

# 50 YEARS OF IMPACT

---

A COMMEMORATIVE JOURNEY



OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation celebrates its

**50<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

## Mission Statement

The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation provides donors with the vehicle to contribute to the long-term financial stability and support of the needs of the agencies that serve the Ottawa Jewish community. The Foundation acts as a steward for these gifts and links the past, the present and the future while building trust with everyone we serve.

## Vision Statement

As a trusted leader and the centre of Jewish philanthropic giving, the Foundation engages, educates and inspires generations of donors, ensuring the long-term security and financial viability of Ottawa's Jewish community.

## Guiding Principles

### 1) **Determined Leadership**

The Foundation exercises innovative leadership, focused on respecting donor's rights, desires and aspirations.

### 2) **Trusted Stewardship**

Through professional financial management, the Foundation is committed to the responsible and transparent stewarding of all assets entrusted to us.

### 3) **Jewish Values**

The Foundation's Jewish values of *tikun olam*, *tzedakah*, and *L'Dor V'Dor* shape and direct our mission to strengthen the Ottawa Jewish community. These values inspire us to work with all people in a collaborative, compassionate and respectful manner.

### 4) **Commitment to Excellence**

The Foundation strives for excellence in all aspects of our work, which instills trust in donors that we will meet their philanthropic goals.

# What is the Foundation?

Despite its 50 years, many still do not know about the benefits of contributing to the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation.

In its simplest terms, the Foundation helps donors through a variety of giving vehicles, to help them help the charities, organizations and causes they care most about.

The Foundation supports two primary giving vehicles: One is endowment giving and the second is legacy giving.

Endowments are opened with a minimum gift of \$1,000 and the donor chooses what cause they care most about. If they're most passionate about the Jewish Federation of Ottawa or about the summers they spent at Camp B'nai Brith, they can open up a fund that will support and disperse money on an annual basis to those causes.

A legacy gift is leaving a bequest to the community in your will, or with an insurance policy, but the basic principle is the same: once a policy is realized after you pass away, that money is with the Foundation.

It is invested wisely and every year what you care most about receives a cheque from the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation.

In some ways, it is our community's best-kept secret, and we'd like to change that.



*Content taken from 613Archives podcast.*

Dear Friends,

We are proud to introduce *50 Years of Impact, A Commemorative Journey*. This special volume celebrates the history of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, along with its founders, lay leaders, and professionals who helped oversee the institution's impressive growth.

This commemorative book showcases the foresight of our leaders and their passion to ensure that the Jewish community will enjoy financial stability and that the cherished agencies and organizations that serve Jewish Ottawa will continue to flourish for generations to come. Timelines of a few of these agencies, showing their milestones and achievements, aim to help place the impact of the Foundation alongside the substantial accomplishments of these important institutions. Caring for our community is a partnership, and we are all made stronger together.

Lastly, it is impossible to celebrate the Foundation's achievements without also thanking our community's passionate supporters. Your philanthropy is the true reason for our communal success. As recently demonstrated during the launch of the Life & Legacy initiative, this community cares deeply about Jewish Ottawa and desires to leave an enduring legacy of Jewish values and traditions. For this, we are grateful.

Sincerely,



Andrea Freedman,  
President & CEO



Lawrence Weinstein,  
Chair



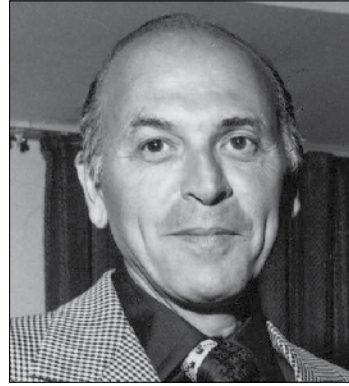
# The Legacy of 13 Great Leaders: The Founders



