



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members and friends of the ACJS,

It was a pleasure to travel to beautiful Victoria, British Columbia, for our recent June conference. Those who had the opportunity to come to Victoria one day early were able to participate in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of [Congregation Emanu-El](#). The city held a parade and ceremony commemorating the laying of the cornerstone of the synagogue. We were delighted to hold one of our conference sessions in the historic synagogue. Congratulations again to Professor Ira Robinson for winning the Louis Rosenberg award and to Amy Côté of the University of Victoria for winning the Marcia Koven Award for best student paper.



You can start to plan towards our next conference, which will be held May 25-27, 2014, at Brock University in St. Catharines. Paper proposals are due January 3, 2014. Please see a general Call for Papers in this bulletin and on our website and send your proposal to our program chair, Professor Rebecca Margolis.

The ACJS was proud to co-sponsor the recent symposium at the University of Toronto (November 17, 2013) honouring the lifetime achievements of Professor Gerald Tulchinsky of Queen's University. Professor Tulchinsky's large array of research has made a remarkable contribution to the study of Canadian Jewish history. Another esteemed scholar in the field, Professor Morton Weinfeld of McGill University, has been awarded the prestigious Marshall Sklare Award for the social scientific study of Jewish life. The

ACJS is also proud to co-sponsor the Sklare Award reception taking place in Boston on December 15, 2013, as part of the Association for Jewish Studies conference.

In terms of the ongoing running of our association, I would like to thank again Robin Bergart for designing and maintaining our new crisp website. Take a look at www.acjs-aejc.ca. Thank you as well to Emily Lam for taking over our association's important treasurer's duties.

After several years of service, I have decided to step down as president of the ACJS at our next Annual General Meeting, in May of 2014. When I took on this role in June 2005 at our conference at the University of Western Ontario, I could not have imagined that I would stay in this position for this long. It has been a rewarding

experience for me; however, we know that change is a healthy part of the growth and development of an association. I will reflect more on these matters in the next edition of the bulletin. For now I am confident that we will put in place a competent new leader.

With all good wishes,

Dr. Randal F. Schnoor

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About Us

The Association for Canadian Jewish Studies/l'Association des études juives canadiennes was founded in 1976 as the Canadian Jewish Historical Society/Société d'histoire juive canadienne. Its goal is to encourage scholarly research in Canadian Jewish history, life and culture through academic disciplines.

It is a national association with headquarters in Montreal and is affiliated with historical organizations and institutions throughout Canada.

This newsletter is written for organizations and individuals with a particular interest in Canadian Jewish studies.

Comments, news, announcements, and reviews can be emailed to Susan Landau-Chark at sjlandauchark@yahoo.ca.

The ACJS website:
www.acjs-aejc.ca.

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*A happy Chanukah
to all our readers.*

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

All membership renewals to the Association can now be made online using Paypal. Simply go to www.acjs-aejc.ca to renew. Also, if you have a change of address, email or phone number, please let us know by emailing Janice Rosen at acjssecretary@gmail.com.

THANK YOU to the following institutions for their support of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies: Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies; Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies (York University); University of Toronto Centre for Jewish Studies; and Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program (University of Ottawa).





Association for Canadian Jewish Studies ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT June 3-4, 2013

by Maxa Sawyer, Graduate student, York University

The Association for Canadian Jewish Studies (ACJS) Annual Conference for 2013 was hosted by the University of Victoria. All ACJS sessions took place in the McPherson Library, Room 210, on campus. The sessions ranged over a variety of topics and were well received by the participants. Kudos and thank you to the co-ordinators of this well organized conference, Rebecca Margolis and Randal Schnoor.

ISSUES IN CANADIAN HOLOCAUST STUDIES

Zelda Abramson (Acadia University) opened this session addressing the economic role of women Holocaust survivors. Her presentation, "Things Aren't Always What They Appear to Be: Stories of Women Holocaust Survivors Settling in Montreal," provided a counter-narrative to the hegemonic, male-dominated, rags-to-riches narrative of Holocaust survivors who settled in Montreal. Stories of economic success, attributed mainly to men's employment, obscured the economic role of women within the family. Many women survivors in the post-War era helped their families survive financially by doing piecework in their homes; this labour was not recognized by the family.

The second speaker was **Jason Chalmers** (University of Ottawa). His presentation, "Canada and the Expansion of Holocaust Memory: Three Cases," demonstrated the Canadianization of Holocaust memory by comparing the Canadian Holocaust memorials located in Ottawa, Winnipeg and Halifax.

