



ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



**JEWISH
HERITAGE
CENTRE**

OF WESTERN CANADA INC.

Cherishing Our Place in Time

Partner Agency of the
Jewish Federation
OF WINNIPEG



Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada

jewishheritage@jhcwc.org

(204) 477-7460

www.jhcwc.org

C-140 123 Doncaster Street

THE JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

MISSION

VISION

MANDATE

THE JHC COLLECTION

WHO WE ARE

- To develop, interpret and disseminate information on the history and culture of Western Canadian Jewry and to develop awareness of the history, moral and ethical implications of the Holocaust and other human rights violations.
- To document, preserve and share information on the culture and historical formation of Jewish communities in Western Canada. The Centre also serves as an advocate for anti-racism and education on the Holocaust and antisemitism.
- To forge a pathway for the future by preserving and sharing compelling stories and educating the present and future generation
- To collect and preserve the records, artefacts and traditions of our community.
- To present programs and exhibits about the history, experiences, achievements, and culture of the Jewish community.
- To maintain and expand a searchable and detailed database of Jewish gravestones in Manitoba and farther afield.
- To promote the awareness and understanding of the history of the Holocaust through education—reaching thousands of students and educators each year. We address the fact that society continues to witness genocide due to continuing racism and hatred and that we must all be vigilant in opposing racism, antisemitism, and other forms of bigotry.
- Our treasured archive brings our community's history to life through its collection of images, artefacts, documents, and multimedia, including:
 - More than 70,000 photographs
 - More than 200 bound volumes of newspapers from 1914 to the present
 - Oral histories—audio, video, and text
 - More than 1300 sound and moving image recordings
 - More than 1000 boxes of textual records, maps, architectural drawings, electronic files, and other documents - from 1870s to today
 - More than 4000 artefacts including religious paraphernalia, medical and pharmaceutical items, military jackets, medals, and awards, clothing; dolls, trophies, sports memorabilia
 - Original documents and artefacts from the Holocaust era

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada (JHC) brings together the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada, the Marion & Ed Vickar Jewish Museum of Western Canada, the Jewish Historical Society Archives, and the Freeman Family Foundation Holocaust Education Centre.

**PRESERVING OUR COMMUNITY'S STORY
ENSURING OUR FUTURE**

OUR ARCHIVE COLLECTION

200+ bound volumes of newspapers

1300+ sound and moving images

1000+ boxes of textual records,
maps, architectural drawings, electronic
files

Programs
Commemorations
Exhibits

2000+

students and educators
benefited from our programs
on the Holocaust and
antisemitism

**ORAL
HISTORIES**

AUDIO

VIDEO

TEXT

70,000+
photos

4000+
artefacts

Message from our President & Executive Director



Mark Kantor, President

Mark Kantor

The second year of the COVID-19 pandemic presented many challenges to the Jewish Heritage Centre. All of our programming was done virtually, but we were unable to proceed with certain events such as our annual prestigious fundraising event, the Sol and Florence Kanee lecture. For the first time in 19 years, we were unable to hold our Holocaust and Human Rights Symposium. Nevertheless, turning lemons into lemonade, we brought some high-profile speakers in from across Canada, the United States, Europe, Australia, and Israel.

They included the storied history of chess in our community, human rights, COVID and Jewish ethics, antisemitism, a literary program on Adele Wiseman, an interview with author Judy Batalion about her

best-selling book on women resistance fighters in the ghettos, and the story of a prairie synagogue. We were able to present twice the number of programs we would do in an "ordinary" year. Our audience was as diverse in its geography as our presenter; they; "zoomed in" from many locations throughout Canada and around the world. Among our many esteemed presenters were Efraim Halevy, former head of Mossad, Irwin Cotler, Canada's Envoy on Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism, Bob Rae,



Belle Jarniewski,
Executive Director

Belle Jarniewski

Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations, and four well-known IHRA delegates from Australia, Germany, Belgium, and Greece.

