

# ROOTS

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA

ROSH HASHANA 5777



THE KING DAVID CIRCLE  
VISITS THE UNITED NATIONS

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# NATIONAL PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**JERRY WERGER**  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT



**JOSH COOPER**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Welcome to the Fall edition of Roots. We are very excited to share what is happening with JNF across Canada and Israel. We continue to be successful due to the generosity and support from our volunteers and donors. We are continuing to build, strengthen and revitalize the Land of Israel.

This edition of Roots will give you an opportunity to read about the outstanding Negev Dinners that took place this year, get a view on our exclusive King David Circle trip to the United Nations

in New York, get a look at some of our available projects, along with seeing all the hard work our regions have done and more.

This year JNF will raise funds through the High Holiday appeal for the youth centre in Bnei Netzarim. Located on the border with Egypt and in close proximity to Gaza, Bnei Netzarim was founded by Gush Katif evacuees. These pioneers understood the importance of the Negev and put their roots in the sand. With the help of JNF, this barren land has begun

to prosper.

It is our privilege to be part of an organization whose 115-year-old mandate is to be the sole agency responsible for the development and infrastructure of land in Israel. As JNF grows, we are able to support and preserve the State of Israel for future generations.

From our families to yours, we would like to wish all of you a Chag Sameach and a happy, healthy and sweet new year to come. Shana Tovah!

## **4 KING DAVID CIRCLE VISITS THE UNITED NATIONS**

## **5 FRANKLIN SIMKEVITZ Z"L**

## **6 JNF U**

## **7 AN ARAVA EXPERIENCE**

## **9 HIGH HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN**

## **10 JNF MISSIONS**

## **12 2016 NEGEV HONOUREES**

## **41 EDUCATION DEPT. UPDATE**

## **42 AVAILABLE PROJECTS**

## **JNF ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

### **14 VANCOUVER**

### **16 CALGARY**

### **18 EDMONTON**

### **20 WINNIPEG**

### **22 TORONTO**

### **30 HAMILTON**

### **31 WINDSOR**

### **32 LONDON**

### **33 REGIONAL ONTARIO**

### **34 OTTAWA**

### **36 MONTREAL**

### **40 ATLANTIC**

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# JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA WISHES YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR







# KING DAVID CIRCLE VISITS THE UNITED NATIONS

In May 2016, the King David Circle had its annual gathering in New York City. Past Negev Dinner Honourees gathered from across Canada to attend an exciting few days. The purpose of the trip was to recognize and thank past honourees for their significant leadership and commitment to JNF Canada. The event opened with everyone gathering at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel and the first stop was the Neue Gallery which was opened especially for the group who received a private tour, including Gustav Klimt's famous "Lady in Gold" portrait. From there, it was off to Ambassador Ido Aharoni's home. Ambassador Aharoni is Israel's Consul General to the Tri-State Area and he hosted a dinner reception

and offered a very interesting presentation.

The next day was devoted to the U.N. The group was given a tour of the building including the General Assembly

**THE PURPOSE OF THE GATHERING WAS TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK SOME OF THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE HELPED TO MAKE JNF CANADA WHAT IT IS TODAY.**

and the Security Council. The tour was given by Hadas Meitzad, Counsellor for Political Affairs. The group received

four very interesting and eye opening briefings by Ambassador Danny Danon – Israel's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the U.N., Ambassador Marc-André Blanchard – Canada's Permanent Representative to the U.N., Ambassador Michael Grant – Canada's Deputy Permanent Representative to the U.N. and Yotam Goren – First Secretary in the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations and currently Vice Chair of the U.N. Fifth Committee. The event concluded with a dinner hosted by Ambassador David Roet – Israel's Deputy Permanent Representative to the U.N. This event was attended by many Israeli and Canadian diplomats working in the UN. What an unforgettable experience!





# FRANKLIN SIMKEVITZ <sup>Z"l</sup>

Franklin Simkevitz was a well-known name and face in the cities of Hamilton, London and Windsor, as well as the Jewish communities of Regional Ontario for many years. As a consummate community professional, Frank served the regional Ontario Jewish community with dedication and passion during his time as Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund - Regional Ontario.

Frank was passionate about Israel and the Jewish National Fund, reaching out to and visiting the smaller communities throughout Ontario, from Kingston to Windsor, from Niagara Falls to Thunder Bay, ensuring they maintained a strong relationship with the State of Israel. He worked tirelessly and seemingly effort-

lessly as he travelled around, educating people about the work of JNF. Frank visited Jewish and non-Jewish communities, Rotary Clubs and more, encouraging people to visit Israel and see first-hand the wonderful work of JNF and how Israel is so different than it is portrayed in the media. He took scores of people on missions to Israel with JNF and saw people fall in love with the country.

"Frank was esteemed by his co-workers and was considered to be my right hand man. I could always go to Frank for insight and heart felt advice," quoted Josh Cooper, CEO of JNF Canada. He worked in partnership with the Presidents, Boards of Directors, volunteers and do-

nors of his region. He was kind and fair to his staff, always ensuring them that their lives and their families came first. Frank was a leader, a mentor to many, a mensch to all, and a true friend to all who knew him.

Frank leaves behind his mother Eleanor, to whom he was very devoted, and his beloved wife, Elaine. He was the loving father and father-in-law of Howard Simkevitz and Laura Fisch, and Steven Simkevitz and Lihor Abraham-Simkevitz, dear brother and brother-in-law of Judy and Paul Kupferstein and devoted grandfather of Zoe, Eden, Margot and Jonah.

Frank will be profoundly missed. May his memory be a blessing.







# JNFU

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

JNF University (JNFU) is excited to launch our program for the 2016-2017 academic year! JNFU will bring programs to campus that are educational, fun and showcase Israel's achievements in a positive light. Students will be exposed to the history of JNF and how Israeli communities have benefited from the projects brought to fruition by JNF Canada.

Students who are part of the JNFU Leadership Development Program will interact with professionals from

Israel through monthly webinars. These webinars expose students to different and unique projects happening within Israel on a daily basis. Students will also be paired with young professionals who are in their field of study. These young professionals will serve as mentors for the JNFU students and will be available to them throughout the academic year. The Leadership Development Program will begin in October and will conclude with a JNFU Mission to Israel in May. As noted by Joshua Clarke, who attended

the Mission in 2016, "It's much easier to convince people about Israel once you have seen the country with your own eyes."

The JNFU program empowers students by strengthening their resolve to support Israel through education, social events and experiencing Israel firsthand.

If you would like to apply for the JNFU Leadership Development program please check out our website at [jnfu.ca](http://jnfu.ca)



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET INVOLVED,  
CONTACT ANNA KOS, CAMPUS & YOUNG LEADERSHIP COORDINATOR:  
[ANNA.KOS@JNF.CA](mailto:ANNA.KOS@JNF.CA) OR CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.JNFU.CA](http://WWW.JNFU.CA)**





# AN ARAVA EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME THANKS TO JNFU



## JUSTIN POLGAR

This past year, I completed my first academic year at the University of Waterloo studying Environmental Science, specializing in Ecology. I was also a fellow for the inaugural year of JNFU, a program that encourages the fellows to promote Israeli accomplishments on university and college campuses. Through JNFU, I was offered a position to work in the Arava alongside Dr. Oded Keynan as a field assistant. Oded has been studying the behaviour of the Arabian Babbler birds in the Shezaf Reserve near Hatzeva for years. For the past two and a half months, equipped with my bicycle, binoculars and

bread, I have been helping Oded and the team with the observations.

The Arava is the lowland part of the desert between the Dead Sea and Eilat. Despite its harsh climate and average summer temperatures climbing over 35°C, all sorts of plants and animals thrive in this environment.

The Arabian Babbler is the only social bird that lives in Israel year round. They are also no more afraid of humans than they are of gazelles and they are poor flyers. These things allow for humans to approach the babblers and for us to be within inches of the birds to observe the

fine details of their behaviour. Such close observations are not possible with any other bird unless caged.

On an average day, I leave my apartment just before 5 am to be sure to see a group of babblers before first light, as they are coming down from their roost tree. Seeing the orange sunrise every morning and experiencing the impressive desert wildlife has made me fall in love with the desert. All in all, I feel that I have experienced the intense beauty of the Arava in a meaningful and unique way.



## JONAH COOPER

I am entering my second year of Health Sciences at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo. I am currently completing an eight-week internship at the Central Arava Research and Development Centre in Hatzeva, Israel. I came to the Arava to explore the development of and potential treatments for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) in the laboratory of Dr. Niva Russek-Blum.

While working on ALS research, I am using zebrafish as the model organism since it shares 70% of its genome with humans. For treatments, I mostly experimented with a peptide, the result of which is now on its way to being published as an ALS preventative measure in collaboration with Dr. Rivki Ofir.

