JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH

2019 Guidebook

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2019 GUIDEBOOK

Produced by

CIJA

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs

As the advocacy agent of the Jewish Federations of Canada, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) is anational, non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of Jewish life in Canada by advancing the public policy interests of Canada's organized Jewish community.

CIJA builds and nurtures relationships with leaders in government, media, academia, civil society and other faith and ethnic communities to ensure greater understanding of the issues that impact all Canadians.

CIJA connects the power of a strong, national network to regional efforts in every Canadian province and, as the Canadian affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, to international efforts worldwide.

CIJA believes in the foundational democratic freedoms and values of Canadian society and is committed to working with the government and all like-minded groups to ensure that Canada remains a country where all citizens - irrespective of gender, race or creed - enjoy equal protections and opportunities.

CIJA's work focuses on three key areas: Canada, by advocating for policies that impact broader Canadian society; Israel, by building support for Israelis; and the Jewish Community, by strengthening Jewish security and grassroots advocacy

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Core Values in Judaism

It is important to note that Jewish people not only identify themselves as belonging to a religious group, but also as a nation and as a people, reflecting both religious doctrine and cultural practices.

Judaism, in both its religious and cultural manifestations, has varied a great deal throughout history and has changed and challenged its adherents for millennia. Jewish tradition unites Jews from a vast array of backgrounds and countries, such as Jews from Poland, Spain, Yemen, Iraq, India, Ethiopia, and the United States, to name just a few.

Culturally, Jewish values emphasize family, community, charity, education, ethics, compassion for the vulnerable, a common history and ritual, and the connection to the ancient Jewish homeland, Israel.
As a religion, from antiquity to the present day, Judaism has been the religious expression of the Jewish people in their efforts to live a life of holiness before G-d.

Following are only some of the important structures of the Jewish tradition.

G-d

G-d's name is treated with great care in Jewish tradition. The writing of the name is not prohibited; however, erasing or defacing the name of G-d is. Thus, it is not written due to the risk of it later becoming defaced or destroyed accidentally, to prevent others from destroying the name of G-d. As such, it is a common practice to write G-d's name with a hyphen.

Belief in G-d is the foundation of the Jewish faith and the ground of its legal system. The Torah depicts creation and G-d's activity in ancient Israelite history. The Torah ascribes certain traits to G-d, such as mercy, justice and benevolence. In rabbinic sources, G-d is described as omnipotent, omniscient, incorporeal, and all-good. Judaism adheres to the belief that there is only one G-d.

The Torah

Synonymous with Pentateuch, the five Books of Moses are the Written Teachings known as the Torah. According to tradition, the five books were given by G-d to Moses on Mount Sinai. Along with the Written Teachings, G-d gave Moses a detailed explanation of His commandments, known as the Oral Teachings.

Today, Torah has come to mean not only the Written and Oral Teachings, but the totality of Jewish teaching and thought as well.

The Torah is divided into 54 portions, one of which is read in Synagogue each Sabbath. This cycle of readings concludes each year on Shmini Atzeret and begins again of the following day on Simchat Torah.

Prayer/Liturgy

Jewish prayer can either be public or private and is both set and spontaneous. In Judaism, every aspect of life is marked by a blessing, from food to nature. Some prayers are recited regularly by traditional Jews who pray three times a day — evening, morning, and afternoon.

Major Religious Denominations

As in many religions, Judaism has different branches of practice. The largest Jewish religious groups in Canada – Orthodox Judaism, Conservative Judaism, and Reform Judaism – are briefly outlined below. It is important to note there are other denominations as well, such as Reconstructionist Judaism and Renewal Judaism.

Orthodox Judaism

Orthodox Judaism represents a very traditional approach to Judaism, adhering to the belief in the divine origin of the Written and Oral Teachings and insisting on strict adherence to the laws of the Shulhan Arukh, 'the prepared table,' a collection of codes and commentaries by Rabbi Joseph Caro. The community's rabbi is the chief authority on questions of Jewish tradition and customs.

Hasidic Judaism, which was founded in the 18th Century, is a subset of Orthodox Judaism. Its followers generally wear distinctive clothing.

Conservative Judaism

As a religious movement, Conservative Judaism arose in the middle of the 19th Century in Europe and the U.S. As a middle path between Orthodox and Reform Judaism, its founders believed that the traditional forms and precepts of Judaism are binding, while allowing for gradual changes in response to various challenges that a modern society presents.

Commandments are seen as G-d given, but greater flexibility for interpretation is allowed. The community's rabbi is the chief authority on such interpretations.