Our 2020 Switzer Cooperstock Lecture featured recipient Sharon Graham, who presented her paper on Pearl Finkelstein and the Winnipeg Jewish Orphanage.

As people hunkered down in their homes, many decided it was time to donate precious artefacts and photos to us. Our archivist remained in the office and continues to be very busy accessioning these cherished items.

Our newsletter continues to be very popular, and staff and guest writers have compiled some fascinating vignettes which highlight the rich and varied history of our community, accompanied by illustrative photos from our vast collection.

In order to preserve our archive for generations to come, the Jewish Heritage Centre has embarked on an archival endowment fund campaign at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba. Recognizing the generous lead donation from Larry and Tova Vickar, the fund is named in memory of Larry's parents, Florence and Norman Vickar, z"l. This fund will ensure that we can continue to collect, preserve, and share the history of our community.

The Jewish Heritage Centre has also begun an important project to completely renovate the Freeman Family Foundation Holocaust Education Centre. The texts, artefacts, and displays will be redesigned, and new technologies will be introduced to bring the space up to current best practices in museology and Holocaust education and to ensure a dynamic, multidimensional layering of information. Our goal is to complete this project by the early summer of 2022.

In addition to the public, the archive is a sought-after reference source for academics, researchers, authors, and filmmakers. While the early months of the pandemic prevented in-person research, our archivist, Andrew Morrison, was able to help researchers by providing information electronically. In-person meetings have resumed.

Last year, the Jewish Heritage Centre was entrusted with the responsibility for the care curatorship of some 85 boxes of restitution case files, which support the claims of Holocaust survivors against the German government, dating back to the 1950s and continuing for half a century. This is a collection of deep historical importance and emotional legacy.

The Jewish Heritage Centre is thankful for our talented and dedicated staff who interface with members of the public and researchers from all over the world. We are also thankful to our Board of Directors, volunteers, and generous donors. As we look ahead, we continue to count on the interest and generosity of the community so that future generations may also learn from their past.

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada presents

**COVID-19:
A JEWISH PERSPECTIVE**
With **DR. NATHAN STALL**
& **DR. MARISSA BECKER**

Thursday, October 21 7 pm CT

Moderator Dr. Ted Lyons

Registration at
jhcwc.org/programs/



Please join us for the biennial Switzer-Cooperstock lecture by Sharon Graham:
"Pearl Finkelstein, Unknown Hero: the
Winnipeg Jewish Orphanage and Social
Work in the Winnipeg Jewish
Community in the 1930s."



The Switzer-Cooperstock Prize at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba was established by the Switzer family to honour their parents and grandparents.

THE JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE PRESENTS

**The Jewish Gambit:
Celebrating the Legacy
of Jews and Chess in Winnipeg**

Thursday April 29, 2021 at 7 pm (Virtual Event)

CECIL ROSNER

CBC Journalist and Chess Columnist for the Winnipeg Free Press

IRWIN LIPNOWSKI

Chess Master and Professor of Economics, University of Manitoba



The Winnipeg Jewish Chess Club
Photo: Jewish Heritage Centre Archive



Abe Yanofsky
Photo: City of Winnipeg Archive

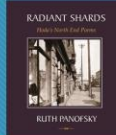
Registration at jhcwc.org/programs
For further information: scarbone@jhcwc.org



A Conversation
WITH **Poet Ruth Panofsky:**
Reimagining Adele Wiseman



Sunday February 7, 2021
2:00 pm CST | via Zoom



Ruth will be reading from her recent publication:
Radiant Shards: Hoda's North End Poems
Q & A to follow



Moderator Neil Besner
Professor Emeritus Canadian Literature
University of Winnipeg

Registration at jhcwc.org/programs/

EXTRA! EXTRA! HEAR ALL ABOUT IT!