The next generation software that is available in these laboratories amazes me;

some of which are difficult to find even within well-established, North American facilities. This software and much of the equipment and student scholarships in the Central Arava R&D in Hatzeva, were made possible due to the generosity of the JNF donors.

I heard about the fantastic scientific and technological discoveries being made in Israel. However, to have the privilege of working alongside top researchers makes these stories more real to me. I am so grateful for the incredible research opportunity that I have been provided with by volunteering as an intern researcher in the Arava. It has allowed me to not only be part of this groundbreaking research center, but to learn more about myself and make friends from all over the world.





# HIGH SCHOOL IN ISRAEL



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**18-WEEK SEMESTER SESSIONS:**

Spring 2017 Jan. 22-May 25, 2017

Fall 2017 Aug. 27-Dec. 29, 2017

**8 -WEEK ACADEMIC SESSIONS:**

December 2016 Nov. 29/16-Jan. 24/17

Poland/Israel 2017 Jan. 31-Mar. 31/17

April 2017 Apr. 19-Jun. 15/17

December 2017 Nov. 28/17-Jan. 23/18

**6 - WEEK SUMMER SESSIONS:**

Summer 2017 Jun. 21/17 - Aug. 2/17

Contact AMHSI Canadian Director of Admissions for more information:

Jacqueline Smolyar E: [jackie@jnf.ca](mailto:jackie@jnf.ca) T: 416-638-7200 x130





## 2016 HIGH HOLIDAY PROJECT

# HELP JNF CANADA ENHANCE THE LIVES FOR THOSE LIVING ON THE BORDER WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW YOUTH CENTRE

One of the finest examples of the pioneering spirit in Israel can be found in the community of Bnei Neztarim. It is located in the Western Negev on the border with Egypt and quite close to Gaza. The community was built by those evacuated from Gaza and now there are families from all over Israel joining them. They built a beautiful community from out of the sand with schools, a synagogue, farms, playgrounds and more. One of the great challenges of living in the

periphery is providing recreational opportunities for the children. With your help, JNF will build a youth centre which will be a hub of activity. It will offer a range of recreational activities for a variety of age groups. The success of this new community is dependent upon ensuring that the youth are well cared for and have opportunities for enrichment and recreation.

Strengthening communities on Israel's borders is vital to Israel's long term

safety. You can play a role in building the social infrastructure of a community populated with individuals who are selflessly committed to the Israeli strategy of placing communities in desolate locations along the border. The IDF has recently identified numerous security issues in Sinai, so it is vitally important to have strong communities along the border with Egypt.

**CONTRIBUTE TO THE SAFETY OF THESE CHILDREN BY DONATING TO JNF'S 2016 HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL**







JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA

# MISSIONS<sup>TO</sup> ISRAEL

**OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 14, 2016**  
**ISRAEL & AMSTERDAM**

Participants will have the opportunity to experience a Jewish Heritage visit to Amsterdam and then continue on to Israel for a “first class” tour of unique sites and visits not accessible on a regular tour.

**NOVEMBER 6 – NOVEMBER 10, 2016**  
**CULINARY & ADVENTURE**

A trip for those who love food, wine and outdoor adventure, Explore Israel on bikes, volunteer in a forest, enjoy a dragon boat experience, hard core army training and Israeli culture through food, wine and more.

**JANUARY 13 – JANUARY 18, 2017**  
**JEWISH UNITY MISSION**

Participants will examine how Israel unifies the Jewish people with influential Rabbis from across Canada leading the mission. Explore the development of a new Israeli Judaism with top Israeli academics, rabbis and community leaders. Study sacred Jewish text with scholars from across the spectrum and visit sites off the beaten path.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**SHARON.LEHRER@JNF.CA 1-866-775-1563 WWW.JNF.CA**



**FEBRUARY 3 – FEBRUARY 12, 2017**

## **CALGARY PHILHARMONIC**

Tour the sites of Israel while at the same time enjoy an opera performance of Lucia di Lammermoor, the Chamber of Music Ensemble in a private home, a recital with students from AICF and JAMO and a concert featuring Roberta Minczuk conducting the Israel Symphony Orchestra. A musical experience of a lifetime.

**FEBRUARY 26 – MARCH 9, 2017**

## **THROUGH A WOMAN'S EYES**

This special women's trip offers a new view of an old land! It will highlight the best of Israeli culture, art, design as well as experiencing Israeli wineries, the diverse and exiting culinary scene and fantastic shopping excursions. This trip will expand perceptions of Israel beyond traditional and religious ties to include the new, vibrant and dynamic aspects of our beloved homeland.

**MARCH 5 – MARCH 13, 2017**

## **SMALL COMMUNITY MISSION**

This is all about giving people a unique Israel experience. It is geared for those who have never been to Israel before or who have not been in quite some time. This trip is for Jews and non-Jews alike.

**MAY 21 – MAY 26, 2017**

## **KING DAVID CIRCLE**

The annual gathering of the King David Circle will take place in Israel to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Reunification of Jerusalem. This unforgettable experience will include a ceremony on Yom Yerushalayim with special seating with the Prime Minister of Israel, a private visit with the President of Israel, a unique tour and dinner under the Kotel walls not yet visited by the public.





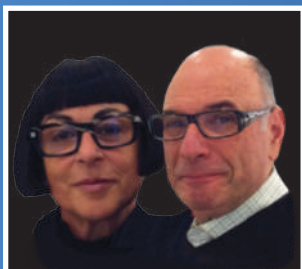


# MEET OUR 2016 NEGEV DINNER HONOUREEES



**SHIRLEY BARNETT**  
VANCOUVER

A dedicated community leader, Shirley's determination has impacted numerous organizations. She has served on the Board of Directors of Jewish Family Service, Advisory Committee to the Dean of Arts at U.B.C, founded the Hebrew Free Loan Association, and has co-chaired campaigns for the Jewish Community Centre, the Jewish Museum & Archives of BC, and the Odd Squad Production Society. Shirley chaired the restoration of the old Jewish Cemetery at Mountain View and currently sits on The Schara Tzedek Cemetery and Jewish Museum & Archives boards. She is the proud mother of Jonathan & David and grandmother to six little ones.



**CAROL & LARRY ZYL  
RYDER** CALGARY

Together Carol and Larry z"l seemed to put more hours into volunteering than exist in a day. Every one of their efforts has made each organization stronger and their philanthropy has embraced the Jewish community and far beyond. From the arts to the environment, education and health care, Carol and Larry have helped make Calgary a world-class city of commerce, compassion and creativity. They have always volunteered within every part of Calgary and beyond, were broad in nature, bold in scope and deftly encompassed the corporate and social fabric of Calgary.



**DR. JAMES SHAPIRO**  
EDMONTON

James Shapiro, was born in Leeds, England and obtained his medical degree at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. He is currently a Canadian Research Chair in transplantation and the Director of the Clinical Islet Transplant Program at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada. He is Professor of Surgery, Medicine and Surgical Oncology. James is known for developing the Edmonton Protocol, an islet transplantation technique which has allowed many severe diabetics to stop taking insulin entirely, although the duration of this insulin independence does vary. James continues to lead the Edmonton team which is by far the most successful and active islet transplant program worldwide.



**PETER LEIPSIC**  
WINNIPEG

Peter Leipsic, is one of the most respected and renowned figures in the insurance industry in Manitoba and has been an active and appreciated member of the community for many years. He has an extensive record of national and local community service including leadership positions with: the Jewish National Fund, Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, Heart and Stroke Foundation and The Red Cross, just to name a few. Peter's commitment to protect others both as a professional and as a philanthropist inspired him to support the Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence in Rishon LeZion, Israel.







**RON FOXCROFT**  
HAMILTON

Ron is an outstanding Canadian who has made great contributions to the business, sporting, educational and cultural framework of Hamilton and Burlington. He is an internationally respected entrepreneur who leads by example. He has been a great friend of the Jewish Community and an ongoing supporter of the State of Israel. Named Citizen of the Year in both Burlington and Hamilton, Ron has been recognized in many different ways through awards, including B'nai Brith Canada, and several halls of fame for both business and sports. He has devoted a lifetime of time and resources to scores of charitable and not-for-profit initiatives.



**DAVID SHORE**  
LONDON

David Shore is the London, Ontario born, Emmy award winning creator of the TV series House. After several years of practicing law in Toronto, he moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career as a writer. David has written for The Practice, was a producer on Law & Order and executive producer for Family Law and Hack. He is currently executive producer of the Amazon original series Sneaky Pete and of extremely popular Houdini and Doyle. David and his wife Judy are helping to create a better world through their dedicated work with the Save a Child's Heart Foundation in Israel. He has raised awareness of the foundation's work among people in the film and TV world.



