

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Cherishing Our Place in Time



#### Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada

jewishheritage@jhcwc.org www.jhcwc.org (204) 477-7460

C-140 123 Doncaster Street

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

**MISSION** 

**VISION** 

**MANDATE** 

THE JHC COLLECTION

WHO WE ARE

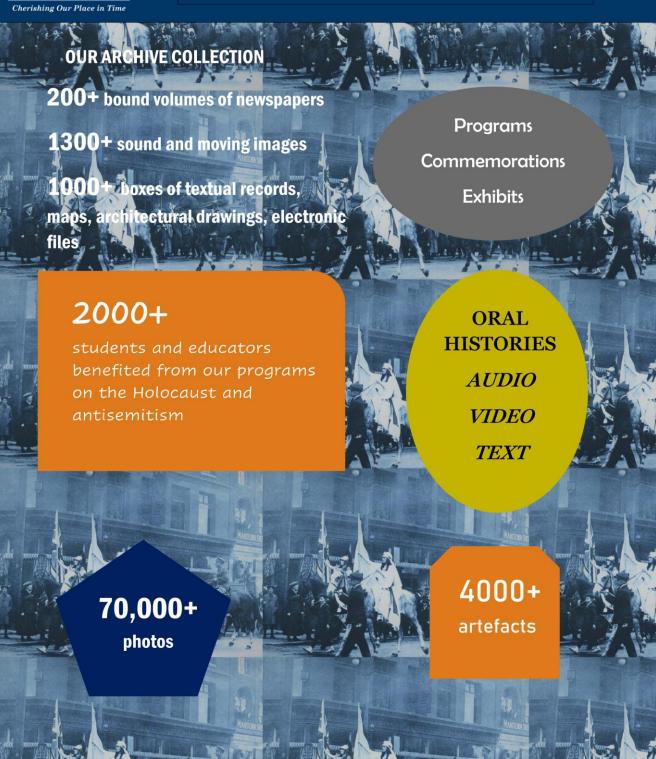
#### THE JEWISH HERITAGE CENTRE

- 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



#### Message from our President & Executive Director



Mark Kantor, President

Our last fiscal year coincided with a gradual "return to normal" after three years of pivoting - that favourite catch phrase of the COVID years. We have quickly learned though, that we will likely never return to that pre-COVID world. In some ways, though, there was and is a silver lining. The Zoom technology has allowed us to reach a much broader audience with our virtual programming. As we move back to in-person programming for some events, YouTube provides a permanent home for the recordings of these events, often attracting many additional viewers.



Belle Jarniewski, Executive Director

Education on the Holocaust and antisemitism is an important element of our mandate. In January of 2023, we proudly reopened a totally renovated Holocaust Education Centre. The space is a tribute to our survivors and portrays their lives and that of their loved ones before, during, and after the Holocaust. We have introduced the latest in technology in order to provide as rich a learning experience as possible for our visitors. We were most pleased to have received a very positive review about the renovated HEC from Jeremy Maron, curator at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in *Prairie History*.

Our Holocaust and Human Rights symposium now attracts thousands of participants from all over the province and even farther afield now that we have moved to a virtual format. Each year we are entrusted with the preservation of precious objects that reflect the rich and vibrant history of our community. We are very grateful to the generous donors to the Florence

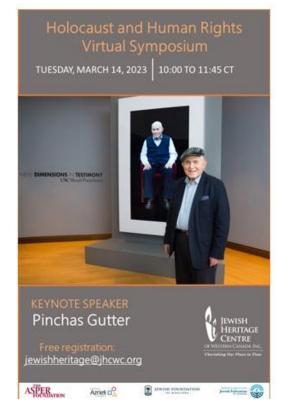
and Norman Vickar Archival Endowment Fund - surpassing our goal of one million dollars. The fund will ensure that the archive will be well-cared for and accessible to many future generations. This third endowment fund is an important and necessary addition to the two other endowment funds - the general Jewish Heritage Centre Fund, and the Holocaust Education Fund.

We are also grateful for the support of so many granting organizations, including the Province of Manitoba (Sport, Culture and Heritage), the federal government (Canadian Heritage), the Azrieli Foundation, the Thomas Sill Foundation, the Winnipeg Foundation, the Asper Foundation, and the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba. Of course, it goes without saying that we are deeply appreciative to the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg for their ongoing support as well as their partnership with us for some of our programs.