Hyman Bessin z\"l



Alex Betcherman z\"l



Gilbert Greenberg z\"l



Hy Harris z\"l



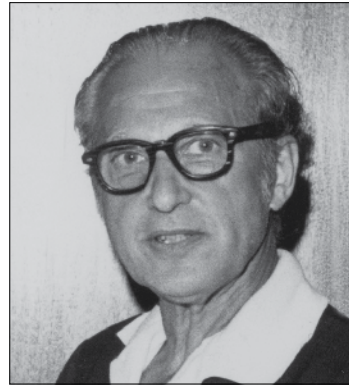
Hy Hochberg z\"l



David Loeb z\"l



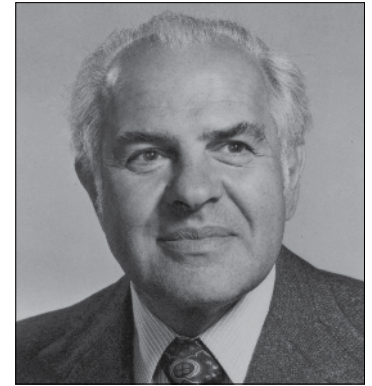
Abe Palmer z\"l



Harold Shenkman z\"l



Bernard Shinder



Hyman Soloway z\"l

First President:  
Gilbert Greenberg

First Executive  
Director:  
Casey Swedlove



Casey Swedlove z\"l



Sam Taller z\"l



Norman Zagerman z\"l

Their powerful  
legacy will be felt for  
generations to come  
and for this we are  
deeply grateful.

### **Hyman Bessin**

Hyman Bessin was described by Gilbert Greenberg in a tribute as being a brilliant man with enormous drive and creativity. He served our community in numerous high-level roles, from pioneer of Hillel Academy to chair of the United Israel Appeal, president of the Canadian Friends of Bar Ilan University and a member of the Mizrahi Executive. He was also an immense supporter of Israel and was on the World Zionist Organization Executive.

### **Alex Betcherman**

During his lifetime, Alex Betcherman was among the most influential men in the city and was affectionately deemed “the Dean of the Jewish community.” He occupied top-level posts, as president of the Foundation, president of Agudath Achim Congregation, a founding father of the Jewish Community Centre on Chapel Street, a founder of Camp B’nai Brith and the Rideau View Golf and Country Club.

### **Gilbert Greenberg**

Gilbert Greenberg made the community what it is today and brought leadership and support to every worthy Jewish cause. His compassion and hard work impacted all areas – from support for Israel to upgrading Jewish education and Jewish life on university campuses with the Jewish students union, to being the principal mover behind the creation of Hillel Lodge. He was the Foundation’s first president from 1974-1976 and helped launch the organization on a successful path.

### **Hy Harris**

In 1943, the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin described how Hy Harris was elevated to major and was the commanding officer for his military unit. His leadership reached many areas of the Jewish community. He was a founder of Camp B’nai Brith in Dunrobin, the 39<sup>th</sup> Jewish Scout troop, and was involved in the founding of Rideau View Golf Club, Hillel Lodge, and the former Agudath Israel Synagogue.

### **Hy Hochberg**

Considered by many to be the driving force behind Ottawa’s flourishing and growing Jewish community, Hy Hochberg was responsible for much of the JCC development that took place between his appointment as Vaad Ha’Ir secretary and director of Camp B’nai Brith

in 1946, and his death in 1985. Over the course of his career, he was also involved with Hillel Academy and the United Jewish Appeal fund, which would grow to include annual missions to Israel under his guidance.

### **David Loeb**

David Loeb’s leadership was called “the gold standard.” He was on the board of governors of the University of Ottawa and president of the board of St. Vincent Hospital. He served as president of Parliament Lodge B’nai Brith, Agudath Israel Congregation, the Jewish Community Council, chairman of United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds of Ottawa and the United Way of Ottawa-Carleton, and of course was president of the Foundation from 1979-1981.

### **Abe Palmer**

Abe Palmer and his wife Bertha were always active and highly respected in the Ottawa Jewish community. They were founders of the Ottawa Modern Jewish School and worked with the school for more than 30 years. He served two terms as chairman of Israel Bonds in the late 1960s; he was president of the B’nai Brith Ottawa Lodge, and president of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa from 1970-1972.

### **Harold Shenkman**

On top of numerous broader community-wide activities in the spheres of business, culture, education and sports, Harold Shenkman was highly active in the Ottawa Jewish community. He served as chair of the Ottawa Jewish Community Centre Building Committee, and was VP of the Foundation. He was a tremendous supporter of UJA, Israel Bonds, the Pioneer Women’s Association, National Council of Jewish Women, and the Israel Soldiers Fund.

### **Bernard Shinder**

Foundation president from 1977 to 1979, it was Bernard Shinder and Gilbert Greenberg who were the principal movers behind creating the Foundation. Trained as a lawyer and tax specialist, Bernard always made, and continues to make, community involvement and volunteer work a big part of his life. He was the treasurer of Talmud Torah, and was also founder and president of Arts Court, and interestingly the founder/president of Canada Day. His leadership and ongoing commitment to our community continues to be felt.