Reform Judaism

As a religious movement, Reform Judaism was established in Europe in the early 19th Century, but it took root primarily in North America.

The guiding principles of the movement are to introduce innovation while preserving tradition, to embrace diversity while asserting commonality, to affirm beliefs without rejecting those who doubt, and to bring faith to sacred texts without sacrificing critical scholarship. In the context of community, each individual is empowered to interpret the demands of Jewish tradition.

Basic Terms

Hebrew
(hēbroo)

Hebrew, the ancient holy language of the Jewish people dates back over 3,000 years. Thought to be a dying language except for its use in prayer, it was revived and modernized as a spoken language in Israel by Jews who immigrated there in the 19th century. In May 1948, the State of Israel made Hebrew one of its official languages. Jewish prayer is conducted in Hebrew, and Jewish school children typically learn the language as part of their formal Jewish education.

Kippa or Yarmulke
(KEY-pah / YAH-mu-kah)

A yarmulke or kippa, skullcap, is worn by Jews to show reverence for G-d during worship, study, and while reciting blessings. Some Jews wear a yarmulke or kippa all the time as a sign of respect. Out of reverence to G-d, it is traditional for all men to cover their heads when entering a Synagogue sanctuary.

Kosher/Kashrut
(koh-sher/ kahsh-roo't)

Kosher dietary laws are a mitzvah, a commandment of G-d. There are many interpretations regarding why Jews are expected to observe kosher laws. Some believe these commandments have no rational explanation and are to be followed for the sole reason that they are a commandment from G-d. Others believe there are many explanations including, amongst other reasons: minimizing pain for animals when slaughtered, instilling self-discipline, avoiding eating animals seen as unhealthy or unhygienic, and the connection of daily life with the divine.

Kosher food is not simply a list of forbidden foods; instead, it permeates all aspects of diet: type, preparation and the eating process itself. The process of making a kitchen kosher is known as Kashering. It involves several steps including, amongst other things: separating dishes used for meat from those used from dairy, not eating meat and dairy together, and refraining from eating certain animals (such as pig and shellfish) – all of which are aspects of Kashrut. Observant Orthodox Jews will eat only in restaurants that are supervised to ensure that kosher standards are observed.

Mitzvah
(meets-vah)

Mitzvah literally means "commandment." Jewish tradition understands exactly 613 mitzvot (plural of mitzvah) derived from the Torah. Whether requiring abstention from certain acts (murder, theft, adultery) or requiring the performance of other acts (feeding the poor, observing the Sabbath), they are much more significant in the Jewish tradition than mere divine suggestions on how to behave. Mitzvot are commandments and not simply "good deeds," that are traditionally understood to come from G-d and are intended to be observed by the Jewish people.

Rabbi
(rab-ahy)

Rabbis are spiritual leaders who teach, sermonize, interpret Jewish tradition, and perform religious ceremonies and rituals.

The majority of synagogues are closely identified with their rabbis. Some rabbis act as family, marriage, and spiritual counsellors. In addition, many rabbis act as representatives of the Jewish community at non-Jewish events. In Reform and Conservative Judaism, rabbis may be male or female. In Orthodox Judaism, rabbis are always male. In each denomination, rabbi attire varies widely.

Tallit
(Tah-LEET)

A tallit is a prayer shawl traditionally worn by adult males, and increasingly by some females, during specific prayer services. It is a four-cornered garment with fringes knotted at each corner that symbolizes one's commitment to follow G-d's commandments.

Tefillin
(Te-FIL-in)

Tefillin are prayer boxes that contain passages from the Torah which serve to bind the Jews to G-d. They are traditionally worn by males during morning prayers.

In synagogue, many males wear yarmulkes, tallit, and tefillin when appropriate. In some non-Orthodox synagogues, an increasing number of women are also taking on the practice of wearing these religious articles.

Tzedekah
(Zed-ah-kah)

Tzedakah literally means "righteousness." To do tzedakah is to live justly. It is often interpreted as charity, because Judaism views giving as the ultimate act of righteousness. Whether it is volunteering, advocating for social justice or giving money, tzedakah is an integral part of living a Jewish life and is required of all Jews.

Important Rituals of the Life Cycle

Birth

On the eighth day after the birth of a boy, the male child is circumcised and formally named.

The circumcision symbolizes the covenant between the Jewish people and G-d. This ceremony is called a brit milah, the word brit meaning covenant. Usually a mohel, an experienced professional, performs the circumcision.