**BARBARA FARBER**  
OTTAWA

Barbara Farber, President of Leikin Group - a commercial real estate company, is a prominent business leader and community builder. Chair of the Ottawa Heart Institute Foundation, Barbara is also a former National President of United Israel Appeal Federations Canada and founding Chair of both the Queensway Carleton Hospital Foundation and Algonquin College Foundation Board. She is a member of the Ottawa Community Foundation, a former Governor on the Algonquin College Board and Ottawa Airport Authority Board. Barbara has received the 2010 Business Woman of the Year Award by Consumers' Choice Awards, and the Queen Elizabeth II Gold and Diamond Jubilee Medals.



**ALEX EISEN**  
TORONTO

Alex Eisen was born in Krakow in 1927. After having experienced and witnessed the terrors of the Holocaust, he arrived in Canada in 1948. In Toronto he has become well known as a dedicated pioneer on behalf of numerous causes including: JNF, State of Israel Bonds, Beit Halochem, Reena, the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, the Israeli Holocaust Institute Massuah and many more. Alex Eisen is the only Canadian honoured by the United States Congress on behalf of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. He assumed a leadership role in erecting the Holocaust Monument in Earl Bales Park. Alex has also conceived and spearheaded a major campaign to create "Megillat Hashoah: The Shoah Scroll." Alex has a special place in his heart for Israeli soldiers. Therefore, he chose to dedicate the proceeds of the Negev campaign to the construction of a rehabilitation centre for wounded veterans in Ashdod.

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LAWN SIGN  
CAMPAIGN**

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# JNF VANCOUVER



NEGEV DINNER 2016 PROJECT: THE VANCOUVER SHELTER

## RECORD BREAKING NEGEV DINNER



The Jewish National Fund of Canada, Pacific Region held its Negev Dinner on April 10, 2016. This year's sold out event honoured Shirley Barnett, a dedicated community leader. Guests attending the gala at the Four Seasons Hotel in downtown Vancouver were

joined by several dignitaries, including the Premier of BC, Christy Clark and enjoyed a special performance from Israeli trumpet player, Arik Davidov.

We are pleased to report that this year's Negev Dinner raised \$1 million, a historic fundraising milestone for the

Pacific Region. These funds will be used to rebuild a shelter in Rishon Le Zion which will be named the Vancouver Shelter. It will be operated by the Israeli nonprofit organization, "No to Violence Against Women" who work with women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

**JNF VANCOUVER OFFICE**  
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**ROOTS**





A special thank you to all those who made this year's Negev Dinner a record breaking year. In particular, many thanks to all our valued donors, our

honouree, Shirley Barnett, our emcee, Shane Foxman, our dinner chairs, Ilene-Jo Bellas and Bernice Carmeli, our convenors, Shirley Schwartz and Penny

Sprackman and to all our Negev Dinner committee and Board members.

## L'DOR VADOR, ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

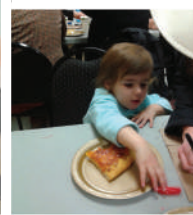


JNF Future, the young adult arm of JNF Pacific Region, has been working in partnership with several other Jewish organizations to engage the next generation. In January, we partnered with the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver to host an event for families with young children for Tu Bi'Shevat. In March, we connected with the Louis Brier Home & Hospital for a Purim pizza party which brought together multiple generations and included a costume parade.

For July, we worked with the Jewish

Museum & Archives of BC to host a family friendly walking tour which highlighted historical landmarks of the Jewish community in Vancouver. In August, JNF Future held its 7th annual Summer Sail, a harbour cruise for young adults. The cruise featured a "Love Boat" theme for Tu B'Av.

In the coming months, we will be hosting a cocktail party in November for couples, while December will feature our annual JNF Future Hanukkah/New Year's event in partnership with Axis, which promises to be one of the best parties in town.



## MAZEL TOV AND WELCOME TO JNF!

On August 25, 2016, the President of the Pacific Region changed from Frank Sirlin to David Goldman. We thank Frank for his hard work and dedication and welcome David to the ever

growing JNF family. In addition, a hearty mazel tov to our JNF staff member, Moran Nir and her family on the arrival of their son, Daniel, who was born on Mother's Day.





# JNFCALGARY



2016 NEGEV GALA PROJECT: THE CAROL & LARRY Z"l RYDER INDOOR TERRACE, JERUSALEM

## CONCERT THRILLS NEGEV GALA AUDIENCE



This year's Negev Gala, in honour of Carol and Larry z"l Ryder, took place in the beautiful Jack Singer Hall on May 12, 2016 with a fine Israeli inspired performance by the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. The Orchestra was under the direction of the dynamic young Israel conductor Daniel Cohen and featured Israeli soloist Avi Avital, considered one of the world's leading classical mandolin players. Funds raised for the Negev Gala this year were directed to a visionary urban development in Jerusalem named The Carol & Larry z"l Ryder Indoor Terrace. This involves the redevelopment of the rather tired Klal

Centre in downtown Jerusalem which is being done in partnership with the Jerusalem Foundation of Canada.

Established in 2009, Muslala is a non-profit organization that has a strong community based arts and environmental focus. It is a place where people can visit, play, create art, attend performances and learn. Part of it consists of an indoor cultural hub that will contain studio and performance spaces and workshops. There is room for office space for organizations that have partnership projects with Muslala. There will be learning spaces and a library open to the public, as well as

cafes, boutiques and nearby food stalls. A spectacular feature will be the urban green roof that will be transformed into a green oasis in downtown Jerusalem. Only the imagination can limit what takes place here, but planners expect it to become a place for ecological workshops, experimental urban farming and home to the Jerusalem Beekeeping Association. The whole plan is a daring adventure at creating new ways for Jerusalem to interact and seek creative pathways to explore modern urban living in what is often a troubled region.

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ROOTS





## YOUNGEST PERSON RECEIVES JNF CALGARY SHEM TOV AWARD

On June 22, 2016 Jacob Gurevitch was presented with the Calgary community Shem Tov Award for his leadership and support of JNF Calgary. Jacob is a very special and unique grade 9 student and his involvement with JNF was evident during the Tu Bi'Shevat telethon. His motivation to succeed was infectious and he achieved remarkable results for the Tu Bi'shevat campaign

and willingly volunteered for the Negev Gala. His role is now cemented with JNF Calgary, and Jacob has now been appointed "The JNF Canada Youth Ambassador for Calgary". With his unwavering belief in the organization, his dedicated spirit and his love of Israel, Jacob will inspire others of his generation to get involved, visit Israel and be part of the future of JNF young leadership in Calgary.

## UPCOMING 2016/17 CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER, 2016 IT'S BLUE BOX MONTH!

FILL 'EM UP & DROP 'EM OFF AT THE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL AT THE JNF BOOTH OR AT THE JCC.

### FEBRUARY 2 - 12 MUSICAL TRIP TO ISRAEL

WITH THE CALGARY PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.

### FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 9 A WOMENS ONLY TRIP TO ISRAEL

TRIP TO ISRAEL, BETH PRICE CHAIRMAN.

### FEBRUARY 12 TU BI'SHEVAT TELETHON

ANSWER THE CALL, OR CONTACT THE OFFICE TO PLANT YOUR TREES BEFORE YOU BECOME A SNOW-BIRD!

### FEBRUARY 13 LAUGH YOURSELF SILLY

JNF FUTURE TU BI'SHEVAT COMMUNITY EVENT

### MAY 10 NEGEV GALA

HONOURING AL OSTEN

### AUGUST 27 3RD ANNUAL PITCH FOR ISRAEL

JNF FUTURE SOFTBALL COMMUNITY EVENT

## NOVEMBER IS BLUE BOX MONTH!

NOW'S THE TIME TO FILL 'EM UP AND DROP 'EM OFF AT THE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL OR THE JCC

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WE WELCOME OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS: CHERYL GUREVITCH, BOAZ SHILMOVER & JESSICA SWITZER



JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CALGARY

# NEGEV DINNER

IS PROUD TO HONOUR

# AL OSTEN

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017



WWW.JNF.CA

17



# JNF EDMONTON



2011 NEGEV DINNER PROJECT: JACK AND MARILYN COHEN - FAMILY SOLDIER MEETING PLACE AND RECREATION AREA



## NEGEV GALA HONOURING DR. JAMES SHAPIRO M.D., PH.D., FRCSC

The Jewish community of Edmonton gathered on June 23, 2016 to honour Dr. James Shapiro at this year's 2016 Negev Gala. Dr. Shapiro was honoured for his ground breaking achievements and continued research in the treatment of diabetes. He is specifically known for the development and implementation of an islet transplantation technique known as the 'Edmonton Protocol.'