### **Hyman Soloway**

On top of a busy and successful law career, Hyman Soloway was deeply involved in community and public affairs in the Jewish and general communities. He was a member of the Canadian Jewish Congress and chaired the Vaad. He was chairman of the board of trustees of Carleton University, where he received an LL.D, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Ottawa Civic Hospital, and was on the board of governors of the University of Ottawa, where he received a second LL.D.

### **Casey Swedlove**

Casey Swedlove was known for his generosity, patience and humbleness. In fact, he was known for always thanking others and taking a backseat to what were obviously his accomplishments, which include doing the Foundation’s work for 25 years as a volunteer before a staff person was hired. He was instrumental in establishing Agudath Israel, eventually serving as its fifth president. He won the Gilbert Greenberg award in 1995 for his years of dedicated service.

### **Sam Taller**

Sam Taller was the 1974 Negev Dinner honouree and in that write-up he was noted for his community involvement – including being chair of the Jewish National Fund Council of Ottawa, a member of B’nai Brith, past governor of Congregation Beth Shalom, on the boards of Hillel Lodge and the Vaad, involved with Canadian Friends of Hebrew University and Canadian Club, active in the State of Israel Bonds and UJA, and secretary of the Ottawa Hebrew Benefit Society.

### **Norman Zagerman**

Norman Zagerman served the community for an impressive 72 years. He held the posts of chair for UJA, Vaad and Foundation; he was B’nai Brith Man of the Year, a winner of the Gilbert Greenberg award, and honorary chair of the Cemetery Campaign and the Hillel Lodge Campaign. On top of all that, he volunteered in the broader community and was on the Board of Carleton University and the Board of the Ottawa General Hospital.



# The Fluke That Led To The Foundation

The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, formerly known as the Ottawa Jewish Community Endowment and Bequest Foundation, was created in 1971 by a group of passionate community leaders who sought to provide a financial resource to maintain the fiscal structure of the community. Today, it is a thriving organization that supports our ever-growing community.

The Foundation's purpose is to support Ottawa Jewish organizations which create programs and activities that meet the needs of the local community.

"The long-term goal of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation focuses on the need to ensure that there will always be sufficient financial support for the continued development of a strong and vibrant Jewish community."

According to Bernard (Bernie) Shinder, the only surviving member of the founders, the idea of the Foundation wasn't so much an idea, but a continuation of one that many Jewish communities across Canada had been trying to realize for years.

As Bernie recalls, "The idea [of establishing a Jewish community foundation in Ottawa] was Gilbert Greenberg's. It was something that Jewish communities had tried to do for many years but the province [of Ontario] did not want a Jewish foundation."

At the time, governments in Canada, as represented by their public trustees, were highly resistant to the very idea of a Jewish community foundation. Governments questioned the definition of who is a Jew; who could be a member of a Jewish foundation,

and what if a non-Jew wanted to be a member of a Jewish foundation – could a non-Jewish person be excluded?

"Although," as Bernie points out, "there were several Catholic foundations [at the time], there was certainly going to be no foundation for Jews."

Resistance to the establishment of a Jewish community foundation in Ottawa did not solely come from government.

"There was also a great deal of resistance in the Jewish community to having a Jewish foundation," recalls Bernie. "Many of the Jewish leaders [including some of the

leaders who ultimately signed on as founders of the Ottawa Jewish Community Endowment and Bequest Foundation] didn't want a foundation because they believed a foundation would impact badly on the annual UJA campaign [now known as the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Annual Campaign]."







But, adds Bernie, Gilbert Greenberg ultimately persuaded the community leaders who were resistant to the idea.

According to Bernie, it was “a fluke of people who knew people” that led to the Province of Ontario ultimately approving the establishment of the Ottawa Jewish Community Endowment and Bequest Foundation.

When the former public trustee of Ontario retired, he was replaced by someone Bernie knew.

“I called him, and he said, ‘I know why you’re calling. You want to know about the Jewish foundation. You know what our formal position is,’” he recalls.

When Bernie persisted and asked the new public trustee if there was anything they could do to “make this work,” the public trustee invited him to come and visit him in his Toronto office.



They met for a couple of hours and determined that the proposed foundation would not be “a Jewish foundation, per se,” but rather a foundation “created for the benefit of the Ottawa Jewish community.”