In Ottawa, the design and space of the Holocaust memorial, situated in a Jewish cemetery, reflects the closed community of Holocaust survivors who relied mainly on one another in the aftermath of the war.

The Winnipeg Holocaust memorial is located in the Manitoba legislature. In this example, the community of Holocaust survivors and their children are extending their memory of the Holocaust out to the Jewish and non-Jewish communities.

As memory stretches and changes, what Chalmers calls "the transference of memory," the Holocaust memorial in Halifax was framed in relation to Canadian Jewish identity. Here at Pier 21, the Wheel of Conscience memorial at Pier 21 focuses on the failed voyage of the MS St. Louis.

FROM I-WITNESS TO COMMUNITY ACTIVIST: CANADIAN PERSPECTIVES ON THE UVIC I-WITNESS HOLOCAUST FIELD SCHOOL

Moving into the field of experience and application, **Helga Thorson** (University of Victoria), co-founder of the I-witness Holocaust Field School, opened the session with her presentation, "The 'I' in I-witnessing: Personal Commitment and Change." She described both the curriculum and the impact (on students) of the month-long I-witness program. There is intensive study in the first week, followed by three weeks in Europe. Each student is in charge of presenting a paper on one of the visited sites, as well as completing a number of post-travel assignments: an innovative, exciting, and challenging program for both teacher and students.

Charlotte Schallié (University of Victoria), also a co-founder of the I-witness Holocaust Field School, presented "Embracing Challenges and Contradictions: The Field School in Action." She specifically addressed the experiential education model they used for the Field School as well as the contradictions and challenges the trip engendered. For example, for many of the program participants, complex emotional responses surfaced as a consequence of their field encounters: The students were daily confronted with the need to balance empathy with intellectual experience.

The last three presenters were program participants. **Sarah Jane Kerr-Lapsley** (University of British Columbia) spoke on how, as a result of participating in the program, she felt a sense of responsibility to learn about genocide and spread

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

the word to others. Her presentation, “Knowledge in Context: Post-Secondary Opportunities for Expanding Human Rights and Genocide Studies Curriculum in Canada,” described the program as her first experience in studying the Holocaust with non-Jews despite learning about the Holocaust throughout her life.

Amy Coté (University of Victoria) demonstrated how her program experience influenced her analysis of Anne Michaels’ *Fugitive Pieces*. Her presentation, “Analyzing Stories: (Re-) Reading Anne Michaels’ *Fugitive Pieces* after the I-witness school,” laid out how her experience with the I-witness Holocaust Field School had changed her way of thinking about the novel *Fugitive Pieces*. She also found that it raised questions she had not hitherto considered, and she commented upon the innate failure of language to recreate experience.

Jason Michaud (University of Victoria) talked about “Preserving Stories: Community Engagement through the ‘Local Stories and Experiences of the Holocaust’ Archival Project.” The Victoria Holocaust Archival Project is dedicated to the documentation and digitalization of the stories of local Holocaust survivors in an effort to preserve their experiences of the Holocaust. The local survivors became collaborators in the project, as they were asked how they wanted their stories to be remembered or framed at this point in their lives. The project created a blog, open to the public, and this has helped the project to facilitate ongoing dialogue within the larger Victoria community.

CANADIAN JEWISH IDENTITIES

Maxa Sawyer (York University) spoke about those who shared the Canadian Birthright Israel experience. In her presentation, “The Voices of Birthright Israel: Going Beyond the Jewish Homeland Narrative to Create a Realistic Relationship between the Jewish Canadian Diaspora and Israel,” she queried why numbers of past Canadian Birthright Israel participants chose to become Birthright Israel (BI) bus counsellors.

She put forth her deduction that the Canadian participants who became bus counsellors thought future participants might benefit from a more nuanced version of Israel rather than the Jewish “Disneyland” version of Israel that tends to emerge throughout Birthright Israel experiences. The incorporation of a more nuanced narrative of Israel, which would include the non-Jewish population of Israel, would enable participants to critically engage with Israel.