Upon the birth of a girl, there is a formal naming ceremony in the synagogue within the first weeks of life.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Bar or Bat Mitzvah means son or daughter of the commandment; a boy becomes a bar mitzvah at age thirteen, and a girl becomes a bat mitzvah at age twelve.

A bar/bat mitzvah ceremony marks the end of childhood and the beginning of adolescence or adulthood and the taking on of the obligations of an adult Jew. The ceremony includes preparation and study, public recognition, and celebration.

Marriage

The first of God's commandments to man is 'be fruitful and multiply.' Jews are therefore obligated to marry to fulfil this commandment.

The bride and groom wear white, symbolizing purity. The bride is veiled, a tradition which recalls the occasion when Rebecca covered herself with a veil as Isaac approached her for the first time.
The Jewish marriage contract, ketubah, is written in Aramaic and dates from the first century CE. The marriage ceremony takes place under a huppah, a canopy supported by four poles., which symbolizes the tents of the ancient Hebrews and the home which the bride and groom will establish.
The end of the wedding is marked by the breaking of glass, a symbol of the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, the losses suffered by the Jewish people, and the need for repair of the whole world. Although the broken glass is a reminder of sorrow, it also symbolizes hope for a future free of all violence.

Marriage continues to be a social, moral, and religious ideal.

Death

When a Jewish person dies, the burial must take place within one to three days, after which the mourning period begins. The bereaved person remains in the home for seven days of mourning called shiva, meaning seven, during which he/she may dress in special clothing and reads Scripture. No work may be done during these days. It is the duty of friends and relatives to visit the mourner during this period. Parents are mourned intensively for thirty days and then a lesser state of mourning continues until twelve months after the burial. Mourners may also take on the tradition of reciting the kaddish, a special mourner's prayer, for eleven months after the burial.

In order to fulfil this obligation, a student or employee would attend synagogue in the mornings and evenings and therefore might require some alteration to their work/attendance schedule.

Observances

Calendar

The Hebrew calendar is both solar and lunar, with twelve months. The lunar calendar is approximately eleven days shorter than twelve months, thus, every few years a leap month is added.

The day begins at sunset, the week begins on Saturday night, the month begins with the new moon, and the New Year, Rosh Hashanah, is in autumn.

There are twelve months in the Jewish calendar. The numbering of years is calculated from the creation of the world, which is traditionally understood to coincide with 3760 BCE.

The Hebrew calendar serves the religious and cultural purpose of keeping track of Holy Days, marriages, and the anniversaries of deaths. As a result of the discrepancy in days between the Jewish calendar year and the Gregorian calendar year, the date of each Holy Day will rotate each year. However, the difference from year to year is usually minor and each Holy Day can be expected to occur during the same season every year (e.g. Rosh Hashanah in the Fall, Pesach in the Spring, etc.)

Holy Days

In the Bible, in addition to the Sabbath, the Holy Days are the three pilgrimage harvest festivals of Sukkot, Passover, and Shavuot; as well as the "Days of Awe," the New Year and the Day of Atonement.

On all of these Holy Days, including the Sabbath (Saturdays), work is forbidden. There are other post-biblical festivals on which work is permitted, such as Chanukah and Purim. In all cases, Holy Days are marked by special synagogue services and celebration in the home.

Shabbat/Sabbath

The Jewish Sabbath begins at sundown on Friday evening and ends after sundown on Saturday evening.

Candles are lit, the kiddush, an ancient prayer over wine, is recited, and hallah (traditional bread) is served. Observant Jews go to synagogue Friday evening, Saturday morning, and Saturday evening.

All work is prohibited on Shabbat in order to commemorate G-d's day of rest on the seventh day of creation as well as the Exodus from Egypt. It is a time for spiritual renewal, contemplation, learning, and family gathering.

Please note that on Shabbat, observant Jews do not work from Friday sundown to Saturday after sundown and that, as the days grow shorter in the winter months, early departure from school or work may be required.

In Jewish tradition, work includes a range of creative activities rather than simply physical or occupational labour. On Shabbat, observant Jews abstain from using technology, driving, writing, cooking, and commercial activities, among other tasks.

Major Jewish Holy Days

Rosh Hashanah
Jewish New Year
1-2 Tishrei (Sept / Oct)

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is considered one of the most important Jewish Holy Days. It celebrates creation as told in the Book of Genesis. Rosh Hashanah is the yearly renewal of creation and has come to signify the continuity of creation and the ongoing involvement of G-d in the lives of the Jewish people. Rosh Hashanah marks the beginning of the ten days of repentance. It is a time to assess one's personal achievements and failures and to prepare to begin anew.

