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DECEMBER 2025 CHANUKAH





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HAPPY HANUKKAH na analan

On behalf of the Ontario Liberal Caucus, we wish you a very happy Hanukkah. As we mark the Jewish people's triumph over oppression and celebrate the miracle of Hanukkah, may these eight nights bring light, warmth, and hope to your home. Chag Sameach, and best wishes for peace, health, and joy throughout the year ahead.



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Reflections on Chanukah

The Jewish communities of the Western world, as they celebrate Chanukah, continue to struggle with a certain measure of success against the commercialism which has, for many Christians, destroyed the pristine meaning of Christmas. Despite the temptation to compete with Christmas in the orgy of gift giving which accompanies the non-Jewish holiday, despite the Chanukah lights which have begun to grace the doors and windows of Jewish homes in suburban communities throughout Canada, Chanukah still retains much of the wholesome flavour which has been traditionally associated with the festival. Children continue to sing paeans of praise to the dedication of Mattathias, the heroism of Judas the Maccabee, and the legendary self-sacrifice of the Maccabean brothers. And young and old glory in the miracle that was wrought, which enabled the Temple to be cleansed of those Hellenic elements which had polluted it, so that it might be rededicated to the ideals of which it was the sanctuary.

The importance of Chanukah in the Jewish tradition lies in the lesson it teaches - the lesson that the weak may, on occasion, win a victory over the strong, that the race is not inevitably to the swift nor the battle unfailingly to the strong. To be sure, there were historical factors beyond those indicated in the religious tradition, which enabled Jews to beat back the legions of Antiochus Epiphanes. Bravery and patriotism and religious zeal are not often granted victory unless they are accompanied by treaties of friendship, diplomatic alliances and internal divisions among enemies. Nevertheless, without bravery and patriotism and religious zeal the Maccabean victory would have been impossible and it is these qualities which are, quite rightly, associated with the successful Hasmonean revolt.

As Jews take pride in the achievements of the Maccabees and the victories of the spirit which they won, we would do well to remember that we, too, are engaged in a crucial battle for survival. Our present enemy comes not only from our external foes, those masked thugs who roam Jewish neighbourhoods taking delight in disrupting our events and defacing our institutions. We must also confront our enemy within, one that bids us yield up our Jewish heritage to the Moloch of acquiesence and the pablum of conformity. We must resist the temptation to avoid the obligations which living as Jews impose on us and instead follow in the footsteps of those dedicated leaders of the past who created the matrix by which Jewish life has been shaped over the centuries. Only then will we measure up to the example set by the Maccabees in their heroic struggle which Jews commemorate in the Chanukah festival.

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add a light



Every night of Chanukah we add one more candle. Every donor added to the registry brings us one step closer to saving a life.

For patients waiting for a bone marrow match, your gift brings light into their darkest moments, and hope into their homes.

As the menorah grows brighter, help a child's future grow brighter too.



A LIFELINE YOU DON'T SEE COMING

Submitted by EZER MIZION

When I was first diagnosed with leukemia, the world around me did not slow down. It simply stopped making sense. You think you understand your life, your plans, your direction. Then suddenly you are staring at a word, leukemia, that redraws your future in an instant. In those early days, one question echoed constantly in my mind: Why me? Not out of anger or denial, but out of a deep need to believe that something as devastating as cancer had to mean something.

And while I did not know that reason yet, I made myself a promise. While I was in the hospital, I decided that whoever helped me, I would help them. Whatever system, organization, or person saved my life, I would give back. I just did not know yet who that would be. At the time, I had no idea that the answer would arrive years later in a moment I never could have imagined.

Before my diagnosis, I knew almost nothing about Ezer Mizion. I did not know they were Israel's largest health support organization, helping hundreds of thousands of people each year with medical equipment, meals, rides to treatment, therapy programs, emotional support, and many other services. And I did not know that they operated the world's largest Jewish Bone Marrow Registry, strengthened by tens of thousands of IDF soldiers who join the registry when they enlist. That partnership gives people like me a real chance.

I did not understand any of this until my doctor told me a donor had been found. A match. A stranger who might save my life.

A transplant is terrifying and hopeful at the same time. It is a leap of trust, an acceptance that your life now rests in the hands and generosity of someone you have never met. When I learned how my donor had been found through Ezer Mizion, something shifted inside me. The question that had haunted me, Why me, suddenly had an answer. This is why. This is the purpose I was meant to find. Surviving was not enough. I needed to give back.