Emily Lam’s (McGill University) paper, “From the Old World to the New: Distinctive Dimensions of Place and Their

Influence on Identity and Authenticity of Klezmer Music in Early Twentieth-Century Montreal,” investigated how the term “klezmer” and “klezmerim” have become signifiers of place and delineators of identity and musical authenticity. Reflecting upon statements made by her informants in conjunction with ethnomusicological and anthropological concepts and theories surrounding performance and experiences of music, she also uncovered why the originating place (Eastern Europe) of this musical tradition is so crucial to Montreal Jewish musicians and their perception of authenticity.

She further discussed how and why feelings, memories, and experiences, real or imagined, of the Old World are invoked and meanings produced through the performance of this music within a new Canadian context.

EVENING PROGRAM HONOURING IRA ROBINSON

Ed Fitch, House Committee Chair and Heritage Committee Chair of Congregation Emanu-El, opened the program and welcomed ACJS conference participants to the synagogue. He spoke eloquently about the synagogue and its place in the Victoria and larger community, as well as describing in detail the structural challenges of the synagogue’s restoration process.

Prior to the award ceremony, **Bernard Katz** (University of Guelph) introduced **Ira Robinson**, pointing out the latter’s many activities on behalf of the Canadian Jewish community as well as his many articles and books that have introduced the international Jewish community to Canada’s Jews. **Randal Schnoor**, ACJS president, presented the Louis Rosenberg Distinguished Service Award to Ira Robinson.

To round out the evening, there was a panel discussion on a most fitting topic: “Heritage, Identity and Memory,” moderated by **Richard Menkis** (University of British Columbia). **Harry Brechner**, Rabbi of Congregation Emanu-El, spoke on “The Place of the 150th Anniversary in the Spiritual Life of a Community.” He described how the congregation’s preparation for the synagogue’s 150th anniversary enabled congregants to view themselves as part of the synagogue’s history and legacy.

Illustrating how another culture views heritage, memory and identity, **Zhongping Chen** (University of Victoria) introduced the audience to “Victoria’s Chinatown: A Gateway to the Past and Present of Chinese Canadians.” He spoke about the history of Victoria’s Chinatown and the interactive website he had developed in order to make this history accessible to the public.

The last speaker of the evening was **Faith Jones** (University of British Columbia). Her presentation, “Jewish Identity and Memory: The Online Yizkor Book Project,” described the New York Public Library’s (NYPL) very unusual project. The NYPL

has digitized 700 Yizkor books: Yizkor books are the written memories of the culture, history and demographics of towns in Europe where Jewish life was destroyed. The books embody the survivors' passionate commitment to, and memories of, their towns.

CANADIAN JEWISH HISTORIES

The first session of the second day opened with presenter **David S. Koffman** (University of Toronto). His presentation, "Immigrant Jews and Indian Curiosities: Expansions in British Columbia, New Mexico and Nebraska," outlined the relationship between Jews and Aborigines in the late 19th century. As key agents in the expansion of the West, linking rural outposts with the larger metropolitan communities, Jewish entrepreneurs were the commodifiers of curios.

Ira Robinson (Concordia University) illustrated the relationship between a rabbinic institution in the United States and a synagogue in Canada between 1930 to the 1960s. His presentation, "Finding a Rabbi for Quebec City: The Interplay Between an American Rabbinate and a Canadian Congregation," described the difficulties that the Quebec City synagogue experienced in contracting a rabbi.

Until the 1930s, Quebec City's synagogue was unable to afford a rabbi and instead hired a person who could be the shochet (ritual slaughterer), the cantor and the Hebrew teacher.

In the 1930s, the congregation decided to hire a rabbi, which upgraded the congregation's status and advertised its financial ability to hire a rabbi. The congregation wanted a rabbi from America rather than from Europe so that the rabbi would speak the language of the congregants' Canadian children: English.

The request from the Canadian congregation for an American rabbi posed challenges and opportunities for the American yeshiva. On the one hand, Quebec City was far from New York City and Montreal, cities where Orthodox Jewish institutions were readily available. On the other, it provided the yeshiva with a synagogue where new rabbis could develop their skills before moving onto bigger congregations and where it was possible to experiment with religious modernizations, such as mixed seating.

The relationship between the synagogue and the yeshiva ended in 1960 when the rabbi resigned after two men of influential families (in the congregation) married non-Jewish women and successfully applied for membership at the synagogue.

Peter Usher, an independent researcher, addressed "Jews and the Military in Canada." His paper explored how Canadian Jews responded to and were affected by being Canadian soldiers in World War II. His research sought answers to a

number of questions, such as why so many Jews signed up for this war, what was the personal and community impact of so many Canadian Jews enlisting, and was there a lessening of anti-Semitism after the war as a result of Canadian Jewish involvement.