The blast of the shofar, the ram's horn, in the synagogue reminds the Jewish people to fear G-d and to do good deeds during the next twelve months.

Rosh Hashanah is celebrated with symbolic foods such as apples and honey, which represent the hope of a sweet new year.

Yom Kippur
Day of Atonement
10 Tishrei (Sept / Oct)

Marking the end of the ten days of repentance, Yom Kippur is the Day of Atonement, observed by twenty-five hours of fasting and prayer in order to cleanse one of any sins.

Yom Kippur begins at sundown with an evening service called Kol Nidre, 'All Vows,' which is commonly preceded by a large meal, the last meal before the start of the fast.

Sukkot
Festival of Tabernacles
15-21 Tishrei (Sept / Oct)

Sukkot is a seven-day festival with historical and agricultural significance. Historically, Sukkot commemorates the forty-year period during which the children of Israel were wandering in the desert, living in temporary shelters. Agriculturally, Sukkot is a harvest festival, sometimes referred to as the Feast of Ingathering.
To celebrate, a sukkah – a booth of palm and willow branches – is built and meals are eaten within it.
No work is permitted on the first two days of Sukkot. The two days following the festival, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, are also days when work is not permitted. Though these days are separate holidays, they are related to Sukkot and are therefore commonly thought of as part of the holiday.

Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah
Festival of Rejoicing with the Torah
22-23 Tishrei (Sept / Oct)

Shemini Atzeret marks the completion of the annual reading of the Torah and Simchat Torah celebrates the resumption of the annual cycle of readings. The holidays are celebrated with singing, dancing, and processions of people carrying Torahs and waving flags.

Pesach

Passover
14-22 Nisan (Mar / Apr)

Commonly referred to as Passover, Pesach is a celebration of the biblical Exodus of the Israelites, under the leadership of Moses acting in the name of G-d, from the slavery imposed by the Egyptians.

The ritual meal, or Seder is the most important part in the celebration of Pesach. During Passover, Jews refrain from eating leavened products including bread, cakes, pizza, cereal, etc.

The Hebrew term Seder means the order in which the events of the Pesach ceremony are carried out.

During the Seder, the symbolism of each traditional food is explained, the events of the Exodus are told, and the Haggadah (a book which recounts the Exodus) is read. Pesach begins on the fifteenth day of the month of Nisan and continues for eight days.

The Seder meal is observed by most Jews worldwide.

Work is not permitted on the first two and last two days of Pesach.

Shavuot

Festival of Weeks
6-7 Sivan (May / Jun)

Shavuot recalls G-d's gifts of the Torah and the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. The Holy Day commemorates the end of the spring harvest when in biblical times, Jews brought the first fruits to the Temple in Jerusalem.

Shavuot begins on the fiftieth day after Pesach, the sixth day of the Hebrew month of Sivan (in May or June), and lasts for two days. Consuming dairy foods and using floral decorations are customary ways of celebrating the holiday. Work is not permitted during this two-day festival.

The days between Pesach and Shavuot are seen as days of mourning and are held as a remembrance of the misfortunes which afflicted the Jewish people during the days of Roman domination, as well as during the Crusades of the Middle Ages.

Minor Jewish Holy Days & Other Significant Days

In addition to the major Holy Days, there are numerous other Holy Days, fast days and special days marked as important in the Jewish calendar. While there is still some level of observance required for each of these days, there is no prohibition against work. However, an observant Jew may still require slight alteration to a normal work day in order to fully observe the day.

For example, on Kristallnacht and Yom Hashoah, there are customary community-wide observances that may occur during the day or in the evening.

Kristallnacht

Night of Broken Glass
9-10 November

Kristallnacht marks the night on which the Jewish community of Nazi Germany, including Austria and Sudetenland, was attacked by the Nazis and their sympathizers. Synagogues and Jewish-owned properties were devastated, and Jewish people were attacked.
To commemorate Kristallnacht, which took place on November 9-10, 1938, a community-wide observance is held annually.

Chanukah

Festival of Lights
25 Kislev— 2 Tevet (Nov / Dec)

A festival commemorating the victory of the Maccabees over the Hellenist-Syrians, Chanukah begins in either November or December and lasts for eight days. Chanukah has several different spellings (Hanukah, Hanukkah, Chanukkah) because there is no exact English translation for the Hebrew word.