As Bernie explains, the Ottawa Jewish community – as represented by the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha’Ir (now known as the Jewish Federation of Ottawa) – “was a non-profit corporation and its directors were Jews,” and the foundation would be “an offshoot – effectively a subsidiary of that corporation – for the benefit of the corporation.”

“We sketched it out and it looked sort of awkward,” recalls Bernie, “but it certainly fulfilled the needs of what it was we had to do.”

Bernie then went to see Toronto tax lawyer Wolfe Goodman, then one of the top tax lawyers in Canada.



“I came back to Ottawa with a foundation.”









## PHOTO DESCRIPTIONS FOR PAGES 6 - 9

### PAGE 6: (L-R)

- 1) Alex Betcherman
- 2) Bernie Shinder
- 3) Hyman Bessin, Louis Achbar, and Hy Hochberg (standing) 1950.
- 4) Ground breaking ceremony for Hillel Lodge, Wurtemberg. L-R: Abraham Shaffer (treasurer), Hyman Bessin, Gilbert Greenberg, Sidney Lithwick (architect), Mayor Charlotte Witton and Dora Lithwick (turning sod), Jacie Horwitz, Bert Lawrence (Government of Ontario), Mr. Beiles and Helen Beiles (President of Ladies Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge).

### PAGE 7: (L-R)

- 5) Ground breaking at Young Israel Congregation, 627 Kirkwood Avenue, Ottawa, August 1968. Martin K. Levinson third from the left, Hy Hochberg with shovel, Moe Litwack (right) others unknown.
- 6) Dedication of the new Jewish Chapel at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, 1961. L-R: Rabbi Simon Eckstein, Alex Betcherman, Mrs. John Aylen, Douglas Peart (hospital administrator), and Freda Lithwick.
- 7) The first Passover Seder held at Hillel Lodge, 1965.

### PAGE 8: (L-R)

- 8) Opening of the Beth Hamidrash Chapel (Abraham and Dora Lithwick Chapel) at Hillel Lodge, April 1, 1975.
- 9) Ground breaking by Officers of the Jewish Community Centre at 151 Chapel Street.

Nov. 20, 1949. The first five people are unknown. Facing the camera are Bernard M. Alexandor; president, Rabbi Emanuel L. Lifschutz, Lawrence Freiman with shovel, Morris Zagerman; vice-president, Myer Drazin, and Rabbi Boruch Kravetz.

- 10) United Jewish Appeal Breakfast at the Jewish Community Centre in Ottawa. L-R: Arnold Slover, Sid Cohen, Hy Bessin, Norman Zagerman, Dr. Sam Mirsky, David Loeb, Percy Feller, Jack Aaron.
- 11) JCC official library opening.
- 12) Ottawa Vaad Ha'ir Annual Meeting, June 24, 1981. Newly elected officers: Gerald Berger, Dr. Harry Lithwick, Bernard Shinder, Sol Shinder, Chuck Taylor, Larry Greenberg, and Hy Hochberg.

### PAGE 9: (L-R, TOP TO BOTTOM)

- 13) Past presidents honoured at Annual General Meeting of the Ottawa Va'ad Ha'ir and Jubilee Dinner, 1984. L-R: Front row; Ambassador Eliashev Ben-Choreen, Hy Gould, Sam Berger, Lawrence Freiman, Thomas Sachs, Harvey Lithwick, Hy Soloway. Top row; Norman Zagerman, Jules Loeb, Sol Shinder, Joseph Lieff, Jacie Horwitz, Abe Palmer, Mervin Mirsky, David Loeb, Hy Hochberg.
- 14) Official opening of the Jewish Community Centre Day Care, 1989. L-R: Eli Rabin (president of the Jewish Community Council), Ralph Kassie with scissors (president of the Jewish Community Centre), Jane Giffon (Ministry of Community and Social Services, Day Nurseries Division), Ron Boro (Executive Director of the Jewish Community Centre), Bob Chiarelli (city

councillor, and Arnie Vered (president of the JCC).

- 15) Saying goodbye to the first Hillel Lodge.