He was also collecting data on how the Canadian Jewish community has remembered its own fallen soldiers. As there has been little examination of these questions, his paper suggested that there was still much research to be done.

ROUNDTABLE: PROBLEMS OF THE PERSONAL

The last session of the day (and the conference) began with **David S. Koffman's** (University of Toronto) describing how digitalization is reshaping collective experiences in a way that seems organic yet has a profound impact on society. The question posed by the roundtable: Why is the personal relevant to the work of the presenters?

Andrea Eidinger (University of the Fraser Valley) was the first respondent. She discussed her experiences working as a historian with a focus on women and what it means to be an "ordinary" Jew in Canada.

She reflected on her interview style, which leans towards personal conversations with people in informal settings and which requires her subjective participation. Engaging in these open interviews where she is both interviewee and interviewer has enabled her to draw out deeply intimate, personal stories from herself and her participants.

Stephanie Schwartz (Research Director, Interactive Museum of Jewish Montreal), the second respondent, described her work as collecting, mapping and sharing the stories of Montreal Jews' lives through the digital walking tours posted on the Interactive Museum's website. To gather her stories she often needs to build personal relationships with her subjects, which can raise issues of permission, confidentiality and privacy against the need to create and curate content.

The last speaker of the day was **Jennifer Yuhasz** (Jewish Museum and Archives of British Columbia). She outlined the role of her organization and detailed how the archivist differs from the historian and scholar. She noted that the archivist deals with both private and public records, and in her case, it is her role to collect and preserve artifacts of the Vancouver Jewish community.

Echoing the issues raised by Stephanie Schwartz, Jennifer Yuhasz also noted the issues of privacy and confidentiality, especially in a digital world, where everyone has the capability to easily access information over the Internet. On the other hand, the rapidly changing digital world may pose problems in the future as technology changes and information that has been digitalized may no longer be accessible. □



Association for Canadian Jewish Studies

Canadian Jewish Studies Journal

Vol. 21 (2013)

Volume 20 (2012) of *Canadian Jewish Studies / Études Juives Canadiennes* is off to the presses and will soon be on your door step! Co-editors David Koffman and Stephanie Tara Schwartz are thrilled about our upcoming issue, featuring five new articles, reviews of new books in the field, and the first installment of a wonderful new section we hope to include in all future journal issues called the Archives Matter (complete with colour photos!). The journal is an important part of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies' work, and we are calling on you, our colleagues, to contribute your support.

Call for Peer Reviewers: The wide range of subjects within our fields demands a vast array of expertise: Be one of the first to read new scholarship in the field! If you are interested in becoming a peer reviewer, or have been a reviewer in the past and would like to help out in the future, please contact the editors at editor.cjs@gmail.com.

Call for Book Reviewers: Share your impressions of new scholarship in Canadian Jewish studies with your peers! If you are interested in reviewing new books in Canadian

Jewish studies, please contact our book review editor, Ira Robinson, at ira.robinson@sympatico.ca.

Call for Submissions: Canadian Jewish Studies (ISSN: 1198-3493) is an annual, peer-reviewed journal devoted to publishing scholarly work, in English or French, on all aspects of the Canadian Jewish experience, irrespective of disciplinary perspective. For our forthcoming issue, we invite contributions from any field and focused on any aspect of Canadian Jewish life. Please submit articles to Canadian Jewish Studies for consideration via Open Journal System by January 15, 2014: <http://pi.library.yorku.ca/ojs/index.php/cjs/about/submissions#onlineSubmissions>.

Call for Volunteers: Do you have a talent for web design or copy-editing? Can you translate between English and French? Getting involved in the journal is a great line on your CV and great academic and work experience. If you want to participate in the journal process, please get in touch with the editors at editor.cjs@gmail.com.

Let's make volume 21 (2013) a huge success! □

A MINI-RETROSPECTIVE

WHEN YOU COUNT the passage of time according to Bulletin publication dates and annual conferences, time tends to shrink, and nine years does not seem like nine years.



After reading Randy's message (page 1), I could not let the opportunity pass to provide membership a very brief recap of ACJS activities since 2005.

The same year Randy stepped into the position of President, the AGM voted on Bylaw 22, the Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award, which was conferred in that year on Gerald Tulchinsky and in 2006 on Irving Abella.