A Conversation about the Jewish Post



with Bernie Bellan and Gerry Posner

Tuesday March 2, 2021
7:00 pm CST | via Zoom

Registration at jhcwc.org/programs/

The Little Synagogue on the Prairie

WITH IRENA KARSHENBAUM
Founder & President
The Little Synagogue on the Prairie Project Society

Sunday, May 16, 2021 2:00 pm CDT | via Zoom

How a lost rural synagogue — the 1916 Montefiore Institute — came to Calgary's Heritage Park Historical Village, helping to tell a more diverse story of western Canadian settlement.

Registration at jhcwc.org/programs/
For further information: scarbone@jhcwc.org



Defining Antisemitism

The Sol and Florence Kane Virtual Lecture Series

Defining Antisemitism: The IHRA Definition

Sunday, April 25, 2021 at 2 pm CDT
Registration at jhcwc.org/programs/

An international panel of experts discuss the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of Antisemitism:

Alina Bricman Director, EU Affairs at B'nai B'rith International (Brussels)

Andre Oboler CEO, Online Hate Prevention Institute (Melbourne)

Leon Saltiel Coordinator on Countering Antisemitism, World Jewish Congress (Geneva)

Juliane Wetzel Chair, IHRA Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial (Berlin)



The Sol and Florence Kane Virtual Lecture Series

Thursday May 13 at 3 pm CDT

Registration at jhcwc.org/programs/

A CONVERSATION ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD TODAY With

Irwin Cotler Canada's Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism and the Chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights. Professor Cotler served as the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.

Bob Rae a Canadian diplomat, lawyer, negotiator, public speaker, and former politician at both the federal and provincial level, including a term as Premier of Ontario. Mr. Rae is Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations.



The Sol and Florence Kane Virtual Lecture Series

EFRAIM HALEVY:

LOOKING AT THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST



Author, lawyer, spymaster, and former head of Mossad, Efraim Halevy helped bring about the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan.

Register at jhcwc.org/programs/
or contact us:
jewishheritage@jhcwc.org



SUNDAY JUNE 6
12 NOON CDT

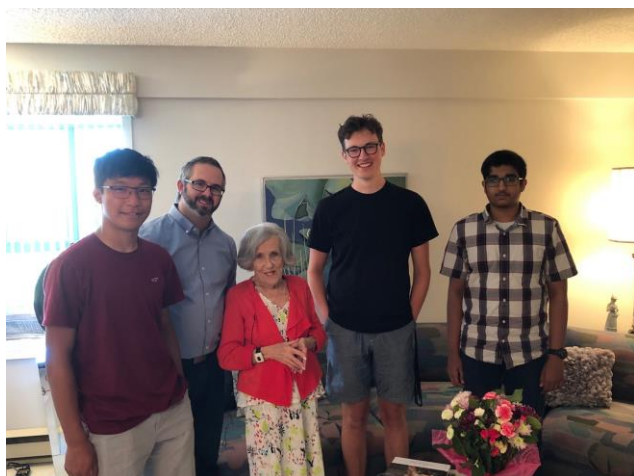
Beneficiary Agency of the
Jewish Federation
of Winnipeg



Education & Commemoration



Students from Westwood Collegiate interviewed local Holocaust survivors over the last year for a student-led documentary they are producing.



The Jewish Heritage Centre is recognized as the principal purveyor of education on the Holocaust and on antisemitism through its Holocaust Education Centre (HEC). Each year, we provide programming, education to thousands of Manitobans. The JHC partnered with

Manitoba Education and Training to provide professional development programs to educators from across the province. A summer institute was planned for 2020, which has been postponed until the summer of 2022.

Sadly, we were unable to go ahead with our annual Holocaust and Human Rights Symposium, due to the pandemic. However, we continue to provide the latest resources to teachers, and we offer virtual presentations on the Holocaust, on historical and contemporary antisemitism, and also more specifically, on historical and contemporary antisemitism in Canada.