What began as a promise became something transformative: Stu's Personalized Donor Pool. We created Stu's Pool Party not only as a fundraiser but as a celebration of life and gratitude. Over two years, through the generosity of family, friends, and supporters, we raised 160,000 dollars to fund the testing of

new potential donors for the registry-

Very quickly, two lives were saved through matches from my pool. It was overwhelming to know that something created out of my illness was already saving others. But life had another turn waiting for me. Not long after those first lives were saved, I received news I never wanted to hear again. My leukemia had returned. The world I had rebuilt felt like it was collapsing. I needed another transplant. I needed another miracle. And once again, it was Ezer Mizion that stood beside me. They found the match, organized everything, and gave me another chance at life. It has now been five years since that second transplant, things are good. I do not take a single day for granted.

Since then, my donor pool has continued to grow and save lives. Today, thirteen people have been saved through matches that came directly from my pool. Thirteen families who re-

ceived the same life-changing call I once received.

One of the most powerful moments of my life happened when Ezer Mizion flew my donor to Ottawa so we could meet. I had imagined him many times, wondering what he looked like and whether I would even be able to speak. But nothing prepares you for standing in front of the person whose cells saved your life. When he walked into the room, everything went quiet. We hugged, and in that instant every appointment, every fear, every moment of wondering Why me disappeared.

He was not just a match. He was the reason I was alive. And Ezer Mizion made that moment possible. They did not have to coordinate the travel or arrange the meeting. But they did, because saving lives is not where their work ends. They believe in healing stories, not only bodies.

Leukemia did not break me. It reshaped me. It taught me how fragile and precious life is. It taught me how much strength exists in vulnerability. And it taught me that sometimes the answer to why me arrives only after the darkest moments have passed. I survived so I could give back. I survived so that thirteen other people, so far, could survive too. And I survived so I could stand with Ezer Mizion, the organization that gave me life, and help them give life to others.

Thirteen lives saved, and we are only beginning.

To learn more about Ezer Mizion or to donate visit ezermizion.ca



TRYING TO MUZZLE THE JEWS AGAIN

JEWS SHOULD NOT KEEP SILENT WHEN ZOHRAN MAMDANI CROSSES THE LINE

BY RAFAEL MEDOFF

The Anti-Defamation League is being harshly criticized for saying it will monitor the policies and appointments of incoming New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani. It's not the first time a political official and his supporters have tried to intimidate American Jews into silence.

There's nothing objectively controversial about the ADL's intentions. Its plan is to set up a website

and a hotline to keep an eye on the Mamdani administration. It's not as if the ADL is mobilizing a militia to storm Gracie Mansion.

There is good reason to monitor Mamdani. His response to the October 7 Hamas massacres and gang-rapes was to serve as a featured speaker at anti-Israel rallies, surrounded by signs calling for "Intifada Revolution." He says Israel should stop being a Jewish

state. He has pledged to take anti-Israel steps as mayor, such as halting the city's purchase of Israel Bonds. As a New York State assemblyman, he introduced a bill to strip some pro-Israel organizations of their tax-exempt status.

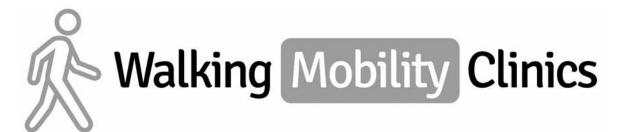
Moreover, Mamdani's circle of supporters includes outspoken Israelhaters such as Linda Sarsour—infamous for saying "Nothing is creepier than

Zionism"—and the Council on American-Islamic Relations, whose executive director said he was "happy to see" the Hamas invasion of Israel. So of course Jewish groups such as the ADL should be watching.

Mamdani's fans are hopping mad over the ADL's monitoring plan. J Street has accused the ADL of "sowing panic" and "demonizing" the mayor-elect. MSNBC

(Please turn to page 18)

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MEDEX EXPANDS TO CANADA ALONGSIDE NEFESH B'NEFESH "ON TOUR" EVENTS

MEDEX HOPES JEWISH DOCTORS WILL CONSIDER ALIYA

In a significant milestone for Israel's global Aliyah Nefesh efforts. B'Nefesh, in partnership with Israel's Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of the Negev, Galilee, and National Resilience, and in cooperation with The Jewish Agency for Israel, hosted the first-ever MedEx events in Canada, alongside the Nefesh B'Nefesh's signature "NBN On Tour" programming. Together, the initiatives welcomed over 500 participants across Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa, offering comprehensive support

and guidance for those exploring Aliyah and professional opportunities in Israel.

The MedEx Canada events marked the latest expansion of the International Medical Aliyah Program (IMAP), an initiative to streamline the professional integration process for doctors making Aliyah. At the events, partipating doctors had the opportunity to begin the licensing process and submit applications for their medical license conversion to the Ministry of Health, all before making Aliyah.