At the suggestion of Professor Tulchinsky, the award was renamed the Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award.

In the autumn of 2005 the ASCJ list-serve came into being, with Howard Gontovnick continuing to provide yeoman's service in monitoring of the list-serve on our behalf.

In the winter of 2006 ACJS launched its website, www.acjs-acjc.ca, the go-to place for all things Canadian and Jewish.

In 2010, through the generosity of Board member Gary Davis, the Association was able to establish an award for the best student paper presented at an ACJS conference.

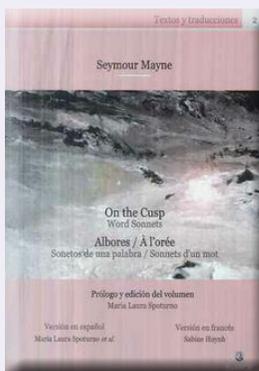
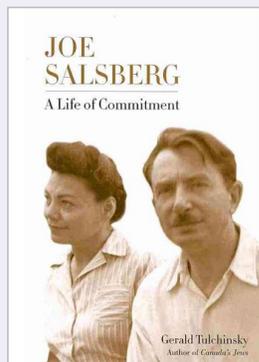
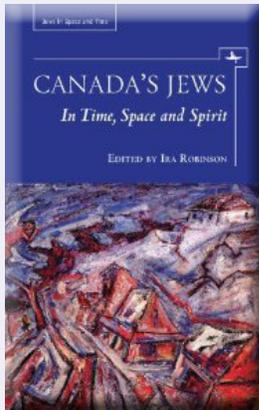
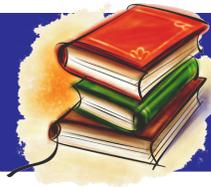
In 2011 this award was renamed the Marcia Koven award, for Marcia Koven, the 2011 recipient of the Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award.

The ACJS Board continues to be peopled by a diverse and eclectic group from across Canada and parts of the U.S., who are united in being fascinated by all things Canadian and Jewish.

Randy, you have gently nudged the Association into the 21st century and have worked unceasingly to promote Canadian Jewish studies. May you go from strength to strength.

Susan Landau-Chark
Bulletin Editor

ON THE *Bookshelf*



A hearty *yasher koach* to **Ira Robinson** on the publication of *Canada's Jews: In Time, Space and Spirit*.

The Mary Heimlich Cultural Endowment of Montreal's Jewish Public Library sponsored the launch of Professor Robinson's most recent "labour of love" on October 7.

As home to one of the world's largest and most culturally creative Jewish communities, Canada is one of the few in the Diaspora that continues to grow demographically. With its ability to mirror trends found in Jewish communities elsewhere (particularly in the United States) while simultaneously functioning as a distinct society, Canada's Jewish community holds great interest for scholars, exercising a measurable influence on the culture and politics of world Jewry.

The book consists of a series of essays written by experts in their respective fields. Professor Robinson has created a topical encyclopedia covering a wide variety of topics, from history and religion to the intellectual and cultural contributions of Canada's Jews. It will be greatly appreciated and well used by scholars and students interested in Canadian Jewry.

Gerald Tulchinsky's most recent undertaking is *Joe Salsberg: A Life of Commitment* (University of Toronto Press, Scholarly Publishing Division ©2013 World Rights).

Tulchinsky unfolds Salsberg's personal and professional journey, from his entrance into Toronto's oppressive garment industry at age 14 to his meteoric rise to become a major figure of the Ontario Left, a leading voice for human rights in the Ontario

legislature, and an important journalist in the Jewish community.

Tulchinsky employs historical sources not used before to explain how Salsberg's family life and surrounding religious and social milieus influenced his life trajectory, which mirrored many of the most significant transformations in Canadian political and social life in the twentieth century.

Wordsmith **Seymour Mayne's** newest publication is *On the Cusp: Word Sonnets/Albores: Sonetos de una palabra/ À l'orée: Sonnets d'un mot*, trilingual edition, edited by María Laura Spoturno, translated into Spanish by María Laura Spoturno et al. and into French by Sabine Huynh, La Plata, Argentina: FaHCE, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, 2013.

The book showcases a new sequence of Seymour Mayne's word sonnets, the sub-genre for which he is known as the leading international innovator. The book is the result of collaboration with both the Argentinian Spanish translator and her team, as well as with the French translator of an earlier bilingual work of Mayne's sonnets.