16) Construction of the Jewish Community Centre on 151 Chapel Street in Ottawa, 1959. Photo credit: Rapid Grip and Batten

17) The ground-breaking ceremony for the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, Sept. 7, 1997. Photograph includes: Roger Greenberg - chair of the Community Capital Campaign sharing the honour of the ceremonial ground-breaking for the new campus building with Joe Ages. Linked image shows from L-R front row: Sibyl Mirsky, Dorothy Nadolny, Roger Greenberg, Joe Ages, Bess Greenberg, and Hy Soloway. Back row: Stephen Greenberg, Barbara Farber, Stephen Victor, Jeff Gould, Ron Prehogan, Dr. Bernard Dolansky and Dan Greenberg.

18) Official ribbon-cutting ceremony at the opening of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, Sept. 13, 1998. L-R: Bernard Dolansky, Stephen Greenberg, Barbara Farber, Hy Soloway, Jeff Gould, Stephen Victor and Roger Greenberg.

19) Crowd at the official opening of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, Sept. 13, 1998.

*May their memories be a blessing*


*Please note that we have included z"l on page 4, but this designation may not appear in all instances. Regardless we honour all those who have passed.*

# The Power of Investing in the Community - Total Assets

In 50 years, the Foundation's funds under administration have grown from \$100K to \$75M and growing





An aerial photograph of the Ottawa Jewish Community Campus. The image shows several large, modern buildings with red and grey roofs, surrounded by green lawns and trees. A parking lot with many cars is visible in the foreground. A road runs along the bottom of the image.

“People thought we were crazy with our initial goal of \$15 million and yet we had such an outstanding success, the (goal) was later increased once we got provincial government approval to include a new Hillel Lodge as well.”

- Roger Greenberg

# Building the Ottawa Jewish Community Campus

The 1996 Community Capital Campaign, led by Roger Greenberg and Stephen Victor, supported by the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and the Foundation, raised more than \$29 million and enabled the building of the Jewish Community Campus.

Today the campus is home to the Soloway JCC, the Federation, the Foundation, The Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge, Tamir, and The Ottawa Jewish Community School, among others.

“Your commitment will help to  
perpetuate Jewish life in our city –  
for your children – your grandchildren –  
and future generations.”

- Casey Swedlove, 1970s



‘I believe that a strong Ottawa Jewish  
Community Foundation focused on communal  
needs will be absolutely crucial to the future  
well-being of this community. My job is to make  
as many people as possible understand and  
support this vision.’

- Marty Davis, UJA Director 2002

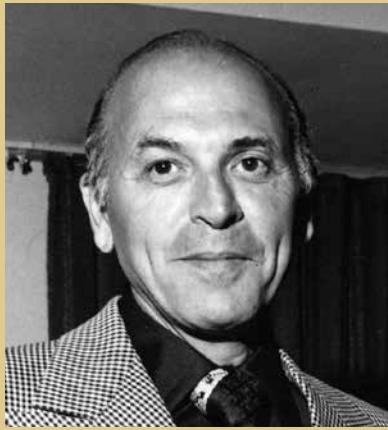


Photos on this page: Ottawa Jewish Community  
Endowment Campaign fundraising evening.

- Irving Taylor, Carole Zagerman, Chuck Merovitz,  
Norman Zagerman, Stephen Greenberg,  
'Chick' Taylor
- Leon Gluzman and his partner Gloria Krugel
- Ellissa Iny, Ethel Taylor
- Marty Davis
- Zeev Vered, Sara Vered, Israeli Ambassador  
Alan Baker and his wife