In the early fall, the JHC brought in the Federal Republic of Germany's Stolpersteine (Stumbling Stones) exhibit for display in the Holocaust Education Centre. The exhibit culminated in a program for Kristallnacht, featuring Dr. Ralph Stern speaking on the disruption of spatial narratives.

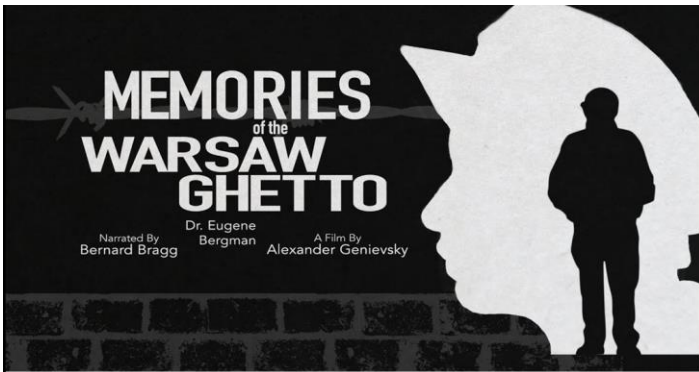
We also presented a three-part series on the racial laws and antisemitisms in fascist Italy: the film, "Children of Destiny" along with a Q and A with the film's director, Marco Spagonli. The two other programs featured scholars Jeremy Maron of the CMHR and Bruce Strang of the University of Brandon.

In January, we partnered with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day, and presented a screening of the film, "Memories of the Warsaw Ghetto, followed by remarks from local survivor Stefan Carter.

In the spring, we marked Yom Hashoah in partnership with Congregation Shaarey Zedek. Our in-person reading of Megillat Hashoah– the Holocaust Scroll, was replaced by a virtual reading, with guest readers from a variety of communities led by Kevin Chief.

For the third year in a row, a student from Westwood Collegiate was the recipient of the Mina Rosner Human Rights award. Nathan Varghese's essay is posted on our website. Nathan also did a virtual internship with us.

As the time sadly approaches when no first-person witnesses of the Holocaust will be left to share their important stories, we mourn the passing this last year of Henny Paritzky and Carmela Shragge Finkel who shared their stories with generations of students. May their memory always be for a blessing.



MEMORIES
of the
WARSAW GHETTO

Narrated By
Bernard Bragg

Dr. Eugene
Bergman


A Film By
Alexander Genievsky


International Holocaust Remembrance Day
Wednesday, January 27 at noon CST


Film screening


"Memories of the Warsaw Ghetto," followed by
an interactive discussion with
Dr. Stefan Carter [Reicher]
Warsaw Ghetto survivor


For further details and registration:
jhcwc.org/programs/

 **JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE**
OF WESTERN CANADA INC.
Cherishing Our Place in Time

 **CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**
MUSÉE CANADIEN POUR LES DROITS DE LA PERSONNE

 **Azrieli**

 **Partners Agency of the Jewish Federation of Western Canada**



THE LIGHT OF DAYS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

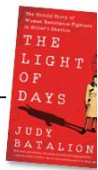
Calgary & Edmonton: 7:00 MT
Winnipeg: 8:00 pm CT


on Zoom | **FREE EVENT**


Register online at
jewishwinnipeg.org/light


Do not miss an unforgettable conversation with Author **Judy Batalion** and **Belle Jarniewski** as they discuss Judy's highly anticipated book **The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos**.


One of the most important stories of World War II that brings to light the extraordinary accomplishments of brave Jewish women who became resistance fighters — a group of unknown heroes whose exploits have never been chronicled in full, until now.