This is an exceptional occasion whereby the originals are published for the first time simultaneously with the Spanish and French versions, making for a unique trilingual trans-American literary collection.

In connection with last May's launching of the collection, Mayne gave lectures and readings in Argentina at universities, institutes, and Jewish community venues, including the Seminario Rabínico Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires.

The book will be available in electronic form later this fall from the Universidad Nacional de La Plata university press, Argentina.

For further information, please contact Professor María Laura Spoturno at lauraspoturno@hotmail.com. □

From Our Regions

The West

Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta



JAHSENA and the Edmonton Chevra Kadisha launch new website

The Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta and the Edmonton Chevra Kadisha are pleased to announce the creation of a new website for the

cemetery. All of the over 1800 burials in the cemetery will be listed by name and plot number and will feature links to photos of their headstones, the individuals buried there, and information kept in the Archives, such as their eulogy or obituary. This project is the first joint venture by these three Edmonton Jewish organizations.

This project is based on raw data collected by former JAHSENA Board Member Cory Felber, who spent years cataloguing and photographing the cemetery and creating a database for researchers and family members seeking to visit their loved ones. The burial information is also available on JOWBR, the Jewish Online World Burial Registry, which can be found at www.jewishgen.org. However, it was Felber's idea to create an independent website for this particular cemetery, which is believed to be the first of its kind. The website will serve as a "one-stop-shop"

Director and Archivist of JAHSENA, worked to put the website together, along with Cory Felber and Chevra Kadisha member David Marcus. Says Shoctor, "This website will be a great tool for anyone interested in community history or in researching their roots in the Jewish community of Edmonton. We also hope it will prompt people to send in the eulogies and obituaries of their loved ones to be included on the website and to donate material on them to our Archives."

The website will be updated annually as new burials occur. Currently, there are about 30 new burials a year at the cemetery, located on Edmonton's south side, at 7622-101 Avenue. This July, JAHSENA also partnered with the Chevra Kadisha to conduct cemetery tours as part of the Doors Open Edmonton Festival. Both organizations hope that this will become a regular event. Please check out the website at www.edmontonjewishcemetery.ca, as well as

the JAHSENA website at www.jahsena.ca. If you have materials that you would like included on the website or to donate to the Archives, please contact the JAHSENA office at (780) 489-2809 or jahsena@shaw.ca.

JAHSENA recreates H.B. Kline Jewelry Store at Fort Edmonton Park



Edmonton Jewish Cemetery, www.edmontonjewishcemetery.ca. This project was funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, through Edmonton United Jewish Appeal.

The website will feature information about the Jewish Archives as well as the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery, founded in 1907, and the Chevra Kadisha, the non-profit, volunteer society that runs

for researchers, family members and genealogists, full of information on Edmonton's Jewish citizens, with links to other sources which can be used to learn more about this vibrant Jewish community.

The website was designed by Kyle Huberman of Pixel Designs Edmonton. Kyle is a local community member and web designer. Debby Shoctor, Executive

JAHSENA has partnered with the City of Edmonton and Fort Edmonton Park to recreate the H.B. Kline Jewelry Store in the Capitol Theatre Building on 1920 Street in Fort Edmonton Park. The store will serve as an interpretive space within the Park through which the story of Edmonton's Jewish pioneers can be told. H.B. Kline was one of Edmonton's earliest Jewish jewelers and was in

business from 1904 to 1972. Many of his descendants still live in the city.

The project was begun in late 2011 and was finally completed this May. The



H.B. Kline Jewelry Store recreated.



Historical interpreters are Danielle Weisz and Mark Vetsch.

grand opening took place on June 9, 2013, at Fort Edmonton Park. JAHSENA would like to thank all the donors and committee members who participated in making this project possible.

More photos of the opening can be found on our Facebook page, The Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta. Please “like” us to view the photos! And if you have not already seen the store, please make a trip down to Fort Edmonton Park to see it.

Ontario

Judith Cohen, ethnomusicologist, performer, and music instructor specializing in Judeo-Spanish (*Ladino*) Sephardic songs, has, through her many

articles, workshops and presentations, made her life’s work the recovery and dissemination of Judeo-Spanish and Crypto-Jewish (*Marrano*) music. Her work has taken her on unexpected and rewarding journeys, and this past spring she found herself, through a most serendipitous train of events, in Morocco sharing her music with Muslims and Christians.