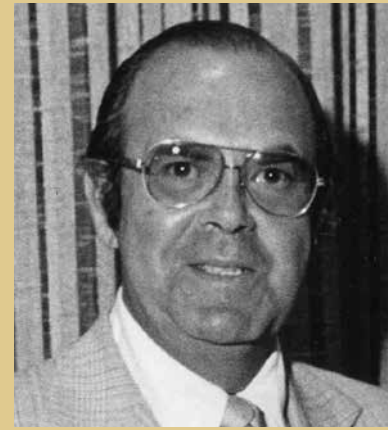




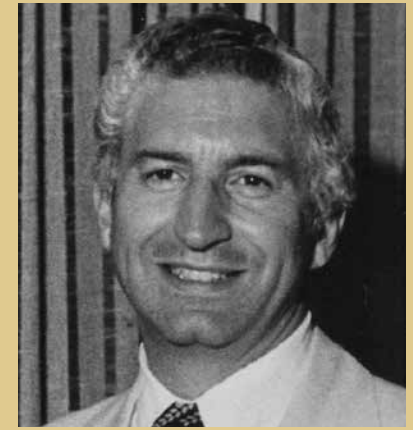
Gilbert Greenberg z'l  
1975-1976



Bernard Shinder  
1977-1979



David Loeb z'l  
1980-1981



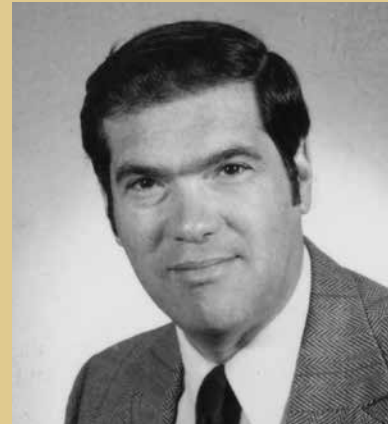
Norman Zagerman z'l  
1982-1983



Gerald Berger z'l  
1992-1993



Daniel Kimmel  
1994-1995



Jacie Levinson z'l  
1995-1997



Rose Taylor z'l  
1997-1999

# PAST CHAIRS

## Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation



Roger Greenberg  
2007-2009



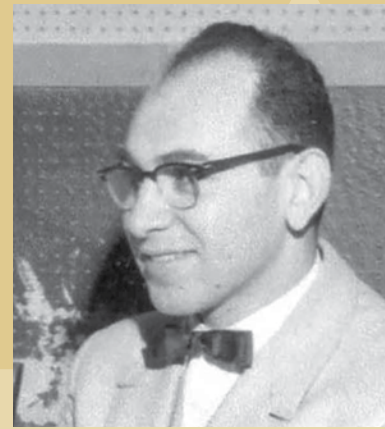
Harold Feder  
2009-2011



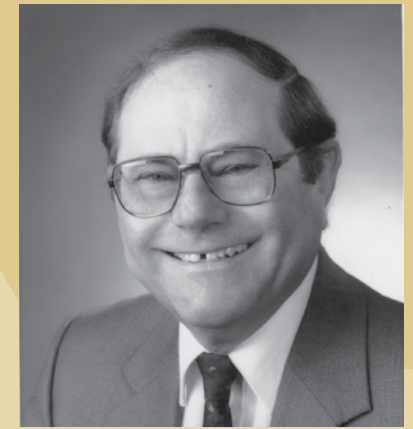
Sol Shinder  
1984-1985



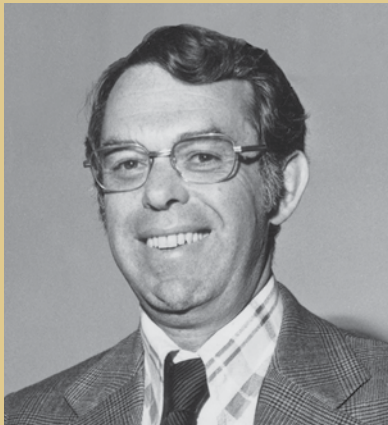
Irving Greenberg z'l  
1986-1987



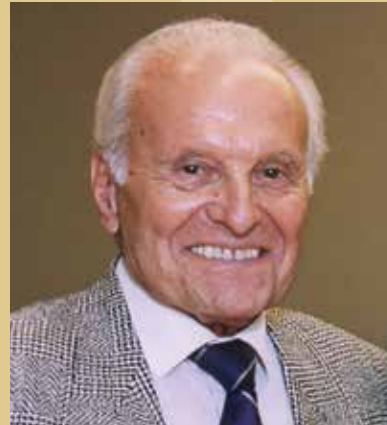
Charles Taylor  
1988-1989



Issie Landau z'l  
1990-1991



Norman Lesh z'l  
1999-2001



Saul Goldfarb z'l  
2001-2003



Ron Levitan z'l  
2003-2005



Gregory Saunders  
2005-2007



Richard Roth  
2011-2013



Lynne Oreck-Wener  
2013-2015



Michael Landau  
2015-2017



Gillie Vered  
2017-2019

"I don't recall my father ever saying a word directly about philanthropy in general or the Foundation in particular. That really wasn't his style; outside of his demanding work life, he was a man of few words.



I feel that I learned much from him, but it was principally from watching him in action, and seeing the example he set. I learned the importance of helping others, without drawing attention to yourself. I learned the importance of giving time as well as money. Like my father, I have tried to engage within the Jewish community, and our city's hospitals and universities, as well. I like to think that he was a good teacher."