 **JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE**
OF WESTERN CANADA INC.
Cherishing Our Place in Time


 **March of the Living CANADA**
Supporters of the March of the Living


 **MINNALLY BORSOCH**


 **CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE**

 **The Jewish Federation of Western Canada**

 **HarperCollins Canada**

 **Rady JCC**

 **Holocaust and Human Rights Remembrance and Education**

 **We are committed to**
How can we help you?

RACIAL LAWS & ANTISEMITISM IN FASCIST ITALY

1:30-4 pm CDT: AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS
with Dr. Bruce Strang and Dr. Jeremy Maron

4:30 pm CDT: FILM
Screening of *Figli del Destino* (Children of Destiny)
With the participation of the film's director,
Marco Spagnoli

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25 2020

Free registration at
jhcwc.org/programs/

 **JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE**
OF WESTERN CANADA INC.

 **CENTRO CABOTO CENTRE**

 **ISTITUTO italiano di CULTURA**
ROMA

 **Azrieli**
Foundation

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Genealogy Institute

Chair, Lynn Roseman

The Genealogical Institute continues its important work under its Chair, Lynn Roseman. She has continued the photographic updates recording gravestones at each of the cemeteries in in Winnipeg although Covid seems to have resulted in a delay in stones being placed. 136 photos were added. As well, she has continued to update the JHC database with information from newspapers and from the Chesed Shel Emes website. Although missing some birthdates, and plot numbers, our database is current. More will be added as it becomes available.

This year, the research of the Genealogical Institute took some surprising turns. Research on the Axelrod, Vickar, and Tapper families were our largest projects this year, and a request from the Tenenbein family has just come in. It is always satisfying when we are able to find answers to questions, and correct information (usually typos) in our own database.

Archives

Chair, Annalee Greenberg (retired August 2021)

In 2020, the Archives Committee continued various initiatives outlined in its Modernization Program of 2016. The Covid pandemic did cause the suspension of operations of some granting bodies, and the Archives had to adapt to the protocols of the campus, with no onsite visits. (It reopened to onsite visits for researchers by appointment only in March.) However, with funding from private donors, the Jewish Foundation, and government granting bodies, we were able to make progress on the following initiatives:

- Basement shelving, as recommended in the Modernization Program, was acquired and set up, thanks to the generosity of a private donor. Collections were reorganized to improve access.
- Oral history tapes were digitized and uploaded to the JHCWC website
- Seven films produced by the JHC and various partners were digitized and have been uploaded to the JHC's YouTube channel

- Photos from the David Portigal Collection (approximately 30,000 images), depicting many events within the community, were processed and rehoused in archival storage media. A number of images that were in early stages of deterioration were treated further and scanned.

Acquisitions include an official handover of the survivor claim files of the United Restitution Organization, containing records of Holocaust survivors. Jewish Federations of Canada/UJA entrusted the files to us. We have already begun working on the files – listing all the claimants who came to Winnipeg and where their place of origin was. Further work digitizing the collection is planned.

Continued improvement to the basement storage space will require further funding. These improvements include water barriers and humidity and temperature controls.

The Florence and Norman Vickar Archival Endowment Fund, administered through the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, will help ensure that we are properly staffed and funded in the future. To grow this initiative, the JHC has acquired the services of professional fundraisers.

As well, we were able to add one half day to staff the Archives, and the archivist is now working 4.5 days per week.

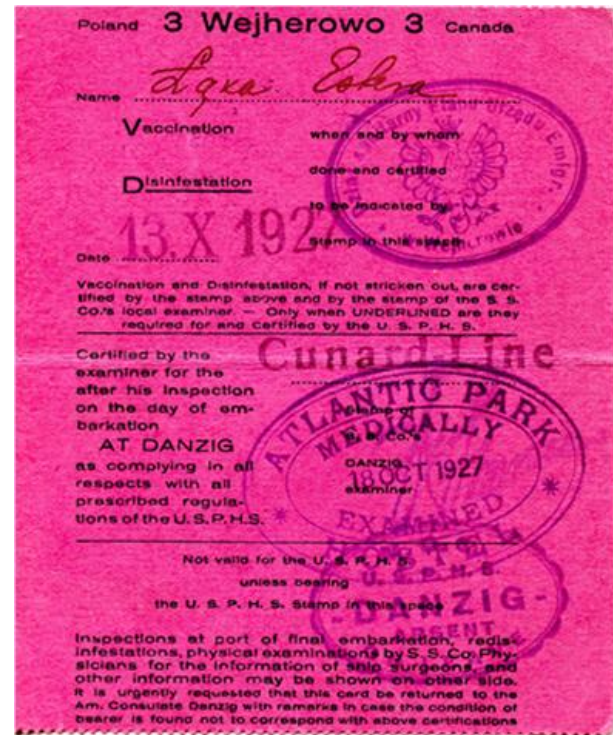
In September 2021, Amy Karlinsky assumed the chairmanship of the Archives Committee.

