Calgary only to study in St. John's, so he asked if any science programs were based in Montreal. The answer, honours biochemistry, changed the direction of his life. "Sign me up," said Cyril and he never looked back. Throughout his studies, he found a superb group of professors who nurtured in him a lifelong love of studying proteins and enzymes, the building blocks of life.

While at home for the summer after his third year at McGill, Cyril began dating Faye Bloomenthal. When Cyril went on to Harvard to work on his Ph.D., Faye joined him, studying liberal arts/education at Boston University. The couple married in 1953. Cyril followed his graduate studies with a postdoctoral period at Cambridge University where he began his lifelong fascination with muscle proteins.

Tenured jobs in those days were rare, yet Cyril landed one of only two biochemistry positions in all of Canada when the University of Alberta recruited him to the Department of Biochemistry in 1958. Cyril and colleague Dr. Larry Smillie knew the synergy of a team collaborating on protein research would be far greater than the sum of individual contributions.

Around the same time, the Canadian government began funding multi-disciplinary research teams – called Medical Research Council Groups – and asked Cyril and Larry to co-lead the first protein group in Canada, called the MRC Group on Protein Structure and Function. So with the blessing of the university, they began personally visiting biochemists across North America whose expertise would be complementary additions to the group. "We went shopping for the best of the best and we recruited them," smiles Cyril.

"We didn't compete with one another. We worked together toward the common good. We focused on the joy of collaborating to advance our mutual understanding of the building blocks of life. To borrow a term from the John Kennedy era, it was like being in Camelot."

Between 1974 and 1995, the MRC Group developed leading-edge technologies and published over 1,600 original, peer-reviewed, articles – an astonishing accomplishment – and the impact of that research is still being seen today. Their work was diverse, with implications for treating infectious diseases, cardiovascular disease, bacterial infections and



Dr. Cyril Kay OC, Ph.D., FRSC, FCAHS, D.Sc.

much more. Many of the group's 250 students and postdoctoral fellows went on to become academic leaders around the world. Collaborations among group and departmental members also played a major role in the university's Department of Biochemistry becoming the top biochemistry department in Canada, as well as the standard of research excellence in the Faculty of Medicine.

Cyril found a new challenge when the federal

Continued on page 19

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, The Jewish Community Centre of Edmonton, and The Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation

Will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021
Commencing at 7 p.m. via Zoom

Pre-registration of attendance is required.

For the purpose of:

1. Reviewing the financial results for the fiscal year just ended.
2. Receiving an update on past activity.
3. Elections of slates of Directors for the organizations.
4. Amending the bylaws of the various organizations, if required.

In accordance with the bylaws of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, the Nominating Committee of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton is giving notice that at the upcoming Annual General Meeting, there will be 8 vacancies on the Board of Directors, of which 6 are for a 3-year term, 1 is for a 2-year term and 1 is for a 1-year term.

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, the Nominating Committee and Board of Directors propose the following slate for election to the Board of Directors:

David Aaron – Three-year term	Jared Paull – Three-year term
Suzanne Davis – Three-year term	Aviv Scheinman – Three-year term
Davina Eisenstat – Three-year term	Faren Hochman – Two-year term
Tobey Freedman – Three-year term	Lisa Miller – One-year term

This year's meeting is being held via Electronic Means.
Please proceed to www.jewishedmonton.org/agm to register in advance, and for more information, including:

1. Who is considered a member and who is entitled to vote.
2. The software being used for the meeting (with a link to download it), including contingency plans should it not function properly.
3. Other information regarding the meeting in compliance with in compliance with Article VI, Part A, Section 3 and Article IX, Section 1 of the bylaws of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton.
4. How to add additional business

You will not be able to attend the meeting without visiting the link above and registering.