In 164 BCE, the Maccabees, a band of Hebrews, recaptured their temple from the HellenistSyrians. The Temple was cleansed and purified and the menorah (candelabrum) was lit once again as a re-dedication to G-d.

When the jar of sanctified oil for the menorah was found, there was only enough to burn for one day. Miraculously, the oil burned for eight days until more was found. To commemorate this miracle, a chanukiah, a special menorah for the Holy Day, is lit for eight days; foods fried in oil, such as potato latkes or pancakes, are eaten; and children play with spinning tops called dreidels.

Tu B'shevat

Festival of the Trees
15 Shevat (Jan / Feb)

A festival marking the beginning of spring in Israel and a celebration of trees and the earth begins when the sap from the fruit trees of Israel begins to rise. It is celebrated by eating fruits and nuts that come from Israel, by planting trees, and by having picnics.

Purim
Feast of Lots
14 Adar II (Feb / Mar)

Purim commemorates the deliverance of the Jews from a planned massacre at a time when Jewish communities were living under Persian rule in 450 BCE.

The story is found in the biblical Book of Esther and is retold during this holiday. In addition to consuming traditional foods such as the hamantaschen, triangular cookies representing the malevolent enemy Haman, Purim is celebrated with costumes and loud noise makers.

Yom HaShoah
Holocaust Memorial Day
27 Nisan (Apr / May)

Established to remember the Holocaust and the six million Jews who perished during that dark period in history, Yom HaShoah is commemorated on the anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising. A community-wide observance is held annually.

Yom Hazikaron
Remembrance Day
4 Iyar (Apr / May)

Occurring the day before Yom Ha'atzmaut, Yom Hazikaron is dedicated to the memory of all who died defending Israel before and after it became a state.

Yom Ha'atzmaut
Independence Day
5 Iyar (Apr / May)

Commemorating Israel's independence, Yom Ha'atzmaut recognizes the establishment of Israel, a democratic state and national homeland for the Jewish people, in 1948.

Lag B'Omer
The 33rd Day of the Counting of the Omer
17 Iyar (Apr / May)

This day serves as a break in the mourning days between Pesach and Shavuot and is held as remembrance of the misfortunes which afflicted the Jewish people during the days of Roman domination as well as during the Crusades of the Middle Ages.

Lag B'Omer serves as a reminder of the faith and courage of Torah scholars during the harsh rule of the Roman conquerors. No special liturgy or synagogue ritual exists for this day, and most people treat it as an ordinary work day.

Yom Yerushalayim
Jerusalem Day
28 Iyar (May / Jun)

The newest holiday in the Jewish calendar is celebrated each year on the 28th day of the month of Iyar.

Yom Yerushalayim marks the anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty in 1967.

Tisha B'av
Destruction of the Temple
9 Av (Jul / Aug)

In mid-summer, Jews observe the anniversary of the destruction of the ancient Temple which stood in Jerusalem. Today, Jews still turn towards the direction of Jerusalem when in prayer.

Traditional Jews mark the day with a fast of twenty-five hours, from sunset to the following day's nightfall, with prayers of mourning and with some limitations on usual work-day activities.

What is Jewish Heritage Month?

In 2018, Parliament unanimously passed a bill proclaiming that throughout Canada, the month of May will bemarked as “Canadian Jewish Heritage Month”, celebrating the inspirational role that Jewish Canadians haveplayed and continue to play in communities across the country.

From law, to politics, to culture, to sports, this important initiative celebrates the contributions Jewish Canadians have been making to this country for 250 years.

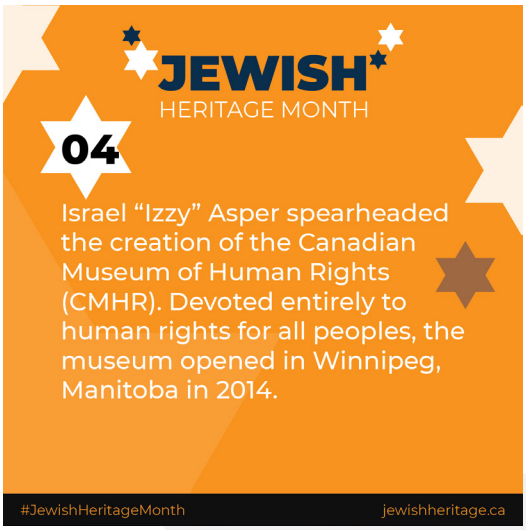
Why is Jewish Heritage Month Significant

This type of initiative helps Canadians understand one another by allowing different communities and cultures to be showcased and celebrated. Jewish Canadians have made enormous contributions to the fabric of Canadian society, and regardless of their cultural background, all Canadians are rightly proud of the country we have built together. Understanding and appreciating the contribution different communities make to Canada brings us close together.

