

# An interview with CMDA supporter Fanny Wedro



CMDA Western Region Director Sharon Fraiman and Calgary CMDA advocate Fanny Wedro discuss the importance of Magen David Adom.

At 94 years young, Calgary resident, Fanny Wedro, is as active and outspoken as someone half her age. A Holocaust survivor, Fanny is a passionate advocate for and supporter of Canadian Magen David Adom.

CMDA Western Region Director, Sharon Fraiman, met with Fanny to talk about the importance of Magen David Adom and its lifesaving work.

S: Fanny, how important is Magen David Adom to the people of Israel?

F: How could Israel survive without it? Magen David Adom is always first on the site of an accident, of an emergency. Magen David Adom is a necessity. It responds to the needs of the country. I have seen it many times. If an ambulance can't make it through the crowded streets, an emergency medi-scooter can. The paramedic is able to treat the patient, often saving a life, until the ambulance arrives.

S: MDA depends on the support of donors.

F: Yes. MDA is not supported by the Israeli government. It depends on the generosity of donors which is why I believe so strongly in its mission.

S: Do you feel that people know about Magen David Adom?

F: Not enough people are aware of MDA and what it does. I first learned about MDA in 2006 during the war with Lebanon. I was watching the news and saw a building on fire in Israel. An MDA ambulance was quickly on the scene but, unfortunately, it was destroyed.

My friends and I felt we had to do everything possible to replace that ambulance. Within a month, we had received enough donations to do just that. The Calgary community has been very supportive, having donated ambulances, emergency medical scooters, incubators, and essential medical equipment and supplies.

S: At 94, do you feel that it is important to continue your efforts on behalf of MDA?

F: At my age, I do what I can. Magen David Adom saves lives – every day when every second is critical. I thank Magen David Adom, its paramedics and first responders. I thank all those who support the lifesaving efforts of MDA and I encourage others to do the same.

S: On behalf of Canadian Magen David Adom, thank you, Fanny, for your continued support and generosity.



You are cordially invited to share and celebrate the

# CMDA Calgary Chapter's Annual Gala

Sunday, May 29, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

at the THE NEWLY RENOVATED  
Carriage House Inn – MAIN BALLROOM  
9030 MACLEOD TRAIL SOUTH, CALGARY

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER  
DR. SHAFIR BOTNER  
Director of Magen David Adom's Paramedic School

A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY  
BARRY SHAW JAZZ AND SWING

Full Kosher dinner will be served  
and COVID safety measures will be observed

RECEPTION AT 6 P.M.  
PROGRAM AT 7 P.M.  
TICKETS: \$100

## MAGEN DAVID ADOM (MDA)

is Israel's national ambulance, blood services, and disaster-relief organization. It is a full member of the International Red Cross Red Crescent Society.

# Carriage House Inn

### SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

#### DR. SHAFIR BOTNER

Director of Magen David Adom's Paramedic School

Dr. Shafir Botner, has been a veteran MDA paramedic for nearly 20 years, and one of only a handful of first responders serving in MDA's Helicopter Service. Dr. Botner oversees a comprehensive program that trains more than 90,000 people annually, including members of the general public, institutions, physicians and nurses, as well as MDA first responders.

### FEATURING

#### CANTOR RUSSELL JAYNE

Cantor Russell Jayne was born and raised in Boonton, New Jersey and has been singing in both religious and secular choirs since he was a child. Before arriving at Beth Tzedec, Cantor Jayne served Congregation B'nai Israel of the Somerset Hills in Basking Ridge, NJ. He was also an instructor in the Lifelong Learning Program of the Joint Chaplaincy Committee for the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest, NJ.

### GUEST SPEAKER

#### CHIEF LEE CROWCHILD

Chief Lee Crowchild is a third generation Chief of Tsuut'ina and a lifelong learner of Tsuut'ina's cultural worldview. Chief Crowchild was the sitting Chief from 2016-2019 and worked diligently building bridges between other first Nations and the rest of Canada. A passionate advocate for the environment and sustainable energy practices, he led the charge in finding ways to protect the water that runs through Tsuut'ina and on into Calgary.

### A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY:

#### JAZZ AND SWING SINGER

## BARRY SHAW

Barry Shaw performs all across Canada and the USA at a variety of venues and special events. Barry has performed before two American Presidents and three Canadian Prime Ministers. Barry's reputation as a world class jazz and swing vocalist and his ability to connect with an audience is legendary! Barry Shaw is a featured entertainer at Fairmont and Accor Hotels special events.

### RECEPTION VIOLINIST

#### STEVEN KLEVSKY

Steven (Slava) Klevsky was born in the city of Gomel, Belarus. He began to learn music at the age of six. He wanted to play the piano but, because his hands were too small, he began to study violin at the city's prestigious music school. The following year, he began piano and, at a later age, he learned to play the guitar. At 14, he began his studies at the State Music College, majoring in classical violin. In addition, for four years, he played with the State College Youth Orchestra.

### FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION:

#### Sharon Fraiman

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#### FULL KOSHER DINNER WILL BE SERVED AND COVID SAFETY MEASURES WILL BE OBSERVED

#### Leonard Shapiro

Chair, Calgary Chapter

## Help us Save Lives in Israel