PRESERVING OUR PAST - ENSURING OUR FUTURE

Recent Acquisitions: New Treasures in our Collection



Saul Cherniack's Order of Canada insignia from 1993.



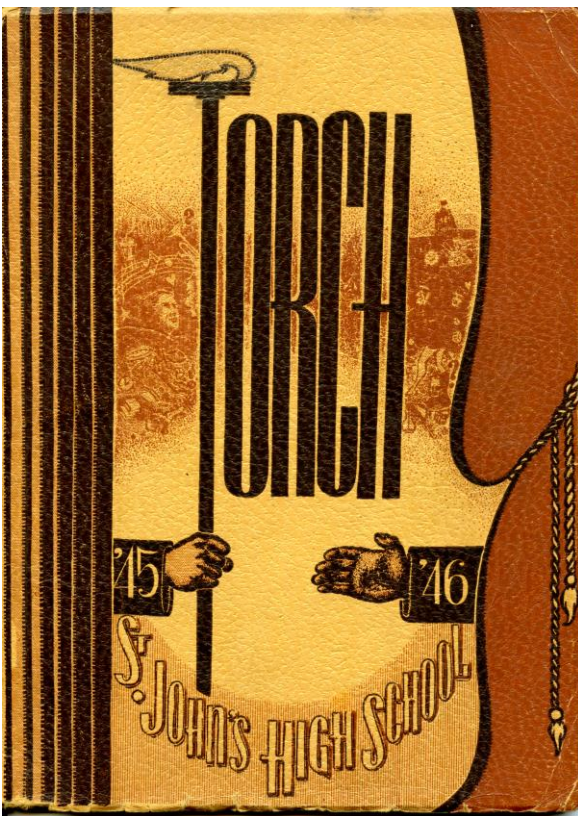
Vaccination and disinfection card for Esther Laka. 1927



Malkin family photo album. Pre-1906



Piece of the original seating in the Lubavitcher synagogue that originally belonged to Fruma (Fanny) Etta Steiman. Ca. 1920 donated by Lynne Pearlman.



The Torch - St. John's High School '45 '46

291

List of Members.

	Bernard Atkinson	315 Cathedral	557.07
	Abie Buchhalter	76 St. Cross	550.78
	Jack Chochinov		
3rd BOTTOM	Nathan Woody	508 Mountain	
5th BOTTOM	Emory H. Green	London, England	
	Monte Green	St. Alfred	
	Monte Galparin	120 Polono	556.44
	London Harnstein	240 Machray	510.84
	Albert Jacobs		
	Lawrence Katz	431 Machray	
5th BOTTOM	Ben Krogan	St. 5 North Panama	
	Jack Krogan	St. 5 North Panama	
	Murray Krogan	293 St. Johns	557.85
	Art Knoff	221 Machray	546.26
	Alex Malkin	145 Machray	566.97
	Charlie Malkin	145 Machray	566.97
	Abie Pollock	441 Bannerman	
	Art Wall	171 Machray	529.49
	Raymond Party	245 Sater	541.87
	Max Walters	63 Bannerman	557.45
	Harold Harris	882 Robinson	543.54
	Hymie Block	345 Church Ave	583.47
	Leonard Wadlinger	St. 20 North Panama	518.25
	Dave Herstein	St. 8 Globe Apts.	521.20
	Harry Klamer	31 Mortimer Pl.	529.64
	Monte Galparin	108 Belforia	568.99
	Jack Krogan	416 Church Ave.	
	Bennie Krogan	416 Church Ave.	
	Nathan Woody	628 College Ave.	
	Emory Green	367 College Ave.	545.77