"NBN Meanwhile, On Tour" events in both cities brought together prospective Olim for in-depth seminars on employment, education, housing, and community life in Israel. Through one-on-one consultations, attendees received personalized guidance from Nefesh B'Nefesh Aliyah advisors, mu nicipal representatives, and other bureaucratic services, helping them turn their vision of life in Israel into a concrete

Building on the success of previous MedEx events in North America,

Europe, Argentina, and Australia, the expansion into Canada underscores Israel's commitment to welcoming 2,000 new Jewish physicians over the next five years, bolstered by the Marcus Foundation, Gottesman Fund, Jewish Federations of North America, Azrieli Foundation, and Arison Foundation, with a shared mission of strengthening Israel's healthcare system and supporting the development and growth of the country.

"MedEx Canada and 'NBN On Tour' reflect the in-(Please turn to page 19)



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98 YEAR OLD HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR MARCHES ON

NATE LEIPCIGER GETS READY FOR HIS 22ND MARCH OF THE LIVING

By MIKE COHEN

Nate Leipciger, a thoughtful, shy eleven-year-old boy, is plunged into an incomprehensible web of ghettos, concentration and death camps during the German occupation of Poland. Demonstrating incredible strength of character as he struggles to survive, he forges a new, unbreakable bond with his

father and yearns for a free future. With memories that remain etched in tragedy and pain even as he looks optimistically to the future, Nate builds a new life in Canada. Introspective and raw, yet ever hopeful, the book *The Weight of Freedom* is Nate's vivid journey through a past that can never be left behind.

Not only have I read the book, published by the Azrieli Foundation's Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program, I know the man. For 11 years I served as the head of communications for the Canadian Jewish Congress. Nate was the chair of our Holocaust Education Committee. I got to work very closely with him, notably on a mission to mark the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. We visited the death camps of Majdanek, Treblinka, Auschwitz and Birkenau. Dozens of survivors were part of the group with their

families.

I spent a lot of time with Nate and his wife Bernice. Months later, when I came to Toronto for a friend's wedding. It turned out Nate and Bernice were friends with the family and they invited me to be their house guest.

I continued to work with Nate for the next five years until I left the CJC. We lost touch. Then, two years ago, I saw him on national television speaking at a solidarity rally for Israel on Parliament Hill. He was 95 at the time, as articulate

(Please turn to page 14)





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MIKE COHEN REUNITES WITH NATE LEIPCIGER





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ANOTHER MASTERPIECE FROM ARC ENSEMBLE

WORLD PREMIERE OF LONG-NEGLECTED MASTERWORKS OF ERNEST KANITZ MARKS NINTH RECORDING IN INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED "MUSIC IN EXILE" SERIES

Consider the Jewish Austrian-born composer Ernest Kanitz (1894-1978) a known unknown. He was certainly a prominent musician in Vienna during the 1920s and '30s, with frequent concerts and radio broadcasts. Forced to flee after the Nazis' annexation of Austria in 1938, Kanitz eventually established a career in the US, as an adpedagogue composer, but with his death his modest renown

evaporated, and his vibrant, richly melodic music disappeared from the concert stage.

For more than 20 years, the ARC Ensemble (Artists of the Royal Conservatory) has devoted itself to assessing and reviving the forgotten and marginalized works of 20th century composers whose careers—like that of Ernest Kanitz—were impacted by war, anti-Semitism and bigotry. Nominated for multiple Grammys,

JUNO and OPUS Klassik awards, the Canadian chamber group has not only earned glowing reviews around the globe; it has restored the music and reputations of a growing number of highly gifted and superbly trained composers.

The "Chamber Works of Ernest Kanitz" (released on October 31st) is the ninth recording in the ensemble's landmark "Music in Exile" series for Chandos and the first devoted to Kanitz's chamber music. The five extraordinary premieres span three and a half decades, during which time Kanitz travelled a fair distance both geographically, musically and emotionally. He endured forced displacement, the deaths of his father and suicides of his mother and sister within a seven year span, and the loss of his wife when she was only 49, yet remarkably

(Please turn to page 23)

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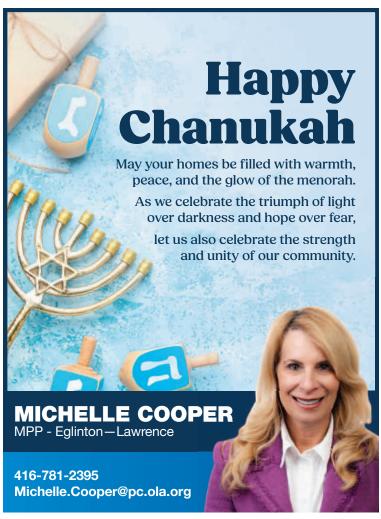
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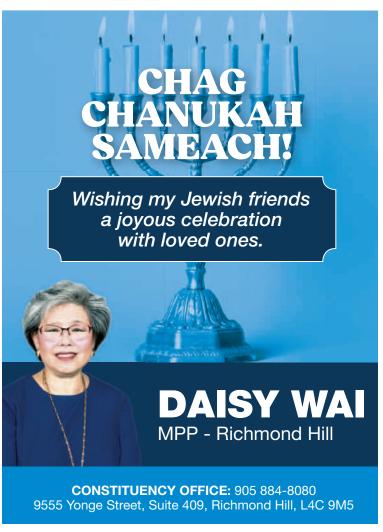
