Lawrence Soloway  
Vice-Chair, Chair of  
Investment Committee

*M'Dor L'Dor • Father to Son*

In a 2004 interview, Hy Soloway was asked to share his impact. His response reveals humility and his sense of duty: "Eventually, I was sufficiently well-versed in the Jewish affairs of the city (so that when) anything happened I was involved. When it came to building the community centre, I was involved. When it came to doing anything with respect to Jewish affairs, I was involved."



Hy Soloway  
Founder



"I have learned to appreciate the amazing vision and judgment applied by our past community leaders in forming the Foundation knowing that with hard work and the community's generosity, it could become a source of life and security for so many of our Ottawa Jewish agencies. This past year has illustrated the strength, stability, and sustainability the Foundation brings to the Ottawa Jewish community. The Foundation, with a generous and growing fund already in place, with the benefit of the stewardship of its past and current investment committees and boards of directors, was able to maintain its usual annual disbursement amounts to Ottawa Jewish beneficiary agencies in what was a catastrophic economic period. The founders were right, weren't they?

I could not be more proud of what our Jewish community has accomplished with the creation and the growth of the Foundation."

Lawrence Weinstein, Chair, 2019-2021



“He believed very passionately in the importance and the need for the Foundation,” says Roger Greenberg about his father, Foundation founder Gilbert Greenberg.



Roger Greenberg  
Chair, 2007-2009

*M'Dor L'Dor • Father to Son*

“My father believed you put money away in the good times to protect yourself when the not-so-good times come. You don't spend everything you have when times are good and then the cupboards are bare when the not-so-good times come ... [His dream] was that the Foundation would grow enough in size and in capital that the income from it would be able to fund the Jewish education of every Jewish child in the city of Ottawa without cost.”



“Foundations have already proven their worth in other Canadian and American cities. Here in Ottawa, the benefits of the David and Rachel Epstein Foundation, the Jacob Freedman Charitable Foundation, and more recently, the Michael R. Freedman Endowment Fund are already being felt. Income from these funds has enabled us to enrich the quality of Jewish life in our city.”

Gilbert Greenberg  
Founder and Chair, 1974-1976



“Since 1971, the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation has been the city's leading Jewish endowment fund. The caliber of talent (both professional and volunteer) involved with the Foundation over the last 50 years is unparalleled.

There was a significant effort to grow the endowment fund, mainly through the M'dor L'dor (from Generation to Generation) Endowment Campaign, chaired by Irving and Ethel Taylor and Chick and Rose Taylor in the mid-2000s. The Foundation created numerous policies and procedures to further put the community stakeholders at ease ... the Foundation was the place to entrust communal assets with transparency and mindfulness.

I am proud of the incredible work that the Foundation continues to do, ensuring Jewish continuity and vibrancy.”

Jack Silverstein, President, 2004-2011

# 1971



2020 - The pandemic hits and the Foundation does what it was created to do – to be there when the community needs it the most. We were protected because our founders had the drive, ambition and persistence to ensure their community would be supported for generations to come.

1971

The charter creating a foundation to support the future of the community is signed on Nov. 19, and is incorporated under the Ontario Corporations Act.

1974

Jan. 1, the Foundation begins active operations and receives its first major donation in the amount of \$100,000 by Michael R. Freedman (seated at far left) on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

1975

Gilbert Greenberg becomes the first Foundation chair and Casey Swedlove begins service as volunteer executive director, a position he holds for 20 years.

1982

Foundation shortens its name to the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation. In this same year, 10 years after inception and 8 years after its first major donation, the capital fund grows to **\$1.4 M.**

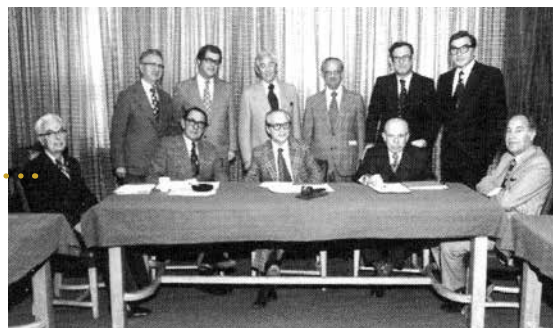
1997

Foundation's first woman president, Rose Taylor, presides for two years.

2000

Saul and Edna Goldfarb z"l donate \$50K to create the B'nai Mitzvah Club that matches new fund contributions. Today, there are 108 funds that hold capital of over **\$241K.**

-- The Gilbert Greenberg Education Fund (GGEF), an insurance subsidy program, is created to build a Jewish education endowment. It now has **\$2.7M** in insurance policies.