List of Members, Phi-Eta Club minute book. 1934-1936

Board of Directors 2020-2021

Executive Board Members

President: Mark Kantor

Immediate Past President: Daniel Stone

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Chair, Archives & Acquisitions Committee: Annalee Greenberg

Chair, Holocaust Education Committee: Belle Jarniewski

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Abe Anhang

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Andrew Morrison BA MIST

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Harry Gutkin

Roz Usiskin

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Harold Buchwald CM QC

Abe Anhang

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Ben Baader
Sharon Graham
Amy Karlinsky
Andrew Morrison
Joel Novek

Holocaust Education

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Bella Ben-Ari	Shelley Chochinov
Reva Craven	Rietta Floom
David Gisser	Phyllis Laveman
Kelly Hiebert	Adeena Lungen
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Eran Plotnik	Sharon Goszer Tritt
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Stan Carbone
Susan Turner
Myron Turner
Sid Robinovitch
Chana Thau
Michael Eskin
Steven Hyman
Sarah Secter
Lionel Steiman
Bruce Sarbit

Genealogy Institute

Lynn Roseman

Sol and Florence Kanee Distinguished Lecture

Mark Kantor
Maury Donen
Anita Neville
Mel Myers
Belle Jarniewski
Neil Margolis
Marvin Samphir
Maurice Steele
Daniel Stone
Ben Waldman

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Donations received from September 2020 through August 2021:

Patrons \$10,000 to \$49,000

Mary Ann Kanee

Conservators \$5000 to \$9,999

Asper Foundation

Azrieli Foundation

Freeman Foundation Legacy Fund

Deborah Gray

Maurice & Patricia Steele

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Terri-Lynn & John Farber

Allan Finkel

Rochelle & Matti Gamliel

Howie & Jodi Gilmore

Sandra Gordon

Barbara Goszer

Sharon Goszer Tritt

Zachary Gross

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Sara Swartz

Arlyne Walsh

Elaine & Barry Weber

Frank & Dena Weinfeld

Esther Weinstein

Michael Wodlinger

Penny Yellen

Our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions

New Donations to our Endowment Funds at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba (09-20 to 08/21)

Leaders \$50,000+

Larry & Tova Vickar, Children and Grandchildren Archival Fund

Patrons \$10,000 to \$49,000

Barry Lank Memorial Human Rights Award Holocaust Fund
Paul & Jackie Winestock Holocaust Fund

Conservators \$5000 to \$9,999

Carmela Shragge Finkel Holocaust Awareness Fund Holocaust Fund
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Jewish Foundation of Manitoba FundMatch to the Holocaust Fund

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Curators \$500 - \$999

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Leah Esther Raber Weinberg and Family Holocaust Fund
Leah Esther Raber Weinberg and Family Jewish Heritage Fund

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Builders \$100 to \$249

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Meira & Abe Buchszreiber Holocaust Fund
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Sherna (Bernbaum) & Gerry Posner Jewish Heritage Fund
Ruth & Joe Riesenbach (Riesen) Family Holocaust Fund
Elaine & Sherwood Sharfe in honour of their parents, Marion & Ed Vickar Jewish Heritage Fund
Sam & Tzena (Lena) Shore Memorial Fund Holocaust Fund
Maxine Steinkopf Ellend Memorial Fund Archival Fund

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND PARTNERS



JEWISH FOUNDATION
OF MANITOBA



Canada



Freeman Family Legacy Fund