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HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR MARCHES ON

(Continued from page 8)

as ever and looking fit. I do not know what prompted me to look him up on Facebook, yet there was his profile. Would he remember me after nearly three decades? I sent a message and almost immediately he responded. We connected by telephone and then by Zoom. I got a copy of his book and read it cover to cover. An e-mail exchange began. When family reasons brought me to Toronto I e-mailed Nate and asked if he was up for a visit. He invited me to his Toronto condo. My friend Rob joined me. This was a surreal experience, sitting down on the couch with a man I admired so much. He was

never expected to survive past his 15th birthday. Yet here was. Bernice was there to greet me as well.

We spoke about the rise of antisemitism in Canada and the world, the war in Israel and his discontent with how our Canadian government has treated the Jewish State. Remarkably, Nate told us that this coming spring he will go on his 22nd March of The Living to Poland and Israel, accompanying our youth. "It is the best education we can provide for them," he told me.

Nate was born in Chorzów, Poland, in 1928. He immigrated to Toronto in 1948, where he eventually obtained a university degree



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in engineering. Nate was a member of the International Council of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum for 15 years and has been an educator on March of the Living for decades. He was just 15 years old when he and his family were sent to a Nazi concentration camp. Once they arrived, he was separated from his mother and sister - and never saw them again. The life expectancy in a camp was only four months, but he and his father managed to survive for two years in several different camps. He is a worthy Member of the Order of Canada. I feel privileged to be able to share my association with Nate through the pages of The Jewish Standard Magazine. Seeing him once again in person was a "pinch me" moment. He is an absolute treasure!

To find out more about his book go to https://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org/

TORONTO NOSTALGIA

The Jewish Standard has been publishing since 1929. The items in this column appeared in early editions of the publication. They reveal an active social and communal life among early Toronto Jewry. - The Editor

May 18, 1934

Mr. and Mrs. David Dunkelman, York Lodge, entertained at dinner last Sunday evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Freiman, of Ottawa, who were in town to attend the Ontario Zionist Region Conference.

Mrs. L. Gelber, Lowther Avenue, has returned on the S.S. Berengaria, from Palestine, where she visited Miss Sylvia Gelber, in Jerusalem.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Rasminsky, of Geneva, Switzerland, have sailed on the S.S. Aquitania for a visit to Canada. While they are in Toronto, they will be the

guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rotenberg, 181 Warren Road.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Stein, 411 St. Clements Avenue, announce the Bar-Mitzvah of their son, Richard Edwynne, which will take place at the Holy Blossom Synagogue on Saturday, May 26th. Mr. and Mrs. Stein will be at home Sunday evening, May 27th. No cards.

Dr. A. Brodey, Wellwood Avenue, has returned home from a fishing trip at Dorset, Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Kohan, Dundas Street, and (Please turn to page 26)



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A message from your Liberal Members of Parliament

On December 14th, as the sun sets, Jewish communities in Canada and across the world will gather to celebrate Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights.

As we celebrate Hanukkah, we reaffirm our commitment to the values of freedom, respect, and dignity for Jewish Canadians, and our dedication to combatting antisemitism. Our government has introduced the Combatting Hate Act to amend the Criminal Code and strengthen the tools police have to take action against those who spread hate. As we celebrate the strength and resilience of the Jewish people, we must also confront and condemn the antisemitism that is all too real in Canada. Together, we can build a country where Jewish people can live their lives openly, freely, and safely.

We wish you and your loved ones a blessed Hanukkah.

Chag Hanukkah Sameach!

Un message de vos députés libéraux

Le 14 décembre, au coucher du soleil, les communautés juives du Canada et du monde entier se réuniront pour célébrer Hanoukka, la fête des Lumières.

Alors que nous célébrons Hanoukka, nous réaffirmons notre engagement envers les valeurs de liberté, de respect et de dignité pour les Canadiens juifs, ainsi que notre détermination à lutter contre l'antisémitisme. Notre gouvernement a présenté la Loi sur la lutte contre la haine afin de modifier le Code criminel et de renforcer les outils dont dispose la police pour prendre des mesures contre ceux qui propagent la haine. Alors que nous célébrons la force et la résilience du peuple juif, nous devons également affronter et condamner l'antisémitisme qui est bien réel au Canada. Ensemble, nous pouvons bâtir un pays où les Juifs peuvent vivre ouvertement, librement et en toute sécurité.