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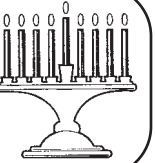
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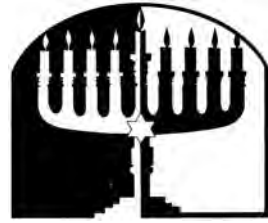


Happy Chanukah!
from
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and Ella



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Chag Sameach
- Happy Chanukah!
from the Bushewsky Family



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from Sharon Bookhalter
& Jerry Glasser



Happy Chanukah
to the entire community



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Wishing family & friends
all the best this Chanukah!
from Brian, Gail, Ethan, Ezra and
Sophie Buck, Sol and Maureen Buck



חג חנוכה שמח
from
the Goldsand Family

Chag Sameach -
Happy Chanukah!
from Benji, Rachel
and family



Wishing family & friends
all the best this Chanukah!
from Linda Goody

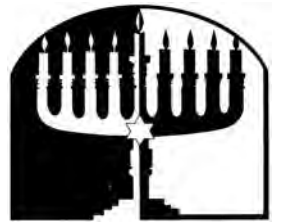


Wishing family & friends
all the best this Chanukah!
from Luba Allen

Happy Chanukah!
from
Lana Black & George Abrams

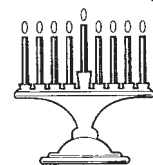
Chag Sameach -
Happy Chanukah!

from
The Huberman
Family - Michelle
and Mark, Jess,
Kyle & Oliver,
Kalin and Jordan



Wishing family & friends
all the best this Chanukah!
from Shirley Goldberg
& family

Chag Sameach -
Happy Chanukah!
from Ghermezian Family



Happy Chanukah!
from
Gabe and Sonia Goldberg



Chag Sameach
- Happy Chanukah!
from Nina Hardin & family



Wishing family & friends
all the best this Chanukah!
from Karen Leibovici
& Stephen Zepp

Wishing family & friends
all the best this Chanukah!
from The Lerner Families



Happy Chanukah!
from
Susan & Bruce Mintz

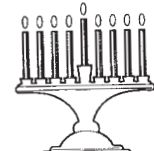


Wishing family & friends
all the best this Chanukah!
from Francie & Jon Nobleman



Chag Sameach
- Happy Chanukah!
from Aube & Diana Levine

Chag Sameach -
Happy Chanukah!
from Sharon Marcus



ברכות לחג שמח
from Robin & David Marcus
and family



Chag Sameach -
Happy Chanukah!
from Lena, Victor Linetsky
and the kids



Chag Sameach - Happy Chanukah!
from The Hatches

Wishing family & friends all the best
this Chanukah! from Anita Sky
& Howard Davidow

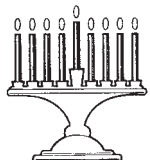


Chag Sameach
- Happy Chanukah!
from
Nikki, Naomi,
Jared, and
Stephanie



חג חנוכה שמח

from Dylan, Leah,
Carter, Ayla Muscat




Wishing family and friends
all the best this Chanukah
from Alexey, Yuliya, Zachary,
and Elizabeth Massarsky

חג חנוכה שמח
from Leor, Ohad, Shai,
and Noa Eliyahu




Chag Sameach - Happy Chanukah!
 from Stacie, Hartley, Lielle
 and Ezra Perlmutter



חג חנוכה שמח
 from
 Aubrey and Draytin Rogerville


חג חנוכה שמח
 from Mona & Dan Rosenberg
 and family

Happy Chanukah!
 from
 Carol & Ron Ritch




Chag Sameach - Happy Chanukah!
 from Dr. Wynne Rigal
 & Lesley Jacobson

Chag Sameach - Happy Chanukah!
 from
 Jane & Hersh Sobel and family




Happy Chanukah!
 from
 Boris & Teresa Sukalsky

Chag Sameach - Happy Chanukah!
 from
 Becky, Daniel, Zev
 and Micah Shafran




חנוכה שמח
 from Jane & Randy Soifer and family

Wishing family & friends
 all the best this Chanukah!
 from
 Jack & Rowena Schwartzberg