Dr. Shapiro was an excellent choice as an honouree because much of his research and work displays a strong connection between Israel and Edmonton, an ideal partnership for the JNF of Edmonton.

Some of the highlights of the evening were the very personal testimonials and tributes to Dr. Shapiro's work by members of our own Edmonton Jewish community: Stephen Mandel, and Sari Leung. In touching moments both Stephen and Sari were brought to tears when describing their own personal

relationships with Dr. Shapiro and how his work and his care had improved their lives. A former Mayor of the City of Edmonton, Stephen Mandel added, "The City of Edmonton owes you a great deal of gratitude; we thank you tremendously for this (the Edmonton Protocol)."

After a brief introduction from Global TV's Mike Sobel, Dr. Shapiro and Mike shared the stage and engaged in a discussion on Dr. Shapiro's life, his work, and the intricacies of the Edmonton Protocol and diabetes research. Sobel moderated the discussion brilliantly making the always-humble Dr. Shapiro feel comfortable and open up. Sobel and Dr. Shapiro were able to keep their conversation light, including jokes and funny anecdotes here and there; Dr. Shapiro noted he used the name Edmonton Protocol because of a Robert Ludlum book he was reading at the time, and the name just stuck.

In many ways Dr. Shapiro demonstrates what so many of us hold near and dear about the city of Edmonton and our community. Like so many Edmonton success stories, he has remained something of a hidden gem, doing amazing work, receiving global recognition but remaining humble and dedicated to his cause more than anything else.

The 2016 Negev Gala was in support of the Arava Research Development Centre, in particular the Biotechnology and Medical Plant Laboratory. Proceeds from the Gala will also help support continued research initiatives and collaborations between Dr. James Shapiro and the Institute of Medical Research Israel-Canada. Thank you to Norman Schayer, Honourary Chair, as well as Dr. Errol Raff, Campaign Chair, for their hardwork and dedication.

By Dan Moser of Edmonton Jewish News

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**ROOTS**





# JNF EDMONTON WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

JNF is the definition of a grassroots organization. From humble beginnings JNF continues to set and achieve goals with the help of strong lay leadership. Dedicated volunteers can truly make a difference and help in guiding their local offices strategize and execute campaigns and events. Thank you to the outgoing board members and we welcome the new members.

## Thank you to outgoing board members:

Karen Farkas, Gary Goldsand, Erin Isman, Abe Pelioski and Alan Richter.

## JNF Edmonton welcomes new board members:

Sharon Bookhalter, Dan Kacew, Reisa Segal, Jane Soifer and Erin Wright.

# JNF CELEBRATES YOM HA'AZTMAUT AND YOM YERUSHALAYIM



JNF celebrates Yom Ha'aztmaut and Yom Yerushalayim at local community events to promote Israel awareness. Michelle and Sam Marcushamer represented JNF in a torch lighting ceremony for Yom Ha'atzmait on Sunday, May 12, 2016 and on Sunday, June 5, the Jewish community marched from Talmud Torah to the Beth Israel waving flags and cheering in celebration of Yom Yerushalayim.



# JNF WINNIPEG



NEGEV GALA 2016 PROJECT: IN SUPPORT OF A SHELTER FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR "NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN"

## NEGEV GALA HONOURING PETER LEIPSIC

On Tuesday May 31, 2016 at the Centennial Concert Hall, our community gathered with extraordinary attendance for the 63rd annual Negev Gala honouring Peter Leipsic.

The evening started with a VIP reception attended by major sponsors and supporters of the Gala. Following the concert, there was a delicious dessert reception served for all attendees and supporters to enjoy.

The Masters of Ceremony were JNF Board President Karla Berbrayer and Vice-President, Jessica Cogan. They laid out the order of proceedings for the evening. The Canadian and Israeli National anthems were performed by the Yona Choir led by Lina Streltsov.

The Honourable Heather Stefanson, Deputy Premier, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Manitoba brought greetings on behalf of the Provincial Government and Mayor Brian Bowman on behalf of the City of Winnipeg. Josh Cooper, JNF National CEO, offered remarks on behalf of the organization. He questioned why the demonstrators outside of the concert hall were protesting against the development of a shelter for abused women



and their children which serves women regardless of their ethnicity, religion, or race. JNF is providing a wonderful social service for those in need and our work transforms the lives of all of the people of Israel. Finally Ariel Karabelnicoff, the Executive Director Manitoba and Saskatchewan Region brought his greetings.

Following the speeches, the Bloomfield Medal for dedicated JNF leader-

ship was presented to Mel Lazareck, past President and long-time JNF supporter. The President's Medal was presented to Karla Berbrayer who is stepping down after 4 years of service leading the JNF Manitoba and Saskatchewan Region. Karla will be taking the role of Past President of our region and Jessica Cogan is the incoming president.

A tribute video was screened, sharing

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Peter Leipsic's life story and his motivation to support the shelter for women and children, victims of domestic violence in Rishon LeZion, Israel. "Domestic violence is a serious problem worldwide and in Israel as well. When JNF presented me with this opportunity to help women and children to have a fresh start, it really touched my heart and it was a no brainer for me. Karen and I decided to support it", said Peter.

A Negev Gala Citation was presented to the honouree by the Negev Gala 2016 co-chairs Keith Jordan, President of Hub International, Mel Lazareck, Kerrie Halprin, Richard Leipsic and Michael Leipsic.

One of the most touching moments of the evening was Jonathon Leipsic remarks

introducing his father, Peter. There wasn't a dry eye in the hall while listening to the words of praise and appreciation for his father: "I am deeply honoured to be here tonight introducing my father as he receives this tremendous honour from the JNF and the very community he loves so deeply...thank you Dad for all that you have done for our family and for me personally, for the time and sacrifice and love, but also for having shown me the meaning of tzedakah through your daily actions. I could not have asked for a better role model."

The evening concluded with Matisyahu, one of the most famous Jewish Hip Hop Reggae stars.



## PETER LEIPSIC AND HIS FAMILY VISITED THE SHELTER FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN RISHON LEZION, ISRAEL



When Peter Leipsic had to choose a project to support in Israel, his approach was clear: "I want to help people to have a better life". During his visit to the Shelter for victims of domestic violence in Israel, he pointed out: "It is absolutely

wonderful to be able to support a project that is going to change lives. I believe in the Jewish way, you can put your hands down, and pull people up."

Peter Leipsic visited the shelter in Israel in April, 2016 with his wife Karen, his

son Jonathon, his daughter-in-law Karly and his grandchildren Isabella, Carsyn and Ty. Very touched by his experience, Ty shared that he would like to donate the money he saved for his trip to Israel to the shelter, so that the children can buy popsicles. The family members and the staff were so very moved and proud!

The entire family was thrilled to have visited the shelter. Seeing the conditions the women and children have to endure, Peter and Karen emphasized how important it was for their grandchildren to realize how lucky they are and it made them to want to help. They stated, "We need to help the battered women so there will be no more battered women and there will be no more children living in fear."





# JNF TORONTO



GOLF CLASSIC 2016 PROJECT: SECURE BEDROOMS FOR AUTISTIC YOUTH RESIDING AT ALUT, THE ISRAELI CENTRE FOR AUTISM, IN BEER SHEVA

## 2016 NEGEV DINNER HONOUREE ALEX EISEN

"I accepted this honour so that I could do more to support Israel. I was asked what project I wanted to support and I immediately said that I wanted to do something for wounded veterans. They are the defenders of Israel and the Jewish people. As a survivor, I want to adopt all of the young people serving. We must make every effort to help wounded veterans rebuild their lives."



Alex Eisen is a very worthy Negev Dinner honouree and his selection was overdue. He has been a tireless volunteer in the community for over 50 years. He is a Holocaust survivor who immigrated to Canada in 1948 and he quickly became a pioneer on behalf of a variety of important Canadian and Israeli causes. Alex is famous for always having tickets for a variety of charitable events in his coat and at the close of any meeting, you were sure to leave after having purchased a few of them! He is a man that is beloved by everyone because he has such a big heart. Although he

was a newcomer to Canada, he quickly became a pillar of the community leading organizations such as: JNF, State of Israel Bonds, Beit Halochem, Reena, the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, the Israeli Holocaust Institute Massuah and many more. Alex Eisen is the only Canadian honoured by the United States Congress on behalf of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Many Torontonians take it for granted that there is a memorial monument for those who perished in the Holocaust at Earl Bales Park. Alex was one of a handful of individuals who assumed a leadership

role in erecting this monument.