Nous vous souhaitons, à vous et à vos proches, une joyeuse Hanoukka.

Chag Hanoukka Sameach!

Presented by / Présenté par

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A Night to Remember



Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel (CMDA), held their 2025 Toronto Gala on Thursday October 30th.

With an incredible array of local and international sponsors and donors, this was the largest and most successful event ever held in the 95 year old history of Magen David Adom with an attendance of over 1000 people. Simultaneously, it was also CMDA's most prosperous gala in its' 49 year history.

Headlining the Event was Will and Grace Actress and pro-Israel advocate, Debra Messing and musical accompaniment by the Israeli hit duo, husband and wife, YoNina.

Messing described her strong pro-Israel advocacy in the fight against Jew-hatred as well as her unbridled dedication to Magen David Adom.

Because of donors like Toronto's Richard Cornblum, Magen David Adom can continue its life-saving





work and provide critical emergency care to those in need. Mr. Cornblum remarked: "As a long-time donor and past honouree what is there to say about these Heroes? Everyday, every hour, they risk their lives to save others". It's not just about their service during times of war, no one thinks about when they are treating those that have a heart attack or a victim of a car accident, they are always there"!

CMDA bestowed the 2025 Kol Hakavod Award to joint Honourees, Drs. Joby Eisen and Dr. Sharla Lichtman who have been active with the organization for over 10 years and are the founders of Canadian







Magen David Adom's Core Doctor Advisory Team. Joined by MDA's Director General Eli Bin, the night capped off with the Apodropos (Guardian) Award being bestowed on well known Canadian philanthropist, Mr. Harry Lebovic who was accompanied by his sister, Bonnie on stage.

CMDA has already started planning its next maior Event and asked its supporters to hold the date of: Thursday **November 5, 2026**

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(Continued from page 6)

host Joe Scarborough confronted ADL head Jonathan Greenblatt on air, urging him to "call Mamdani's team" and "have lunch and talk," instead of monitoring Mamdani's actions. overheated news article in the New York Times portrayed the ADL's modest monitoring plan as an example of the group's supposed strategy of adopting "a conciliatory approach to the far right." The ADL's opponents evidently are hoping their criticism will intimidate the ADL into silence.

Muzzling the Jews is a well-worn political strategy. During the 1930s and 1940s, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his aides repeatedly pressured the foremost American Jewish leader, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, to refrain from criticizing U.S. policy regarding the plight of Europe's Jews.

In one instance, Wise confided to a friend that the president spoke to him about "the necessity of Jews lying low." On another occasion, Roosevelt warned Wise that if Jewish leaders were too vocal, it would "enable Americans to say that

the fellows who wrote The Protocols of the Elders of Zion had some justification."

President Roosevelt and his aides successfully pressed Wise to: withhold support from a congressional resolution about Hitler's mistreatment German Jews (1933); cancel a "public trial" of Hitler in Chicago (1934); refrain from calling for admission of more Jewish refugees to the U.S. (1938-1939); drop calls to admit refugees to the U.S. Virgin Islands (1940); testify against a congressional resolution urging FDR to create a rescue agency (1943); and soften or halt his public criticism of Great Britain for shutting the doors to Palestine.

But FDR's muzzling campaign didn't work on everybody. The activists known as the Bergson Group organized rallies, lobbied in Washington, and sponsored more than two hundred full-page newspaper advertisements urging the Roosevelt administration to rescue Jews.

Bergson Group activist Ben Hecht, the noted playwright, authored many



of those newspaper ads. One was in the form of a poem that he called "The Ballad of the Doomed Jews of Europe." It read, in part: Four million Jews waiting for death

Oh hang and burn but—quiet, Jews!

Don't be bothersome; save your breath—

The world is busy with other news.

Stephen Wise's silence is remembered today as a tragic example of failed Jewish leadership. Ben Hecht's outcry, by contrast,

shines as an example of Jewish activists who refused to be muzzled.

It goes without saying that there are many important differences between the circumstances of 1943 and those of today. But the pressure that the Anti-Defamation League faces today has a precedent, as does the choice that the ADL must now make. Which path will it choose? Will it go forward with the website and hotline to monitor Mamdani, or will it be intimidated into silence?

MEDEX EXPANDS TO CANADA

(Continued from page 7)

credible spirit of partnership and purpose that drives Aliyah forward," said Tony Gelbart, Co-Founder and Chairman of Nefesh B'Nefesh. "We met passionate, highly skilled professionals and families throughout Canada, who are eager to contribute to Israel's future. Whether through medicine or community life, their energy and commitment will certainly make a lasting impact on the Jewish State."