Chag Sameach - Happy Chanukah!
 from Esther Sklofsky


Wishing family & friends
 all the best this Chanukah!
 from Beverly & Stephen Shafran



חנוכה שמח
 from
 Riva & Howard
 Shein and family



Wishing family & friends
 all the best this Chanukah!
 from Natalie, Ken, Marlee
 and Jenna Soroka




חנוכה שמח
 from
 Hal Zalmanowitz

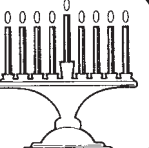


Chag Sameach - Happy Chanukah!
 from Sue & Alvin Winestock

Happy Chanukah
 to the
 entire community
 from
 Dr. Sam & Eva
 Weisz



Chag Sameach -
 Happy Chanukah!
 from Shelley Weinstein
 & Bruce Bradley




Happy Chanukah!
 from Jodi, Michael
 and Rebecca Zabłudowski



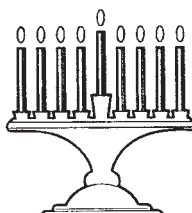
Wishing family & friends
 all the best this Chanukah! from
 Planet of the Vapes Family



Chag Sameach
 - Happy Chanukah
 from Freya & Lewis Wasel




Happy Chanukah
 to the entire community
 from Connie
 and Danny
 Zalmanowitz



חנוכה שמח
 from Forrest,
 Anna, Adina,
 and Naomi



Wishing family & friends
 all the best this Chanukah!
 from The Zwaigenbaum Family



Chag Sameach
 - Happy Chanukah!
 from the Whitham Family



Our very best wishes to our readers and advertisers
 for a Happy and Healthy Chanukah
 from
 Deborah Shatz,
 Dan Moser,
 Sandy Fayerman,
 and Maxine Fischbein at
 ALBERTA
 Jewish News



Thank you for
 welcoming us
 into your homes
 each month.



HAPPY HANUKKAH

Stay safe and take care of each other

David Shepherd
 MLA, Edmonton-City Centre

Lorne Dach
 MLA, Edmonton-McClung

Na'amat Canada Memorial Tribute

Anna Shapiro, a lifetime member of Na'amat Canada, passed away peacefully on September 5, 2021 at the age of 98.

She was educated as a pharmacist in Russia and met her husband to be Max in a hospital ward where he had been sent as a wounded soldier. He was being neglected and when Anna realized he was Jewish, she nursed him back to health.

They emigrated to Edmonton from Russia/Ukraine via Israel.

She joined the Kanot Chapter in 1953 understanding that Pioneer Women (as it was then called) was a part of the U.S. organization.

Anna was fortunate to meet Thelma Rolingher, who was on the National Board at the time, and who encouraged her to join and become an active member. Anna was fluent in Yiddish, had very little English, and didn't feel too confident about taking on the Kanot Presidency, but

everything turned out fine when she found everyone else in the group spoke Yiddish. Kanot became known as the only group in Edmonton who spoke Yiddish at their meetings. They eventually graduated to having their meetings in English.

Anna's business experience enabled her to be an effective leader and she was highly respected by our membership.

She held many Edmonton Council Executive positions graduating to President where she attended National Board meetings representing Edmonton. She served four years in that capacity.

In 1984 she Co-Chaired Na'amat National Convention hosted by Edmonton and she was terrific in that role.

Anna's name will be inscribed with other generous Na'amat donors on the toy chest wall at the Karmiel Day Care Centre.



Anna and Max Shapiro OBM circa 1984.

Lessons at sea with the Royal Canadian Navy

By Nico Slobinsky, 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 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.

Nico Slobinsky is CIJA Senior Director, Pacific Region.

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Happy Chanukah!