This Negev Campaign has a wonderful leadership team comprised of many of his family members and friends. Toby and Saul Feldberg, past Negev Dinner Honourees and long time friends, are chairing the campaign. They bring a great deal of experience and passion for Israel to this role. JNF Toronto is thrilled to pay tribute to a man who is truly deserving of being called a JNF Negev Dinner Honouree. We look forward to seeing you on November 20, 2016!

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF TORONTO

# NEGEV DINNER

IS PROUD TO HONOUR

# Alex Eisen

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2016  
METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE

JNFTORONTO.CA 416.638.7200 NEGEV@JNF.CA

## IN SUPPORT OF A NEW REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR WOUNDED VETERANS IN ASHDOD



Proceeds from the 2016 Negev Campaign will fund the physiotherapy and hydrotherapy wing serving wounded veterans at the soon to be built Beit Halochem Centre in Ashdod. This facility is dedicated to rehabilitating and rebuilding the lives of Israelis who

have become disabled in the line of duty or as victims of terror. Those who are severely wounded during their military service, require an individualized, intensive program from experienced physiotherapists and there is currently no such facility in or around Ashdod.

Thousands of wounded veterans will be treated at this new centre which will have a transformative effect upon their lives and the lives of their families. To make a donation to this project, please visit [www.jnftoronto.ca](http://www.jnftoronto.ca)





# GOLF CLASSIC



JNF Toronto's 15th Annual Golf Classic was held on June 6, 2016 at the spectacular Magna Golf Club in Aurora. A committee of dedicated volunteers under the chairmanship of Howard Davidson and Lloyd Pollack did a wonderful job of organizing the event. The tournament was sold out. We would like to express our appreciation to all of our generous sponsors and donors that allowed us to raise over \$140,000 of net revenue.

The funds raised from the Tournament

have been directed to Alut Village, the Israeli Center for Autism. JNF will build four new security bedroom spaces for 32 autistic youth whose needs are so severe that they require a residential home. They cannot run to a shelter within the critical 20 seconds of an alert in the middle of the night. During the last war, the residents were required to spend five weeks sleeping on mattresses on the floor of a bomb proof workshop. JNF will ensure that there are appropriate and safe facilities for these special young

people in the event of future hostilities. During peaceful periods, the bedrooms will be used for a variety of programs such as drama class, yoga, art, music and other recreational activities.

## HOLD THE DATE:

**16TH ANNUAL  
JNF GOLF CLASSIC  
MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2017  
LEBOVIC GOLF CLUB**

**THE TOURNAMENT WILL SELL OUT...  
RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW.**

**CALL THE JNF OFFICE AT: 416-638-7200**

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WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR TOP SUPPORTERS  
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## THE 9TH ANNUAL PITCH FOR ISRAEL

The ninth annual Pitch for Israel took place on Sunday, August 7, 2016 at the Powerade Centre. In partnership with OneFamily Fund for the fourth year, this community-wide softball tournament attracted 18 Mens and Co-Ed softball teams. Special mention to a few of our lead sponsors, Ganz Family Foundation, Assante Wealth Management, Fabricland, Harmony Youth Services, The Tylman Family and ONEX for helping make this day possible. Over \$40,000 of net proceeds, much of it raised through peer-peer on-line fundraising, will be allocated to the construction of the John Baird Park in Sderot and will also provide summer camp programs for Israeli victims of terror. Thank you to our wonderful and dedicated committee. This event would not be possible without our co-chairs: Perri Maxwell, Brittany Sud and Daniel Warner.



## CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS RIDE

JNF along with the Hard Chargers, a law enforcement, corrections based motorcycle club, organized the 6th annual Correctional Officers Ride (C.O.R.) on August 28, 2016. The ride raised \$16,000 in support of educational resources for the children of Israeli prison wardens who perished in the Carmel forest fire in 2010. Participants and their families enjoyed a lunch donated by PR Creative Caterers and a raffle with great prizes. Thank you to the over 65 riders and all of the volunteers for a successful program in support of a wonderful cause.



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# TECHSHUK

On June 28, 2016, JNF Future, in partnership with Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University, hosted the second annual Tech Shuk. Over 300 entrepreneurs and young professionals attended to learn about Canadian and Israeli start-up industries.

The event began with a demo pit showcasing over 25 local and Israeli start-ups while attendees had the opportunity to network and enjoy great food and drinks. The demo pit was followed by a presentation from Benjamin Dermer, Director of Inventor Relations at Spin Master and Cheryl Reicin, a partner at Torys LLP.

The event ended with a Dragons'

Den Style competition. Dash MD and Skrumble, two Canadian-based start-ups as well as Trendi Guru and RetiSpec, two Israeli based start-ups pitched their companies to an impressive group of judges: Janet Bannister - Real Ventures, Michael Hyatt - BlueCat Networks, Daniel Klass - Klass Capital, Sam Ifergan - iGan partners, David Shore - OurCrowd and Jason Silver - Airbnb.

The winner was RetiSpec, an early stage medical device start-up developing a non-invasive imaging tool for early detection of Alzheimer's disease. We also awarded the evening's "best start-up booth" to Greenspace.

With the help of our sponsors, attendees

and supporters including our presenting sponsor, The Asper Foundation, we raised approximately \$20,000 of net revenue to help fund the infrastructure for international graduate students from Tel Aviv University's Manna Centre for Food Security to study aquaculture at the Arava International Centre for Agriculture Training (AICAT). The goal of this project is to prepare the students to address the issues surrounding food scarcity in their home countries in the developing world. This is another of example of JNF and Israel serving as a light unto the nations.



## CELEBRATING YOM HA'ATZMAUT



All around Toronto, JNF Canada's Education Department was involved in celebrating and teaching about Israel's Independence Day - Yom Ha'atzmaut.

The Education Department set up stations so that elementary-aged children could enjoy a variety of Israel-based learning activities. JNF also facilitated the instruction of middle school-aged children who were learning about the Israeli Megilah - Declaration of independence. At the Tanenbaum CHAT Kimel campus, the JNF Education Shlichah,

Noa Friedman, took part in judging the final stage of "Project Israel", a meaningful year-round quiz about Israel and JNF.

We also took part in a variety of community events to mark Yom Ha'atzmaut. This included an interactive presentation for a retirement home and an educational photography exhibition, "Our Israel", that took place at the Schwartz Reisman JCC, sharing highlights of Israel through JNF's eyes. All in all, we had an exciting holiday commemorating Israel's Independence Day.





# COOK FOR A CAUSE

JNF's fifth annual Cook for a Cause took place on May 24, 2016 at the Forest Hill Jewish Centre.

This sold out event, catered by our lead sponsor PR Creative Caterers, raised funds toward building a dormitory for the students of the Arava International Center for Agriculture Training (AICAT). Located in the heart of the Arava desert, this program provides over one thousand students from more than a dozen different countries with exposure to Israel's agri-tech innovations and creative solutions to help them increase sustainable food security in their home countries. AICAT's students originate from various developing countries around the world including countries in South East Asia and Africa.

The evening began with mingling,

wine and hors d'oeuvres as well as a fabulous raffle table filled with incredible donations. Guests then had the opportunity to visit three different stations serving modern twists on our traditional Jewish recipes that would make our Bubbies proud! The menu included a healthy cauliflower kugel, a pulled brisket and a savoury orissa cholent. Each demonstration featured an instructional presentation by a chef and an explanation of the historical significance of the dish by a committee member along with a big helping of the food being discussed. Guests left full, happy and with a cook book including all the demonstrated recipes that they can use at their next simcha!

We look forward to continuing this great event for many years to come!



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THE  
DATE

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# JNF HAMILTON

## 64<sup>TH</sup> NEGEV DINNER PULLS OUT ALL THE BELLS AND WHISTLES



JNF Hamilton honoured Ron Foxcroft at the 64th Annual Negev Dinner on May 16, 2016 at Liuna Station. Co-chaired by Tom Weisz and Bill Morris, with the dinner's emcee veteran radio personality, Roy Green and world renowned entertainer, Andre Philippe Gagnon, it was a tremendous success!

More than 630 people attended, making this year's dinner the largest in several years. Funds raised by the dinner will build an outdoor pavilion and rest area at Yad LaYeled, the Children's Holocaust Education Museum in northern Israel.

Best known for his creation of the Fox40 whistle and his trucking and logistics company, Fluke Transportation, Ron Foxcroft is a great friend of the Jewish community and a strong supporter of the State of Israel. When Ron was given the details about the Yad LaYeled project, dedicated to the memory of the 1.5 million children who died in the Holocaust, without hesitation he selected the Children's Museum to be the beneficiary of the proceeds of this year's dinner.