Our weekly newsletter continues to feature vignettes about our local history. Many thanks to Stan Carbone, our Director of Programs and Exhibits for writing many of these fascinating pieces and to our archivist, Andrew Morrison for helping us find treasures from the archive to feature in the stories. Andrew continues to accession and preserve the many precious artefacts and documents donated to us by the public.

As we look ahead in this new year, we are already working on new exhibits and programs, including a major exhibit on the contributions of Jewish women to our community. We are also working on Jewish Life and Times Volume X- an exciting new collection of essays. 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 always, we continue to count on the interest and generosity of the community so that future generations may also learn from their past.







#### COMMUNITY WIDE KRISTALLNACHT EVENT

Thursday, November 10, 7:00 pm Berney Theatre Asper Campus 123 Doncaster Street

HANS WOLPE: A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR WHO JOINED THE ROYAL WINNIPEG RIFLES



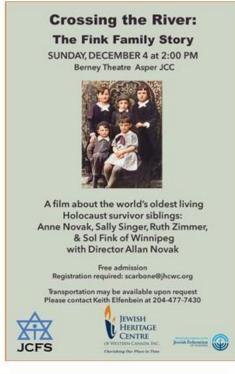
Presented by the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada, the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, & the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Museum and Archive

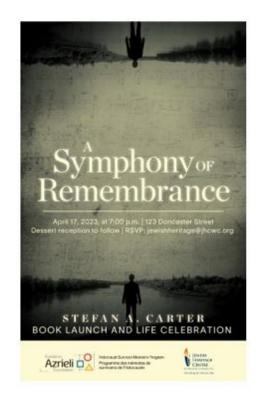
Admission is free but registration is required as seats are limited Please register at jewishwinnipeg.org/kristalinacht















#### KEYNOTE REMARKS:

#### The Honourable Irwin Cotler

Canada's Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism

#### Peter Flegel

Executive Director, Government of Canada's Anti-Racism Secretariat



Free admission To register please contac scarbone@jhcwc.org













Antisemitic hate has raged throughout history. Weaving together the stories of Winnipeg Holocaust survivors, a student group provides a ray of hope:

For Holocaust Education Month,
The Westwood Historical Society

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada

Present

## Truth Against Distortion

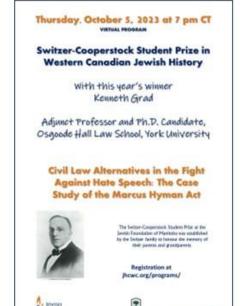
- Survivors Speak Out Against the Rise in Hate -

November 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm At the Berney Theatre Asper Jewish Community Campus, 123 Doncaster Street

Please register at Radyjcc.com/Tarbut (Tickets are free)









The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada Presents: THE SOUNDTRACK OF OUR LIVES: JEWS IN WINNIPEG'S MUSIC INDUSTRY Sunday May 28, 2023 at 2 pm Temple Shalom Winnipeg 1077 Grant Avenue **Guest Speakers:** Owen Clark .. A JEWISH John Einarson -- Len Udow HERITAGE Moderator: Kinzey Posen CENTRE Registration recommended: scarbone@jhcwc.org Cherishing Our Place in Time or (204) 477-7467

#### **Education & Commemoration**

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.

In January 2023, we proudly re-opened a completely refurbished Holocaust Education Centre and held a gala reopening which was very well attended. The space has garnered attention from schools as well as staff from various organizations who visited us and attended presentations.

Our virtual Holocaust and Human Rights symposium featured well-know survivor Pinchas Gutter. Thanks to the move to a virtual event, we were thrilled to welcome some 5000 attendees!

In the spring, we marked Yom Hashoah in partnership with Congregation Shaarey Zedek. We were happy to return to an in-person reading of Megillat Hashoah– the Holocaust Scroll, with Scott Gillingham as our lead reader as sell as the participation of guest readers from a variety of faith backgrounds.

For the fifth year in a row, a student from Westwood Collegiate was the recipient of the prestigious Mina Rosner Human Rights award. Sarah Froese's winning essay is posted on our website: "Fight for Humanity: The Impact of the 1947 Nuremberg Code on Medical Ethics," examines the influence of the Nuremberg Code in the world of medical ethics and the ways it has enforced the protection of human rights.