Who Helped Create Jewish Heritage Month

All parliamentarians who supported this important legislation deserve recognition for their efforts to bring Canadians closer together. We particularly commend and thank Senator Linda Frum and MP Michael Levitt for their leadership in bringing this bill forward. From drafting the initial bill to stick-handling it through the long Parliamentary process, Senator Frum and MP Levitt deserve enormous credit for their cross-partisan effort.

Jewish Heritage Facts



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05
David Lewis, a Jewish Canadian labour lawyer and social democratic politician, was at the forefront of the progressive movement in Canada.
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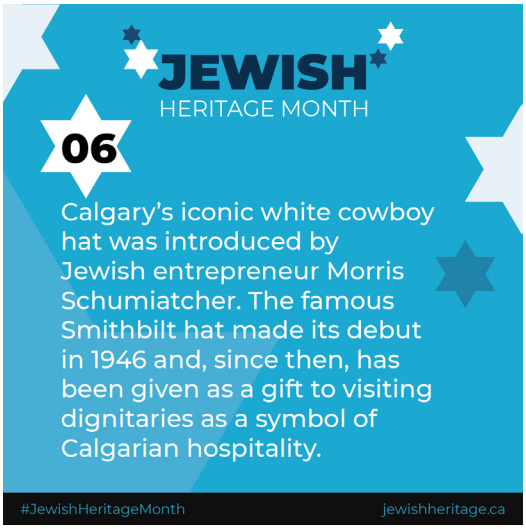
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06
Calgary's iconic white cowboy hat was introduced by Jewish entrepreneur Morris Schumiatcher. The famous Smithbilt hat made its debut in 1946 and, since then, has been given as a gift to visiting dignitaries as a symbol of Calgarian hospitality.
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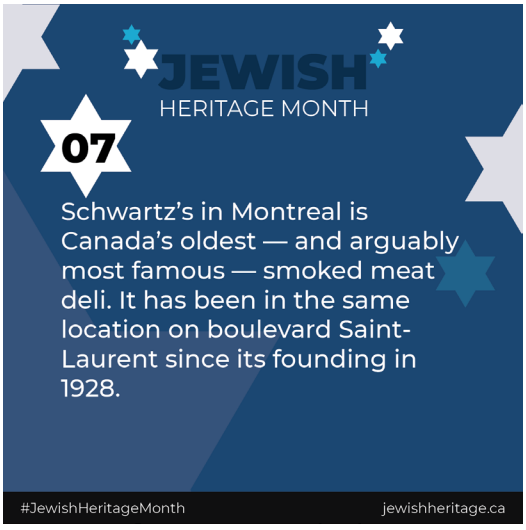
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07
Schwartz's in Montreal is Canada's oldest — and arguably most famous — smoked meat deli. It has been in the same location on boulevard Saint-Laurent since its founding in 1928.
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08
Canada is home to the world's fourth-largest Jewish community, after Israel, the United States, and France.
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09
During World War II, more than one in five Jewish men served in Canada's Armed Forces, a rate 10% above the national average.
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10
By challenging the stereotypes concerning women in sport, Fanny "Bobbie" Rosenfeld was foundational in altering how women in sports were viewed and became a role model for young women across Canada.
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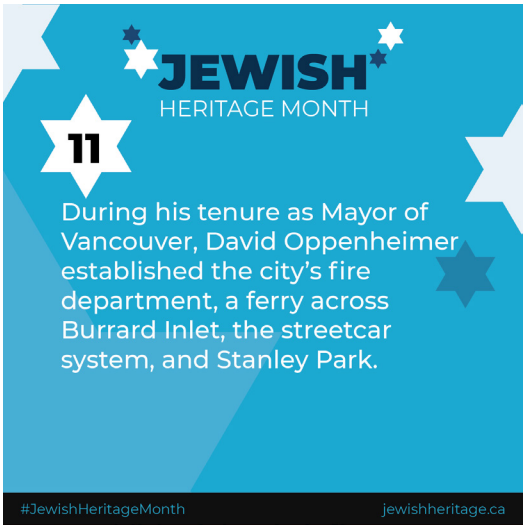
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11
During his tenure as Mayor of Vancouver, David Oppenheimer established the city's fire department, a ferry across Burrard Inlet, the streetcar system, and Stanley Park.