Highlighted repeatedly throughout the evening was Mr. Foxcroft's humility, his dedication to family and community, and his resolute compassion. He commits his time and resources to scores of charitable and non-profit initiatives,

supporting causes in business, sports, education, healthcare, and culture. Much of his philanthropy is done quietly and behind the scenes, but the extent of his philanthropic involvement led Josh Cooper, CEO of JNF Canada, to remark, "I don't think I've ever seen a Tribute Book with letters from so many organizations!"

According to Dinner Co-Chair Tom Weisz, Ron Foxcroft "has been there for any cause, almost anywhere, that requires assistance and support."

Ron Foxcroft recently stepped down from his position as Honourary Colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's) and Ron and his wife Marie entered the banquet hall escorted by an Argyll piper, much to the delight of the entire room.

Speakers included Israel's Deputy Consul General Irit Stopper, MP David Sweet, MPP Ted McMeekin, Mayor of Burlington Rick Goldring, Hamilton Mayor Fred Eisenberger, JNF Canada CEO Josh Cooper, and Haim Goldstein, President of JNF Hamilton. After the speeches, Andre Philippe Gagnon – the man with a thousand voices – thrilled the audience with his musical impersonations of rock and roll greats through the decades.

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# JNF WINDSOR

## 2017 NEGEV DINNER HONOURING SHELDON AND BETHE JARCAIG

Jewish National Fund of Windsor is pleased to announce that the 2017 Negev Dinner will pay tribute to Sheldon and Bethe Jarcaig for their many years of communal leadership.

Sheldon Jarcaig, a respected member of the local Jewish community, has served as President of JNF Windsor and on the Board of Directors at the Windsor Jewish Federation. Sheldon is Vice President of Canadian Operations for Ferrous Processing and Trading Co., one of North America's premier Scrap Metal Processors and a Past President of the Canadian Association of Recycling Industries.

Bethe Jarcaig is currently the Chairperson of the Board of Jewish National Fund of Windsor as well as a Director of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund of Windsor. She is also a National Board Member of JNF and is the Corporate Credit Manager at Russell A. Farrow Limited, Canada's largest independent Customs Broker.

Sheldon and Bethe are the proud parents of three daughters, Devin, Erica and Melanie.

The Negev Dinner will be held on Tuesday, June 13th, 2017 at the Giovanni Caboto Club.



## BLUE BOXES: GIVE A COIN, GET A LEAF



The Combined Religious School of Windsor began last school year with an emphasis on tzedakah, using the JNF Blue Box as a key component.

The school provided a variety of tzedakah boxes marked for different charities, including JNF's Blue Box. Children regularly brought coins to

school and were given the choice of which box to use. The children learned about each charity and about the importance of tzedakah.

Each time they deposited their coins in the JNF Blue Box, they were given a leaf to put on a picture of an olive tree from Israel, creating a sense of excitement. The teacher would then teach a lesson

about the history of the State of Israel, explaining how the coins from the Blue Box helped to build the country and still plays a role in building many important and interesting projects and programs.

In June, the children eagerly presented JNF with their Blue Boxes, along with the tree of leaves, showing how much

they had collected and were now giving to JNF. At the end of the school year, the children staged a performance about Israel for their parents and families, which included segments on Israel's history, culture, and foods. JNF contributed to the presentation with a cake decorated in the colours of Israel – blue and white. Everyone agreed it was a tasty end to the school year.

The new school year will start this September again with the tradition of the JNF Blue Box for tzedakah. The children will be encouraged to replicate the action at home as well, and there will be a new tree poster from Israel in the school on which to place their green leaves.

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# JNF LONDON

## 2016 NEGEV GALA

HONOURING  
**DAVID SHORE**



London's Negev Gala on May 15, 2016 honoured television writer and producer David Shore for all his successes, as well as his generosity and support for Israel.

During the cocktail reception, guests mingled and enjoyed the delicious buffet. Emcee, Steve Paikin, led the evening's proceedings; the Shore and Paikin families are long-time friends. Josh Cooper, CEO of JNF Canada and Jack Malkin, President of JNF London, brought greetings from their respective boards. Videos featuring Lisa Edelstein and Hugh Laurie from House MD and other actors from shows David created, produced or wrote were complemented by tributes from Michael Lerner, Jeff Paikin, and co-chairs, Mark and Shelley Diamond.

David's chosen project was Save A Child's Heart – the building of a new children's hospital at Wolfson Medical Centre in Holon, which will house the Middle East's first International Pediatric Cardiac Care Centre. The citation presented to David praised his creativity and commitment to Save A Child's Heart. Responding, David noted how our actions can affect others half a world away.

Haim Goldenberg, considered Canada's top mentalist, entertained the audience. A sumptuous dessert buffet followed.

Special thanks to our volunteers and to all participants – all helped ensure the evening's great success.



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**ROOTS**





# JNF REGIONAL ONTARIO

## ISRAEL'S 68<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY IN KINGSTON



Once again, the Jewish community of Kingston came together to celebrate Israel. A combined Yom HaZikaron (Remembrance Day) commemoration and Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day) celebration was co-sponsored by the Kingston Jewish Centre, JNF Regional Ontario, and Hillel. It was held at Beth Israel Synagogue, and attended by more than 100 people.

An opening program to honour Israel's fallen soldiers and other victims of terror concluded Yom Hazikaron. The program included video greetings from Israel's Ambassador to Canada, Rafael Barak, who thanked the Kingston Jewish community for their continued support. JNF showed a video on the myriad of contemporary JNF projects, followed by a brief presentation on JNF's crucial role in the history of Israel, as well as its critical involvement in modern-day Israel.

Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations included delicious Israeli food and exuberant Israeli dancing to live music. Students from the community had created dioramas depicting representative JNF projects. The display of projects included innovations that have made both Israel and JNF famous such as: drip irrigation, water recycling, desalinization, solar power, desertification and afforestation.

With decorations displaying El Al planes and Israeli flags, it felt like a visit to Israel, even if only for a couple of hours!



## WELCOME SUZY, OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

JNF Canada announces that Suzy Polgar has accepted the position of Executive Director. Suzy joined the staff in Regional Ontario nearly five years ago as Outreach, Programming and Education Director. Her lifelong passion for Israel in general and the work of JNF in particular helped her create and implement new and innovative programs throughout Regional Ontario.

In January 2016, Suzy became Interim Executive Director of JNF Regional Ontario, helping to guide the offices through a successful Negev Dinner season. Her background in administration, planning, and people management will take the entire region to its next level.

**JNF REGIONAL ONTARIO**  
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# JNF OTTAWA



RECOGNITION PLAQUES FROM THE HAVAYA PLUS PLAYGROUND FOR DISABLED CHILDREN, 2001

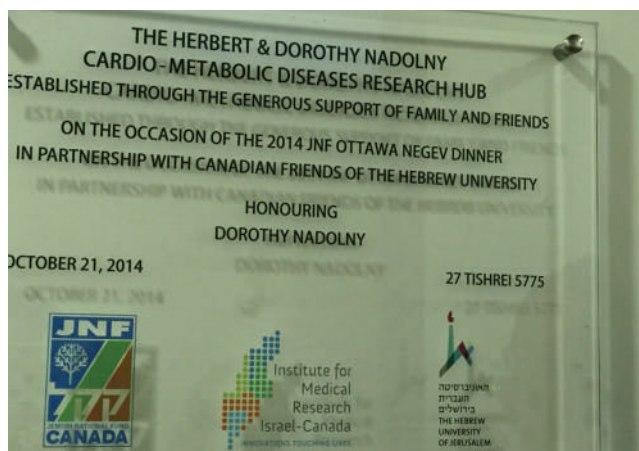


## MEANINGFUL MEMORIES IN JERUSALEM

### DOROTHY NADOLNY DEDICATES HER NEGEV DINNER PROJECT

In 2015, JNF Ottawa Honouree Dorothy Nadolny supported both a passion and a tribute project: The Herbert and Dorothy Nadolny Cardio-Metabolic research hub at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and The Herbert and Dorothy Nadolny Secure Spaces—emergency bomb shelters—in the small Negev town of Ofakim. At the time, Dorothy explained that the research hub was her way of “being in Israel and continuing to be involved with Hebrew U without being there.” The tribute gift was her way “of ensuring Israel and the people in it are here to stay.”

“Seeing the hub in operation was so meaningful to me,” she said of the dedication in May. “There was a nice turnout of other Canadians who were also opening projects. Being in Israel was so wonderful. I hadn’t been there in almost five years.” Although she had arranged to go to Ofakim, she did not have the time. “I owe Ofakim a visit.”



JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF OTTAWA

## NEGEV DINNER HONOURING BARBARA FARBER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016 EY CENTRE | 4899 UPLANDS DRIVE | COCKTAILS 5:30PM

IN SUPPORT OF THE BARBARA AND LEN FARBER FAMILY SCIENCE & SPORTS CENTRE IN MISGAV, GALILEE, ISRAEL

DINNER CHAIR:

STEPHEN GREENBERG

HON. DINNER CHAIR:

DAVID W. SCOTT, O.C., O.C.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

JOHN R. BAIRD P.C.



RESERVE YOUR TICKETS OR TABLES TODAY: 613.798.2411 OTTAWA@JNF.CA JNFOTTAWA.CA

JNF OTTAWA OFFICE

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# AN INCREDIBLE HIGHLIGHT OF MY LIFE

## VERA KLEIN'S PROJECT DEDICATION DURING THE JNF CANADA MISSION



Vera and Leslie Klein went on the JNF Canada Mission to Poland and Israel last year to honour the memory of both her and her husband's late parents who survived the horrors of Auschwitz, to visit Israel after 12 years and to see her project she had chosen as the 2003 JNF Ottawa Negev Dinner Honouree.

"On October 29th, after checking out of the Carmel Forest Hotel and Spa in the Western Galilee, we drove to the Vera and Leslie Klein Parents and Soldiers Meeting Place in Bat Galim Naval Base in Haifa. I had goose bumps just thinking of finally seeing my project. I had chosen this project almost 13 years ago while on a UJA mission with my youngest son Michael. As the Negev Dinner Honouree, I was to select a project that would be meaningful and dear to my heart. My son and I were taken to see several already-existing projects such as children's parks and water reservoirs and, though they were all wonderful, nothing at first clicked with me until I was told about a project where soldiers could meet with their families and friends comfortably and talk and share a meal without having to stand up outside the barracks. NOW that clicked with me! I thought of my own three sons, comfortable and safe in Canada and I exclaimed: "That's it! That's my project!" After 12 years, I finally saw my project and my original heartfelt feelings and exuberance were totally reinforced. It was and remains an incredible highlight of my life."

## HIKING 600KM ON \$650 IN 10 WEEKS

Arlene Doyle was looking for a through-hike—a hike that takes you through a region. When she read about the Israel National Trail, she didn't know she would fall in love with Israel and unbeknownst to her, discover beauty of and shelter in many JNF projects.

At 55, Arlene and her friend Jen, 63, departed from Canada this past February for 10 weeks. The pair began in the south, surrounded by mountains of sand, rock and Israel's blue skies. The desert became their campground. Chilly nights countered the staggering heat of the day. Within 72 hours of their journey, they realized they would not make the full 900 km—the trail guide and their daily hiking distances did not mesh. With Israel's cell service and their solar chargers, connectivity proved more painless than the physical agony they would endure.

In many cases, they wouldn't see another soul for days. At Timna Park and Solomon's pillars they camped inside a JNF Welcome Centre. When they arrived in Arad, they met

up with "trail angels" – warm Israelis who hosted and fed them.

At the Dead Sea they camped for four days, floating in the water and baking in mud. Massada delighted their love of history. In Jerusalem they prayed—at the Kotel and at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Arlene visited her close friends' project—the Stephen and Gail Victor Botanical Gardens—from the 2006 JNF Ottawa Negev Dinner honouring Stephen Victor. In the north, once Arlene set off on her own, the Sea of Galilee beckoned. Migrating stork formations over JNF wetlands delighted her love of nature. Abundant JNF trees were welcome shade. On her second-last night, a raging thunderstorm nearly threatened her overnight on the beach. But like a stoic Israeli, she simply went into her tent, zipped up the fly and drifted to sleep.

*Arlene spoke at a recent JNF Ottawa event. She lives in Balderson, ON.*

ARLENE DOYLE  
WALKS THROUGH  
ISRAEL AND  
DISCOVERS THE  
IMPACT OF JNF





# JNF MONTREAL



2016 NEGEV GALA PROJECT HONOURING SYLVAN ADAMS: THE SYLVAN ADAMS COMMUTER CYCLING NETWORK IN TEL AVIV

## 2016 NEGEV GALA



Dressed to the nines at one of Old Montreal's most famous landmarks, hundreds of JNF supporters joined many of Sylvan Adams' friends and family members, including the Mayor of Tel Aviv, to honour the longtime real estate magnate and world champion cyclist as JNF's "Man of the Year".

"It's a thrill to combine my passion for cycling with an opportunity to encourage fitness, healthy living and complete mind and body wellness for all residents of Tel Aviv," proclaimed Sylvan to a captivated audience that clung to his every word. "This initiative will help further my dream of transforming

Israel's commercial capital into 'the Amsterdam of the Middle East', while also positioning Israel as an eco-friendly, forward-thinking nation. It will be nothing less than a game-changing piece of infrastructure."

The "dream team" of esteemed Gala co-chairs and iconic community leaders,

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**ROOTS**





Jonathan Goodman, Robert Kleinman and Joel Segal, were thrilled to announce that approximately 5.2 million dollars, a new fundraising record for JNF Montreal, was raised to help create the new Sylvan Adams Commuter Cycling Network in Tel Aviv. This impressive amount is a testament to the generosity of JNF's many individual donors and corporate supporters.

"Honouring Sylvan Adams perfectly dovetails with one of JNF's primary missions, which is to generate vital infrastructure for the benefit of all Israelis. The Sylvan Adams Commuter Cycling Network will be a dream come true for an enterprising nation that has embraced the sport of cycling," remarked JNF Montreal President Michael Goodman.

From the elegantly appointed shuk-themed cocktail room to astonishing visuals throughout the night, it's clear that Negev Gala leadership team of Etty Bienstock, Karen Lavy-Cobrin, Karin Eldor, Stacy Gurman, Barbara Maldoff and Evelyn Bloomfield-Schachter pulled out all the stops capped off with a special "spin" by Cirque du Soleil.



# MONTREAL CELEBRATES INAUGURAL JNF ISRAEL DAY



Last April, enthusiastic Grade 5 students from a host of Montreal's Jewish elementary schools celebrated Canada's first-ever JNF Israel Day.

Drawing from experienced educators, youngsters from Hebrew Foundation School, Hebrew Academy, Akiva, Ecole Maimonide, United Talmud Torah and Solomon Schechter Academy spent half a day brushing up on their JNF and Zionist credentials by cycling through interactive stations that showcased JNF's numerous functions in Israeli society.

Among the fun activities, budding architects and builders used plasticine to create the blossoming and pioneer city of Halutzah, situated along the Gaza border.

According to Rabbi Yamin Benarroch,

Chair of JNF's Israel Day committee and the Principal of Judaic Studies at École Maimonide: "It's magnificent to witness these young students further embrace Zionism while learning how JNF partners with Israel in making the entire world a better place to live. What an outstanding day!"

The event was generously hosted at the Beth Zion Synagogue and supported by the Kollel Torah Mitzion (KTM), in addition to Noa Friedman and JNF's Education Department. Not only is the second annual JNF Israel Day already on the schedule for 2017, but Montreal's success has additionally inspired the planning of similar events across the country.





# THE FUTURE IS NOW IN MONTREAL



With the central objective of reaching the 25-45 year-old demographic via special events, mixers and even missions to Israel, the future has finally arrived in Montreal!

Led by Karen Aflalo, an outstanding chairperson armed with more than a decade of fundraising experience, the new JNF Future Montreal chapter features a dynamic committee of nearly 20 young professionals armed with a keen appreciation of JNF's unique and vital role in securing and supporting Israel's land and people.

"Together, we're going to make a

real difference in Israel for so many people," beamed Karen at the very first committee meeting. "We're going to raise JNF's visibility in Montreal and also leave a lasting, physical legacy in Israel—something we will one day visit and show our friends and family what we accomplished."

"JNF has contributed immeasurably to building Israel from the dust and the swamps to a green country of innovation and advancement," explained Talya Pardo when asked why she chose to join the committee. "To be a part of JNF Future means continuing to build and

develop our homeland and to contribute to this incredible country. I am proud and honoured to be a part of it all," declared Yves Benabu.

Above all, JNF Future members understand the reality that the next generation of philanthropy depends on individuals like themselves.

A schedule of upcoming events will soon be available on JNF Future Montreal's Facebook page. Interested in joining us? Contact [montreal@jnf.ca](mailto:montreal@jnf.ca)!