#### **Genealogy Institute**

#### Chair, Lynn Roseman, UE

In 2023 we continued to update our database and keep it current. We have added about 130 entries to our database, and a total of 187 photographs from Chapel Lawn, Hebrew Sick, Rosh Pina, B'nai Abraham and Shaarey Zedek to our website. In addition, I have started to work on identifying folks missed by gleaning through old Free Press and Jewish Post obituaries.

I received a few enquiries by email, mainly requesting father's names from tombstones. Most of those were graciously answered by Belle, and I thank her for that input. In November I was asked about a Jewish burial in Portage La Prairie, and, although I didn't find the burial record, I did find the baby's death record in Manitoba Vitals. The lady was thrilled to confirm she actually had a sibling.

Our plans for this year include visiting all the Winnipeg cemeteries as usual, and I am hoping to improve our records from Chapel Lawn. Morden and Brandon both have new burials that should be followed up on in the fall or next summer.

#### **Archives**

#### Chair, Amy Karlinsky

#### **Archivist Andrew Morrison**

The fiscal year has been a busy one with several notable accomplishments along with the usual responses to research requests, acquisition of new archival materials and processing for preservation and access.

One notable donation is the extensive material from the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg's Community Planning and Engagement Director. These records document approximately 30 years of the Federations activities and changes in the Jewish community in the city, including the planning and opening of the Asper Jewish Community Campus. Other acquisitions include panoramic photos of the city's garment industry and mutual aid societies from the 1920s and photo albums from the I.L. Peretz School.

Working with a summer employee and volunteers has led to a significant reduction of the backlog of unprocessed archival materials. These records are now described in the online database and stored in improved arrangements for long-term preservation. Volunteer work

has also enabled the reference material for the Holocaust Education Centre to be catalogued online.

Research requests have continued at an average of three to five per week. Once again, genealogical topics make up more than half of all requests. Other research topics from the year included Jewish mayors in Canada, farm settlements, the history of B'nai Brith Canada and two separate documentaries on the history of two Jewish families and their immigration to Canada.

Additional accomplishments included research and digitization for the production of the upcoming volume of Jewish Life and Times. An article highlighting a few interesting photographs from the collection was published in the Jewish Post and News.

A big thanks to Bert Schaffer who has been an invaluable volunteer!

#### **Programs & Exhibits**

#### Chair, Daniel Stone Director of Programs and Exhibits Stan Carbone

The Programs and Exhibits Committee was pleased to schedule in-person programs for the first time since the outbreak of the Covid pandemic. We also discovered during the pandemic that virtual programs have their advantages, especially in allowing us to invite out-of-town speakers. As a result, we started scheduling both kinds of programs and expect to continue this mixed programming in future years. In all, we organized, or shared organization of, six programs in 2022-23, ranging from the Holocaust to architecture to rock & jazz.

The lingering effects of the Covid pandemic have prevented mounting as many exhibits in our display windows as we have in the past. Nevertheless, Programs and Exhibits Director, Curator Stan Carbone, installed three smaller exhibits. He also directed research for a major exhibit on Jewish Communal Life and the Role of Women that will open in Fall 2024. Stan has also been involved in many other aspects of the JHC's work, notably the refurbishment of the Holocaust Education Centre and historical vignettes published in the JHC Newsletter.

I would like to thank the members of the Programs and Exhibits Committee for their participation and ideas and, especially, Stan Carbone, for his invaluable contributions. The cooperation and participation of Executive Director Belle Jarniewski and Archivist Andrew Morrison contributed greatly to our activities.

#### **Recent Acquisitions: New Treasures in our Collection**



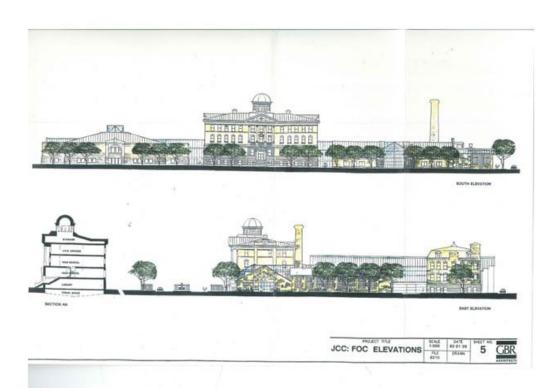
Land title of Jacob Schweiden, 1918. (2023-16 donated by Jackie Sweiden)



Travel documents of Jacob Schweiden, 1906 (2023-16 by Jackie Sweiden)