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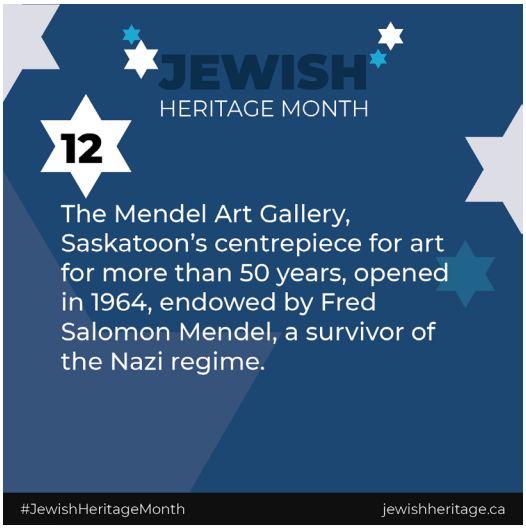
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12
The Mendel Art Gallery, Saskatoon's centrepiece for art for more than 50 years, opened in 1964, endowed by Fred Salomon Mendel, a survivor of the Nazi regime.
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13
Sydney Halter, a Winnipeg-born Jewish-Canadian lawyer, was the first Commissioner of the Canadian Football League (CFL).
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14
Léa Roback was at the forefront of advocating for social justice in Canada. A Canadian trade union organizer, social activist, pacifist and feminist, Léa campaigned against exclusion, violence, racism, and injustice.
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15
Sam Blumenberg, Michael Charitinoff, and Moses Almazov were among five immigrants arrested for instigating the Winnipeg General Strike, which began on May 15, 1919.
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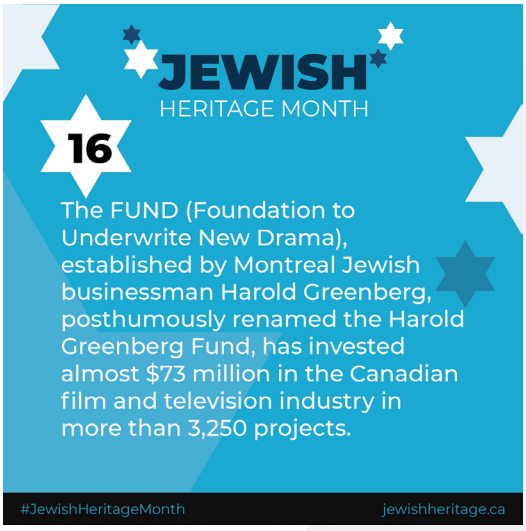
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16
The FUND (Foundation to Underwrite New Drama), established by Montreal Jewish businessman Harold Greenberg, posthumously renamed the Harold Greenberg Fund, has invested almost $73 million in the Canadian film and television industry in more than 3,250 projects.
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17
During the 1920s and 1930s, Kensington Market was home to 60,000 Eastern European Jewish immigrants who built up the area by opening small businesses. Today, the Market is one of Toronto's most popular, vibrant, and diverse neighbourhoods.
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18
Renowned Winnipeg-born author Adele Wiseman's first novel, ***The Sacrifice,*** won several awards, including the Governor General's Award for Fiction.
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19
Jewish community archives bear the names of 577 Jewish Canadians known to have died while serving in Canada's Armed Forces in WWI, WWII, and the Korean War.
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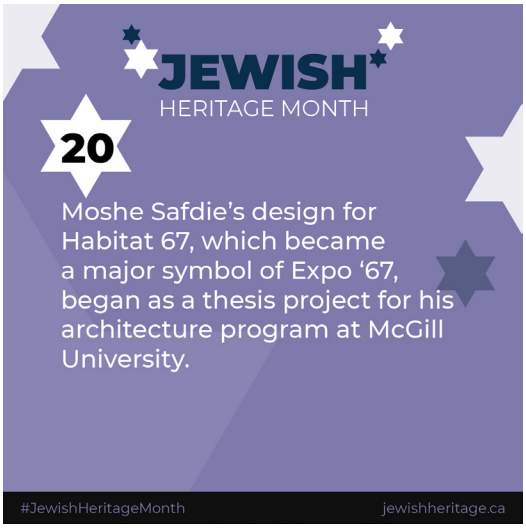
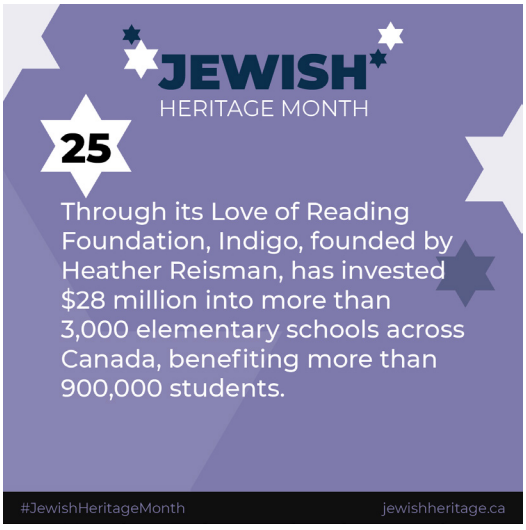