JNF MONTREAL

NOV. 25 & 27, 2016

JNF CUP

PRO-AM HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

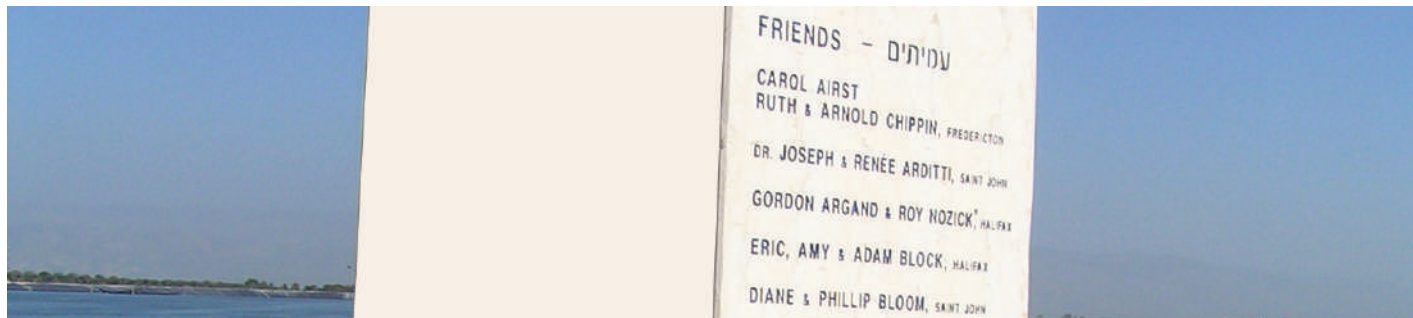




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# JNF ATLANTIC



RESHAFIM WATER RESERVOIR, 1994



## MONCTON'S DR. FRANCIS WEIL NEW JNF ATLANTIC LIAISON

throughout the world today.”

The city of Moncton is the second largest Jewish community in Atlantic Canada, with over 80 families residing there. The first Jewish settlers arrived in Moncton in 1898 from Lithuania, establishing Moncton's Jewish community. By 1910, the community was large enough to hire its first rabbi. In 1926, construction began on the building of a synagogue which was completed the following year. This synagogue, Congregation Tiferes Israel, continues to be very active today. It has a mikvah, and conducts regular weekday minyans as well as Shabbat services under the spiritual guidance of Rabbi Yitzchok Yagod.

The Jewish community of Moncton is active in and contributes greatly to the Moncton Jewish community and the community at large. Community members include doctors, lawyers, judges, university professors and politicians.

Francis Weil is an active member who has made significant contributions to his

community. Francis, who has a PhD in Physics from Dalhousie University, is the former Dean of Science and Engineering and the former Head of the Physics department at Université de Moncton. Now retired, Francis is currently the President of their faculty association and continues to teach part-time after a 49-year career.

In addition to his university work, Francis is the President of Alliance Française de Moncton (a language School as well as a cultural centre) and a former member of the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission. He is also quite involved at Congregation Tiferes Israel, currently serving as Vice President and having served as President and Gabbai in the past. He gives regular talks about the Holocaust to High School students in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

We are thrilled to have Francis Weil assisting with our efforts in the Atlantic Canada region. Bienvenue!

We are pleased to introduce Francis Weil, a long-time member of the Moncton, New Brunswick Jewish community, as a liaison for JNF Atlantic. He is assisting us in promoting and encouraging participation in JNF activities with our constituents in the Moncton area.

Francis is a supporter of JNF and is motivated by anything that can help Israel. He says “we have to do whatever we can to help Israel, especially in light of all the prejudice against Israel that exists



JOIN JNF ATLANTIC AT THE AJC BIENNIAL'S  
**KIDDUSH LUNCHEON**  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016



**WE LOOK FORWARD  
TO SAYING  
THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT!**

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**ROOTS**





## EDUCATION AWARDS

When KKL-JNF was established at the fifth Zionist Congress in 1901, in addition to the important goal of purchasing land in what would become the state of Israel, another goal of the organization was to link the diaspora with the land of Israel through Education.



### Degel Yerushalayim

The Degel Yerushalayim has been awarded since 1934 to schools that have been most involved in Educational-Zionist activity.

This year, in Toronto, the Degel was awarded to Tanenbaum CHAT Kimel campus for the second time in a row. This was the first time that this award has been given to a school for two consecutive years. This coming year we will begin presenting the Degel Yerushalayim in Montreal.

### The Exton Educational Award

The Esther and Eric Exton Educational Award is presented annually to teachers who have most advanced the cause of JNF and Zionist Education in Canada.

This is a national award that JNF Toronto presented to an outstanding educator Beverley Young, the Principal of Bialik - Himel Educational Centre.

We are grateful for all they have done and continue to do for JNF in support of Israel.

[WWW.JNF.CA](http://WWW.JNF.CA)



## JNF @ CAMP

QUESTION: HOW DO YOU MAKE A BEDOUIN PITA EVEN TASTIER AFTER YOU COOK IT YOURSELF?

ANSWER: ADD CHOCOLATE CHIPS!

This is just one of the fun activities that campers at a variety of camps took part in during JNF Israel Camp Day.

For this special day, Noa Friedman, the JNF Canada education shlichah, together with Esther Mochon, an outstanding summer intern, took campers on a journey through Israel from the perspective of JNF. Their day started on a 'Flight to Israel', complete with the staff wearing El Al uniforms and beautiful JNF-Israel passports that were given to each camper to be stamped at the different learning stations.

Through a variety of fun and engaging activities, campers learned how JNF is involved in helping Israel thrive. They learned about the difficulties that occurred in establishing the State of Israel and discovered the incredible achievements and inventions that have come out of Israel since. The activities included water games, educational puzzles, the chance to build a community by the lakeshore and much more.

Overall, JNF Israel Camp Day was a fantastic sunny interactive learning experience!

## AN EDUCATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION OUR ISRAEL

"Our Israel", took place at the Schwartz Reisman JCC, Vaughn. This beautiful exhibition showcased highlights of Israel through JNF's eyes, such as the Hula Valley project, agriculture in the desert, research and development, water reservoirs and more. The three week-long exhibition was extremely well received by the many visitors as well as the groups who had guided tours and participated in interactive activities.

We are looking forward to presenting this exhibition in the future across Canada.







**SUPPORT A JNF PROJECT AND TRANSFORM THE LIVES  
OF ISRAEL'S CITIZENS IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT WAY**



## **Bene Dekalim – Synagogue Complex**

*A vital center for a vital community*

JNF Canada is partnering in the construction of a synagogue complex in the new community of Bene Dekalim in the northern Negev Lakhish Regional Council. The synagogue complex, including a hall for celebrations and community events, will serve as an important facility for the community, which in the future will comprise some 500 households.



## **Shlomit – Construction of a Mikveh**

*The experience of purifying waters close to home*

JNF Canada is a partner in establishing a Mikveh in Shlomit in the western Negev. The community was established in 2011. Today 50 families live in Shlomit, which is expected to grow to 500. The Mikveh enables the community to observe the commandment of ritual immersion.



## **Tefahot – Bet Midrash – Development**

*“The more Torah, the more life” (Avot 2:7)*

JNF Canada has donated to the construction of a Bet Midrash for the Tefahot Hesder Yeshiva at Moshav Tefahot. The community lacked a permanent facility in which to study, constituting the heart of the community. The yeshiva graduates of religious high schools and yeshivot from all across Israel.



## **Central Arava – Yair Research & Development Centre - Expansion of Laboratory Facilities**

*Desert agricultural research for the benefit of all*

KKL-JNF is planning to add an additional wing to the Yair laboratory building and will assist in providing new laboratory equipment, enabling further research. The labs and offices will absorb more scientists and facilitate widening the scope of agricultural research.

**CONTACT YOUR YOUR LOCAL JNF OFFICE TO LEARN HOW  
YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT A JNF PROJECT**





**A VERY SPECIAL  
THANK YOU TO CIJA  
AND TO THE OVER 7,000 PEOPLE  
WHO WROTE LETTERS IN SUPPORT  
OF JNF CANADA TO THE GREEN PARTY.  
YOUR SUPPORT MEANS  
EVERYTHING TO US!**





AS YIZKOR IS OBSERVED DURING THE HIGH HOLIDAYS, IT IS A TIME TO REMEMBER.  
IT IS A TRADITION TO MAKE A CHARITABLE DONATION IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE.

PROCEEDS FROM THIS YIZKOR CAMPAIGN WILL BE DIRECTED TO  
**ENHANCE THE LIVES OF THOSE LIVING ON THE BORDER  
WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW YOUTH CENTRE**

Located on the border with Gaza and Egypt, Bnei Netzarim was founded by Gush Katif evacuees. These pioneers understood the importance of the Negev and put their roots in the sand. With the help of JNF, this barren land has begun to prosper. You can help establish a Centre to accommodate the needs of their children and youth.

A minimum donation of \$90.00 will entitle you to receive a Tree of Life Certificate to commemorate your loved ones on the occasion of Yizkor.



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