Annual Picnic of the Perth Dye Works Ltd. August 4, 1930. (2023-3 donated by Lillian Duboff)



Architectural drawing for proposed Jewish Community Campus, 1993. (JHC 878 F 5 donated by Jewish Federation of Winnipeg)

#### **Board of Directors**

#### **Executive Board Members**

President: Mark Kantor

Immediate Past President: Daniel Stone

Treasurer: Harlan Abells

Chair, Programs & Exhibits Committee: Daniel Stone

Chair, Archives & Acquisitions Committee: Amy Karlinsky Chair, Holocaust Education Committee: Belle Jarniewski

#### **Members At Large**

Edward Lyons, Lynn Roseman, Marvin Samphir, Susan Freig, Ben Waldman, Mason Grusko.

#### **Emeritus Board Members**

Abe Anhang

Maurice Steele z''l

Honorary President Maurice Steele z"l

**Honorary Counsel** Neil Duboff

#### Staff

#### **Executive Director**

Belle Jarniewski BEd MA

#### **Director of Programs and Exhibits**

Stan Carbone BA (Hons) MA

#### **Archivist**

Andrew Morrison BA MISt

#### Past Presidents of the JHCWC

Roz Usiskin

Gerry Posner

Louis Kessler

**Rona Davies** 

Abe Anhang

Charlie Sitwell

Sergio Glogowskii

Dr. Daniel Stone

#### Past Presidents of the Jewish Historical Society

A. Montague Israels Q.C.

Dr. Isadore Wolch

Harry Gutkin

Roz Usiskin

#### **Past Honorary Presidents**

Sol Kanee OC OM

Harold Buchwald CM QC

Abe Anhang

#### **Committees**

#### **Archives and Acquisitions**

#### **Holocaust Education**

Amy Karlinsky	Belle Jarniewski	Rose Aziman
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Joel Novek Bella Ben-Ari Shelley Chochinov

Susan Billinkoff Reva Craven Rietta Floom

Sharon Graham David Gisser Phyllis Laveman

Amy Karlinsky Kelly Hiebert Adeena Lungen

Andrew Morrison Sonja Iserloh Karlee Sapoznik-Evans

Eran Plotnik Sharon Goszer Tritt

Mimi Singer Bella Weinberg

Leslie Wilder

#### **Programs and Exhibits**

Stan Carbone

Terri Cherniak

Michael Eskin

Sid Robinovitch

Bruce Sarbit

Ray Singer

Lionel Steiman

Daniel Stone

Chana Thau

Susan Turner

#### **Genealogy Institute**

Lynn Roseman

#### Sol and Florence Kanee Distinguished Lecture

Mark Kantor

Mason Grusko

Belle Jarniewski

Marvin Samphir

Daniel Stone

Ben Waldman

#### A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

#### Donations received from September 2022 through August 2023:

#### \$10,000 to \$15,000

**Asper Foundation** Azrieli Foundation Freeman Foundation Legacy Fund Mary Ann (Kanee) Lippay

#### Daniel and Kay Stone Hart Pollack & Nancy Chappell Pollack Mark and Jill Kantor)

Jewish Federation of Winnipeg

Jeff Itzkow and Cathy Moser

#### \$5000 to \$9,999

Abe and Barbara Anhang Deborah Gray Len Steingarten

#### \$2500 to \$4999

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#### \$500 - \$999

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Ellen and Danny Hamburg

Our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions

### New Donations to the Following Endowment Funds at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba

Morris and Eleanor Burke

Carmela Shragge Finkel Holocaust Awareness Fund

Barbara and Adam Goszer

Sarah and Maier Henoch

Mickey and Rita Hoch

Belle Jarniewski Fund for Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism

Betty & Morris (Michael) Kirshner

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Rita and Sheldon Margolis

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Jack & Phyllis Newman 50th Wedding Anniversary

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Sam & Tzena (Lena) Shore Memorial Fund

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Patty & Sheldon Lapkin

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Rabbi Samuel Polonsky Family Reunion

Yudasha & Shmerya Posner Archival Fund

Maurice & Patricia Steele

Fay & Clifford z"I Swartz & Family

David & Heather Vickar in memory of Morris & Ann Vickar

Larry & Tova Vickar, Children and Grandchildren

#### Financial Statements 2022-2023

To view the financial statements please click here

#### THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND PARTNERS































Freeman Family Legacy Fund