In the 1980s, Judith was doing her doctoral research (fieldwork) in Montreal and Toronto, where she met and recorded several elderly Sephardic women who sang traditional songs from northwestern Morocco, including the town of Larache. Her most recent CD, *Sefarad en Diáspora* (Pneuma Records, 2006), includes some of the Larache ballads. It so happened that this particular CD was heard by Mohamed Laabi, director of the Dar Laraïch cultural association of Larache, and founder of the Zoco Chico multicultural music festival. Judith was invited to perform, give workshops, and participate in the festival. The link www.canfolkmusic.ca/index.php/cfmb/article/view/616/603 describes the fascinating story of Judith’s activities and experiences in her own words. As Judith had noted elsewhere:

“Larache used to have an important Jewish community, but, like most Moroccan towns, now has none,” said Cohen. “Mohamed [Laabi] started the Zoco Chico festival partly in the hope of bringing back, through music, the spirit of cordial coexistence that prevailed among the Muslim, Jewish and Christian residents. I welcomed the opportunity to give back to the place and the people something of what the Larache women I met in Montreal shared with me.” □



The Switzer-Cooperstock Lecture Prize in Western Canadian Jewish History

The Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada invites applications for the 2014 Switzer-Cooperstock Lecture Prize in Western Canadian Jewish History. This prize, established by the Switzer family to honour parents and grandparents, will be awarded for a publishable essay on Jewish history in Western Canada, with some preference for essays on secular Jewish schools in Western Canada, Jewish settlers and traders in rural areas of Western Canada, and the immigration experience of Jews to Western Canada. The research may use original sources or it may be a synthesis of other published material.

To apply, submit a finished but unpublished essay (work published within the last two years is also eligible) or write a letter identifying the research project, the problem to be solved, previous scholarship, sources used, and the preliminary results. Include a CV. The deadline for applications is March 15, 2014. Applications will be considered by an academic panel, and the results will be announced on or about April 30, 2014.

The winner will receive \$6,500 and will present his/her findings at a public lecture in Winnipeg in autumn 2014. The Jewish Heritage Centre will publish the lecture electronically and/or in print form unless it has already appeared.

Past winners are Professor Theodore Friedgut, University of Jerusalem, for an essay on the Lipton farm colony (2008); Professor Lynne Marks, University of Victoria, for an essay on religion and identity in British Columbia (2010); and Chana Thau, independent scholar, for an essay on growing up in small towns in Manitoba and Saskatchewan (2012).

To apply or for further information, contact Mr. Stanislao Carbone, Director of Programs and Exhibits, Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada, 123 Doncaster Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3N 2B2. Email: scarbone@jhcwc.org.



Association for Canadian Jewish Studies
May 25-27, 2014, Conference
 Brock University
 (St. Catharines, Ontario)
Call for Papers

Individuals are invited to send proposals for learned paper presentations 20 minutes in length. Potential presenters are asked to submit a paper proposal by January 3, 2014.

The paper proposal should comprise a 400-word abstract formulated to clearly and concisely state the main argument of the scholarly paper and indicate how it will contribute to existing scholarship in the field of Canadian Jewish studies. It should also include a bibliography of relevant sources. The abstract should be sent as a .doc or .rtf attachment, double-spaced in Times New Roman font, with the paper title clearly indicated at the top.

The name, affiliation, address, telephone number and e-mail of the potential presenter as well as the title of the proposed paper should be located in the body of the e-mail only (and not in the attached abstract). All proposals will receive anonymous peer review, after which point communication with presenters will occur by February 10, 2014.

All presenters must be paid 2013 members of ACJS at the time that proposals are submitted. Proposals from individuals who are not 2013 members of ACJS will not be reviewed. [Membership information](#) for ACJS can be found on our website, as can a French summary of the information contained herein.

Partial financial support to defray travel and accommodations costs is available for presenters who have been members of the ACJS for at least one full calendar year prior to January 2014 (i.e. presenters must be in good standing for both 2013 and 2014 to be eligible for support). University students are exempt from this requirement and are also eligible for additional

top-up support. In all cases, because ACJS support funds are limited, presenters, including students, are expected to apply first to their host institutions for whatever funds may be available to them locally. Applications for financial support, which will be sent to eligible presenters along with the notice of acceptance of their paper proposal, will be due the first week of March, with results to be communicated by the end of March.