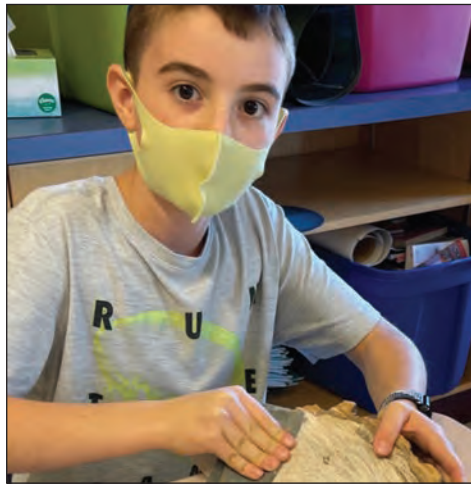
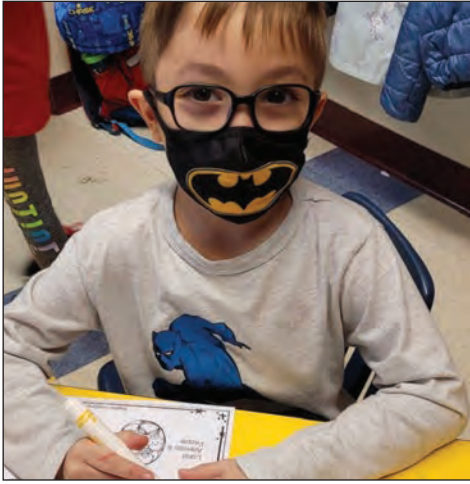
Wishing you peace, love and joy this Chanukah season



The Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton

caedm.ca

This month's update from Edmonton Talmud Torah School



It has been a busy month at Talmud Torah School but there is always time for some hands-on learning. Pictured above the Grade six students learned about sanding tree cookies in their science class. The Grade two students studied magnets and among other things the Kindergarten students enjoyed building with blocks.

Dr. Cyril Kay *Cont. from page 15*

government ended funding for MRC Groups and focused instead on National Centres of Excellence. In 1990, Cyril became a founding member of the Protein Engineering Network of Centres of Excellence (PENCE). With University of Alberta leadership, PENCE became a scientific alliance of some 60 researchers across Canada. Their mission was to interact with industry, government and other academic centres to engineer and study proteins for the economic benefit of Canada. Cyril served as Chair of the PENCE Scientific Advisory Board. During its 15 years, PENCE was seen as the top life sciences network in Canada.

In 1995, an international symposium was hosted by the University of Alberta in honour of Cyril's outstanding leadership, accomplishments and contributions to the university and the scientific community at large. He retired as Professor of Biochemistry after 37 years at the University of Alberta.

Cyril's retirement was short lived. In 1998, the Alberta Science and Research Authority (ASRA) needed him to develop a health research plan for the province. ASRA also asked him to help investigate how to develop Alberta's research and development capacity in energy, ICT and life sciences. Once again, he outlined a strategy for institutional collaboration, cooperation and sharing. Cyril subsequently joined the ASRA board.

The Alberta Cancer Board also needed Cyril's leadership to develop a vision for cancer research, so in 1999, he became Vice President of Research. For the next decade, his contribution was enormous, stimulating substantial research growth and fostering an unprecedented level of cooperation among cancer researchers right across the province.

This extensive collaboration underpinned Cyril's vision of a virtual Alberta Cancer Research Institute that would pool resources and expertise to achieve heavyweight status on the international cancer research scene. But his elegant vision and plan ended when the Alberta government terminated the Alberta Cancer Board in 2008.

Cyril retired for a second time. But friends Dianne and Irving Kipnes needed his gift for building multi-disciplinary teams as they set up their foundation dedicated to stimulating lymphedema research. Cyril played an indispensable role guiding the foundation and developing the Alberta Lymphedema Network (ALNET). Despite lymphedema having received little research attention in the past, his stature within the medical community has drawn researchers from many disciplines to participate in ALNET. As a member of the Strategic Advisory Board, Cyril is dedicated to establishing Alberta as a world-class leader in lymphatic research and treatment.