"The International Medical Aliyah Program (IMAP) and the expansion of its activities are truly meaningful developments for the Israeli public and for our healthcare system," said Israel's Minister of Aliyah and Integration, Ofir Sofer. "Alongside the important recent Aliyah fairs in Toronto and Montreal, organized by Nefesh B'Nefesh and the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, we are working (Please turn to page 22)



DR. EFRAT AFLALO, HEAD OF THE PHYSICIANS Olim Directorate at the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, and Rabbi Yehoshua Fass, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Nefesh B'Nefesh, at the recent MedEx Canada event. Photo Credit: Sam Santos and Ernesto Di Stefano

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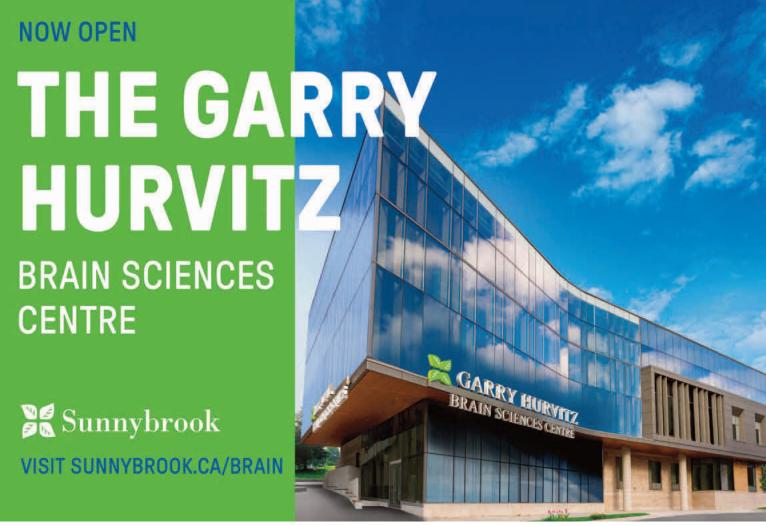
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MEDEX EXPANDS TO CANADA

(Continued from page 19)

vigorously to encourage Jewish physicians from around the world to make Alivah and to help integrate them into Israel's medical system. To date, more than 650 Olim doctors have joined the Israeli healthcare system through IMAP. Our innovative many groundbreaking absorption programs are being welcomed by communities worldwide, and I hope we will continue to see more and more families and young people choosing to take this courageous step and fulfill the Zionist vision.

"Today, more than ever, the State of Israel needs high-quality physicians in Tzfat, Kiryat Shmona, Be'er Sheva, and Dimona," said Israel's Minister for the Negev, Galilee, and National Resilience, Yitzhak Wasserlauf. "The Ministry for the Negev and Galilee is proud to partner with and support this important initiative of Nefesh B'Nefesh, which transforms Zionism into action and brings excellent medical professionals to Israel who will strengthen hospitals and communities in the Negev, Galilee, and the Gaza border region. This is another step in reinforcing

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"The expansion of MedEx's work into Canada is a moving expression of the strength of our shared mission. In every encounter with Jewish communities around the world, I see the same deep commitment to the Jewish people and the State of Israel," said Chair-



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man of The Jewish Agency for Israel, Doron Almog, Major General (Res.). "This partnership strengthens our healthcare system and reflects the spirit of the Jewish people, a spirit of rebuilding, renewal, and hope. Together, we will continue to open doors and bring closer to us more professionals and leaders who seek to be part of the Israeli story."

Since the launch of IMAP in 2024, approximately

700 doctors from around the world have already made Aliyah, joining Israel's medical workforce. With the addition of Canada to the MedEx roster and the continued growth of global programming, the organization continues to streamline and expand pathways for Aliyah, helping thousands of individuals and families turn aspirations into reality, all while strengthening the state of Israel.

ANOTHER GEM

(Continued from page 10)

his innate optimism refused to yield to circumstances.

"This album is quite we've unlike others recorded on account of the enormous musical range and variety of the repertoire. There's a fascinating progression and openness to the music which accompanied his move to America" says Simon Wynberg, the ARC Ensemble's Artistic Director. "What's also striking is that Kanitz accepted his fate with a definite equanimity eventually wholly embracing his new American life."

In other ways, Kanitz's trajectory is similar to that of other composers in the "Music in Exile" series. A child prodigy born into an affluent Jewish Viennese family, Kanitz worked with Richard Heuberger, a celebrated critic and composer with a special interest in choral music, and later with Franz Schreker, arguably Europe's most influential composer-pedagogue.