The best student paper of the conference will be granted the Marcia Koven Award, which is accompanied by a cash prize. The award, which is based on the oral presentation of the paper, will be granted based on the scholarly quality of the paper and its contribution to the field of Canadian Jewish studies.

As the ACJS annual conference is part of the larger national conference body called the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, ACJS conference participants whose paper proposals have been accepted must register in advance for the Congress by paying the required fees for both the general Congress registration and the ACJS conference registration.

Early-bird registration rates are available before April 1, 2014. Participants will receive details on registration from the Program Chair and are also invited to consult the [Congress website](#) for details.

Please note that presentations from individuals who have not pre-registered for the Congress and ACJS Conference will not be included in the Conference Program.

Please email proposals to Professor Rebecca Margolis, Program Chair, at rmargoli@uottawa.ca.



*Concordia
University's
Institute for
Canadian
Jewish Studies
has had an
interesting and
busy autumn.
Here are some
of the highlights.*

*List compiled by
Ira Robinson, Interim Director*

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Professor **Pierre Anctil** of the University of Ottawa was appointed an Affiliate Professor for the 2013-2014 academic year. He will be sharing his expertise with graduate students and research associates and will participate in various activities of the Institute.

Dr. Chantal Ringuet has been appointed Research Associate of the Institute for the 2013-2014 academic year. She is the fifth Postdoctoral Research Associate to be appointed.

INSTITUTE SEMINARS AND LECTURES

October 11: Ira Robinson, "Finding a Rabbi for Quebec City: The Interplay Between an American Yeshiva and a Canadian Congregation."

October 28: Gerald Tulchinsky, "Jewish Immigration and the Canadian Context Between the World Wars." This was the Institute's first Joseph A. Kagedan Kage Lecture.

November 6: Book launch of Carolyn Gammon's and Israel Unger's *The Unwritten Diary of Israel Unger*.

CO-SPONSORED EVENTS

October 2-4: Séminaire internationale: Judaïsme et éducation: institutions, curriculum et pratiques novatrices (avec Centres d'études ethniques des universités montréalaises, etc.).

October 7: Launch of Ira Robinson's *Canada's Jews: In Time, Space and Spirit* (with the Jewish Public Library, Montreal).

November 3: Les Juifs de Québec: 400 ans d'histoire (avec le Centre interuniversitaire d'études sur les lettres, les arts et les traditions, Université Laval, etc., Québec, Québec).

November 17: "Oyfn Veg": A Symposium on Canadian Jewish studies in honour of Professor Gerald Tulchinsky (with the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies, etc., Toronto, Ontario).



ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES
ASSOCIATION DES ÉTUDES JUIVES CANADIENNES

c/o DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
1455 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD. WEST
MONTREAL, QUEBEC H3G 1M8

ACJS/AEJC AFFILIATED SOCIETIES & INSTITUTIONS (2013-2014)

(Asterisks denote institutional members)

**Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee
National Archives**

Dr. Norma Joseph, CJCCC National Archives Chair
Janice Rosen, CJCCC National Archives Director
1590 avenue Docteur Penfield
Montreal, QC H3G 1C5
Phone: 514-931-7531 ext. 2; Fax: 514-931-0548
Email: jrosen@cjccc.ca
Websites: www.cjccc.ca; www.cjhn.ca

Canadian Society for Jewish Studies *

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Centre for Jewish Studies *

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Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies *

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Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies *

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Website: <http://cjs.blog.yorku.ca>

**The Jewish Museum & Archives of British Columbia/
Jewish Historical Society of British Columbia**

Jennifer Yuhasz, Archivist
6184 Ash Street
Vancouver, BC V5Z 3G9
Phone: 604-257-5199 (Skype-friendly); Fax: 604-257-5198
Email: info@jewishmuseum.ca
Website: www.jewishmuseum.ca

**Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton
& Northern Alberta**

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Debby Shoctor, Archivist
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Website: www.jahsena.ca

Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta

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Agi Romer Segal, Librarian and Archivist
1607 - 90th Avenue S.W.
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Website: www.jhssa.org

Ontario Jewish Archives

Brooky Robins, Chair
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Website: www.ontariojewisharchives.org

Ottawa Jewish Archives

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Website: <http://jewishottawa.com/page.aspx?id=193507>

Saint John Jewish Historical Museum

Gary Davis, President
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Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program *

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