Throughout his career, Cyril has been asked to serve on numerous advisory and editorial boards and grant panels in Canada and around the world. He served for 10 years on the Gairdner Awards selection committee, which selects

the top biomedical and medical researchers in the world. His extensive service also includes the MRC Council of Canada, which provided key vision and direction for medical research in Canada, and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Canadian Heart Foundation. He is past president of the Canadian Biochemical Society, past Associate Editor of the Canadian Journal of Biochemistry, and Founding Editor of Paabs Revista, a review journal in biochemistry and molecular biology.

To date, Cyril has published 349 research papers focused mainly on the structure and function relationships of muscle and calcium binding proteins. He has mentored many scientists who have moved on to international positions. And he takes great pride that his son Lewis is an outstanding biophysicist in his own right.

Cyril's recognitions and awards are many. In 1969-1970, he was an MRC Visiting Scientist in the Biophysics Department of the Weizmann Institute. He was elected as a Fellow of the New York Academy of Science in 1970, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1978, and Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in 2010. He received the Distinguished Scientist Award from the University of Alberta's Faculty of Medicine in 1988 and an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the university

in 2019. He received the ASTech Award for a Lifetime of Outstanding Contributions to the Alberta Science and Technology Community in 2006. In 2003, the Alberta Cancer Board and Foundation endowed the Dr. Cyril M. Kay Graduate Studentship in Cancer Research in perpetuity for his role in promoting cancer research in the province.

Named a Member of the Order of Canada in 1995, Cyril was elevated to Officer of the Order of Canada in 2006. He and Lewis are among very few fathers and sons who have both received the Order. Cyril is a recipient of Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002, the Alberta Centennial Medal in 2005, and Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee medal in 2012).

Celebrating his 90th birthday in 2021, Cyril continues to serve local and international scientific communities. For the past 10 years and counting, he has served on the Scientific Advisory Board of Oncopole, a significant international cancer research centre in Toulouse, France.

Cyril and his wife Faye have two children, Lisa and Lewis, and four grandchildren.

The Alberta Jewish community extends a hearty Yasher Koach to Cyril Kay and his family for this well-deserved honour.

Our best wishes
for a Happy and Healthy Chanukah

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MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY
Sunday, November 28th 2021 - 5:00 PM
Driedel Parachute - Donuts - Music
Dignitaries: Premier Jason Kenney & Mayor Amarjeet Sohi
Special Guest: Oilers Forward Zach Hyman will light the Menorah
Car Menorah Parade
To join parade call Rabbi Dovid at 780-299-0066



Zoom link available for those who cannot attend in person:
<https://us02webzoom.us/j/83137756162?pwd=S2ZmSG1yMm9aUEFYSlBneGJTejIMdz09>
Meeting ID: 831 3775 6162 Passcode: 287739

For more info please call 780-486-7244 or Chabad@shaw.ca

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HAPPY CHANUKAH!



FROM EDMONTON UJA

YOUR SUPPORT LIGHTS UP OUR COMMUNITY WITH EIGHT, GREAT HOLIDAY EVENTS:

-  **Pride Havdallah and Chanukah program - November 20 at 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)**
-  **Cooking Class and Market Tour with Chef Shawna Goodman-Sone and Tour Guide Orit Levi - November 21 at 11 a.m. (Zoom)**
-  **PJ Our Way Chanukkiah Painting - November 28 at 1 p.m. (Zoom)**
-  **Shine the Light on Antisemitism community art project - November 28 to December 5**
-  **Shalom Baby Chanukah Party - November 29 at 11 a.m.**
-  **PJ Library sponsored Chanukah Community Celebration - December 2 at 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)**
-  **Edmonton Jewish Film Festival short animated film Broken Candles - December 2 and 3 (online)**
-  **JCORE Stroll through Luminaria - December 4 at 7 p.m. (U of A Botanic Garden)**

Thank you for supporting UJA. If you have not made a 2021 gift, it is not too late.

More information at jewishedmonton.org