By the 1920s, Kanitz's works were being played by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, among them a piece for choir, soloists and orchestra conducted by a 23-year-old George Szell, who would later preside over the Cleveland Symphony. Kanitz's career gained momentum with performances at Austria's Salzburg festival, as well as in Germany, the Netherlands and France. His works were also broadcast, from Vienna particularly. But Kanitz built his most enthusiastic following as the founder and director of the Wiener Frauen-Kammerchor (Vienna Women's Chamber Choir), which performed at Vienna's Musikverein as well as in Budapest, Brno and Paris.

This comfortable and rewarding life was abruptly upended when Germany annexed Austria in March of 1938. Despite his conversion to Christianity in 1914, Kanitz still faced persecution as a Jew and was left with no choice but to leave. At the age of 43, he arrived in the US and was obliged to re-establish his career. After a brief and unhappy stint in New York, he accepted a teaching post at a small college in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Three years later, he was appointed head of music at Erskine College, a Christian institution in a town with disorienting rather name of Due West. With a population of fewer than 1,000 people, it is difficult to imagine a destination further removed from the

(Please turn to page 26)

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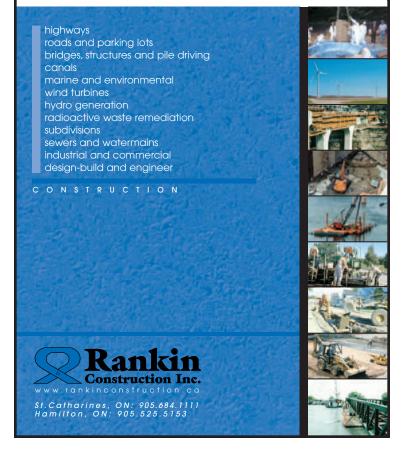
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ANOTHER GEM

(Continued from page 23)

culture and sophistication of Vienna.

In 1944, following his wife Gertrud's death, Kanitz made an exploratory trip to Los Angeles. It led to a post in the music department of the University of Southern California and he retired as Professor Emeritus in 1960. His attraction to California had been immediate. "As long as God grants me a living here in L.A." he wrote, "I would not want to live anywhere else." His productivity soared with retirement and there were performances of his works by the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the St. Louis Symphony, and the Chicago Chamber Orchestra, among others.

ONTARIO NOTALGIA

(Continued from page 15

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Kohan, Bathurst Street, have returned from Miami, where they spent the winter.

Mrs. J. Levy, Rushton Road, has returned from Florida, where she spent the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wagman, 14 Lander Avenue, announce the Bar Mitvah of their son Herbert, which will take place on Saturday morning, June 2nd, at the Goel Tzedec Synagogue, University Avenue.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Sydney D. Cohen, 62 Harper Avenue(née Leila Skup) on Monday, May 7th, at the Toronto General Hospital.

April 1938

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Allen (née Ruth Friedman) have returned from their wedding trip to California.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Nussbaum, Rosedale Heights Drive, have returned The ARC Ensemble comprises the senior faculty of The Royal Conservatory's acclaimed Glenn Gould School, with guests drawn from its accomplished alumni and students. "The inclusion of outstanding young musicians is absolutely critical if we are to guarantee the survival of these new additions to the repertoire" says Wynberg.

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from a Southern Cruise.

Mr. and Mrs. Egmont L. Frankel, Douglas Avenue, are home after spending a few weeks in Hollywood, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Friedman, of Montreal, have returned home after spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Allen, Roxborough Rd.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cutler(née Helen Wasser), at Mount Sinai Hospital, March 8th, a daughter.

(Please turn to following page)

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ONTARIO NOSTALGIA

(Continued from preceding page)

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cutler(née Shirley Greenbaum) at Toronto General Hospital, on Saturday March 27th, a daughter.

Mrs. Rachel Langer, Toronto, announces the approaching marriage of her daughter, Kate, to Mr. Isaac Weinrath, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weinrath, the ceremony to take place on May 1st.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Ginsburg, Huntsville, announce the engagement of their daughter, Dora, to Dr. Abraham Alan Track, F.B.C.S., son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Track, Toronto. The marriage is to take place in the early fall.

The engagement is announced of Eva Cohen, B.A., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Cohen, New Brunswick, N.J., to Mr. Abram Silverman, New York City, formerly of Toronto, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. M. Silverman, of Hamilton, Ontario. Marriage to take place in New York on July 3rd.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Caplan, Rushton Road, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lillian, to Benjamin, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Minarsky.