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
20
Moshe Safdie's design for Habitat 67, which became a major symbol of Expo '67, began as a thesis project for his architecture program at McGill University.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
21
The oldest synagogue on North America's West Coast, Congregation Emanu-El in Victoria, is a National Historic Site and has been designated a heritage property.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
22
Toronto-born rapper Aubrey Drake Graham (Drake) has the most charted songs (186) among solo artists in the history of the Billboard Hot 100.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

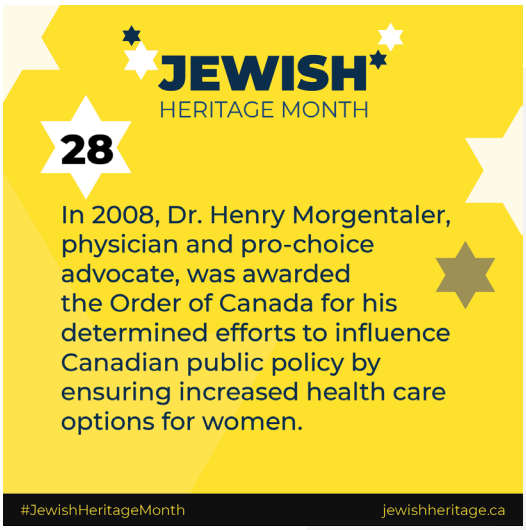
JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
23
In 1896, prominent community member Zebulon Franks opened a hardware store in Vancouver, parts of which still survive today.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

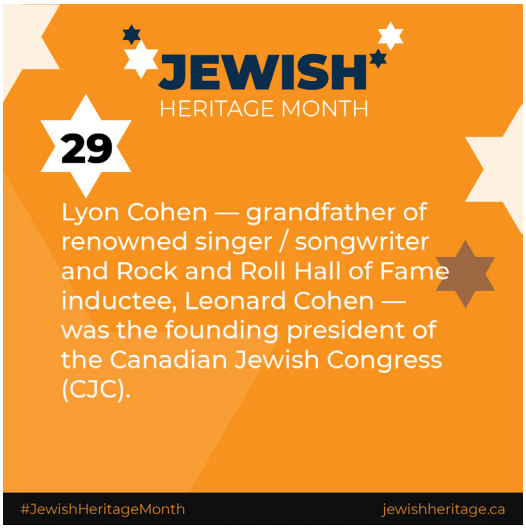
JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
24
Before evolving into a national conglomerate specializing in high-end whiskey, the Distillers Corporation in Montreal, founded by Samuel Bronfman, was a small company making cheap whiskey.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca


JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
25
Through its Love of Reading Foundation, Indigo, founded by Heather Reisman, has invested $28 million into more than 3,000 elementary schools across Canada, benefiting more than 900,000 students.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
26
Founded a century ago in 1919, Fairmount Bagel was Montreal's first bagel bakery. Today, Montreal is known for its bagels, which are listed among the best in the world.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
27
As an advocate for social justice in the areas of poverty, women's rights, and prison reform, Tillie Taylor was named the first chair of the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission in 1972.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca


JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
28
In 2008, Dr. Henry Morgentaler, physician and pro-choice advocate, was awarded the Order of Canada for his determined efforts to influence Canadian public policy by ensuring increased health care options for women.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca


JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
29
Lyon Cohen — grandfather of renowned singer / songwriter and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, Leonard Cohen — was the founding president of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
30
In 1987, Ed Mirvish began handing out free Christmas turkeys in front of his iconic Toronto store, Honest Ed's. Despite his death in 2007 and the store's closing in 2016, the noble tradition continues today.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH
31
Ezekiel Hart paved the way for religious freedom in Canada. Twice elected as Trois-Rivières Representative in the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada and expelled for refusing to be sworn in using a Christian Bible, Hart eventually won the battle for future generations.
#JewishHeritageMonth
jewishheritage.ca