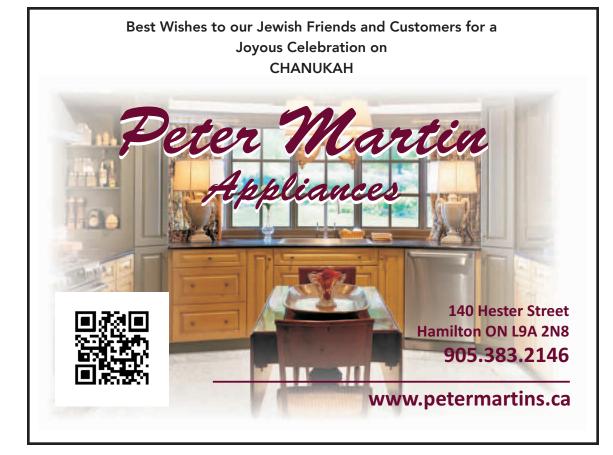
Mr. and Mrs. B. Snider, Concord Ave., announce the engagement of their daughter, Ann, to Benjamin Milrod, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Milrod, Bathurst St.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Cohen, Heydon Park Road, announce the engagement of their daughter Frances to Samuel Ashley, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Ashley, marriage to take place early in July.

July 1934

Dr. Boris D. Dogen Chapter A.Z.A: Pledges of the local chapter of A.Z.A. sponsored a farewell dance at Brant Inn in honor of Saul Smurlick, Aleph Mazkir of the Hamilton group, prior to his departure for Washington where he attended the Grand International A.Z.A convention. Guests were present from Brantford, Galt and London.

Deborah Ladies' Aid Society: A successful garden tea and bridge was held on Thursday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. L.Silverman. The guests were received by Mrs. James Rubin, President; Mrs. J. J. Morris, Vive-president and Mrs. Silverman. The homemade table convenors were: Mesdames A. Bloom and S. Glass, assistants Mesdames J. Mandell and J. Sweet; keno convenors, Mrs. L. Barnett and Mrs. M. Slavin; kodak, Mrs. E. Slavin; fortune telling, Mrs. N. Berg. A bed-jacket, worked and donated by Mrs. S. Rose, was won by Mrs. L. M. Barnett. An Afghan will be drawn at the October meeting. Mrs. A. Agranove of Ottawa won the door prize.



WINNERS OF THE 11TH CANADIAN JEWISH LITERARY AWARDS

As it embarks on its second decade, the Canadian Jewish Literary Awards recognizes and rewards the finest Canadian writing on Jewish themes and subjects. Winners have been selected in the categories of fiction, biography, memoir, poetry, Yiddish, Jewish culture, history, scholarship, and books for children and youth.

"Despite the challenges, the Canadian Literary Awards had more submissions this year than ever before," Canadian Jewish Literary Awards founder and Jury Chair Edward Trapunski said.

Especially significant is the Irving Abella Award in History given annually in honour of Irving Abella z"l, of blessed memory. Celebrating the best Canadian writing on Jewish history, the Irving Abella Award is supported by the friends of this giant of scholarship who left an indelible imprint on Canadian Jewish studies.

This year's winner of the Irving Abella Award is Simon Rabinovitch, author of Sovereignty and Religious Freedom: A Jewish History (Yale University Press). Rabinovitch recounts the story of the varying rights Jews have enjoyed in different countries. Deeply researched and brilliantly conceived, it is both a survey and a legal history of Jewish sovereignty and religious freedom. It explores ideas about citizenship and belonging, including who is a Jew, what constitutes a Jewish family, and how to define Jewish space. It compares the conflicts between the individual and collective rights of Jews over the last two centuries. With Rabinovitch as a guide, we explore religious freedom and group rights for Jews in America, Europe, and Israel, the one state where they are a majority. The book's analysis of Jewish rights and sovereignty is directly applicable to Quebec's history, particularly the Jewish community's response to Quebec's own sovereignty movements and the ongoing discussions within Quebec about the rights of religious minorities. Sovereignty and Religious Freedom is original, comprehensive, nuanced, and surprisingly accessible.

Other winners include Fiction: Ayelet Tsabari for Songs for the Brokenhearted (HarperCollins Publishers Ltd.); Memoir: John Lorinc for No Jews Live Here (Coach House Books); Poetry: Ruth Rifka for To All the Mirrored Doors of Beginning, a Journey Ending (Wipf and Stock Publishers); Yiddish: Anna Miransky for Poem by Poem, Fable by Fable: Discovering My Father and Learning His Language (Wipf and Stock); Youth: Sheila Baslaw, Karen Levine and Alice Priestley for The Light Keeper (Second Story Press); Jewish Culture: Andrew Kear (Editor) for Mashel Teitelbaum: Terror and Beauty (Goose Lane Editions); Biography: Ezra Glinter for Menachem Mendel Schneerson: Becoming the Messiah (Yale University Press); Scholarship: Michael Beizer and Ann Komaromi for A Time to Sow: Refusenik Life in Leningrad, 1979-1989 (University of Toronto Press).



Simon Rabinovitch receives the Irving Abella Award for History from Jury Chair Edward Trapunski

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