First B'nai Mitzvah Club donor is Jamie Berezin, shown below with Edna Goldfarb.



The Tribute Card program has been active for 40 years. On average, the Foundation sends 2,000-2,500 cards a year, raising approximately **\$100K** annually.



2020 - Foundation is accepted into the LIFE & LEGACY program initiative of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.



# 2021

**2001**  
The Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE), an insurance subsidy program, is launched with a \$306K gift from Saul and Edna Goldfarb z"l. It now has **\$3.95M** in policies.

**2004**  
George Joseph Cooper z"l passes away, leaving a substantial legacy that launches the annual scholarship that carries his name, now valued at **\$18K**.

**2005**  
The M'Dor L'Dor, From Generation to Generation, Ottawa Jewish **Community Endowment Campaign (CEC)** launches, ultimately raising **\$20M**. Marty Davis helps lead the campaign.

**2011**  
Chair Richard Roth and his wife Riva, develop the **Legacy Challenge** incentive, an ongoing Foundation program that offers up to \$1,000 to cover the professional costs of adjusting an individual's will to help support community legacy giving.

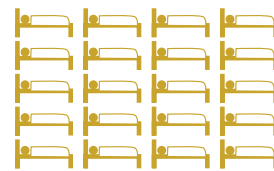
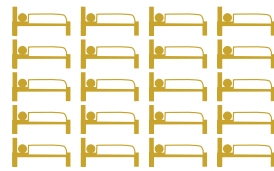
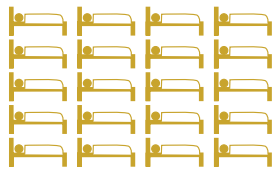
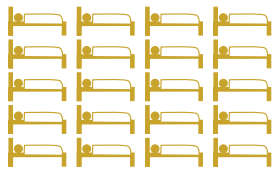
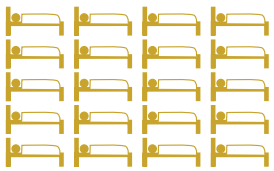
**2021**  
Foundation again distributes more than \$2 million to different organizations in the community. This number will continue to grow as new people invest.



"I am particularly proud of launching the **Women's Collective Philanthropy Program (WCPP)** in 2011 in conjunction with an endowment fund (WCEF), thus supporting initiatives that expand and improve opportunities and choices in the lives of Jewish women and children."

- Lynne Oreck-Wener, Chair, 2013-2015, Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation





100 beds

# 1955



The Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge is a unique long-term care home and the only facility in the city with a mission to offer its services in a welcoming Jewish environment.

1955

Hillel Lodge, Ottawa's Jewish home for the aged, is founded by concerned members of the Jewish community and incorporated in 1957.

1965

"The Lodge" as it becomes known, opens its doors with 29 beds at 125 Wurtemburg Street in Ottawa's Lowertown neighbourhood.

1981

First funds designate the Lodge as beneficiary. -- Foundation distributes **\$7,708** to the Lodge.

1991

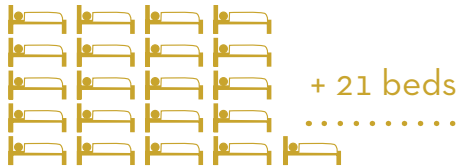
A decade after the first funds, Foundation distributions hit more than **\$50K.**

1998

The Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge name is formally registered.







THE BESS AND MOE GREENBERG FAMILY

# Hillel Lodge

THE JOSEPH AND INEZ ZELIKOVITZ  
LONG TERM CARE CENTRE



# 2021

**2000**  
The Lodge moves to its new 100-bed facility – The Joseph and Inez Zelikovitz Long Term Care Centre, at 10 Nadolny Sachs Private on Ottawa's Jewish Community Campus.

**2010**  
Foundation annual distributions grow to more than **\$100K.**

**2011**  
The Lodge expands by 21 beds to reach its current capacity of 121 residents.

**2019**  
Hillel Lodge receives disbursement of **\$184,520.**

**2020**  
Hillel Lodge joins the Life & Legacy initiative and has 35 letters of intent by April 2021.



"We're so grateful at Hillel Lodge that the Jewish community has taken us to their hearts and continues to value what we do and to help us fund it ... The funding from the Foundation helps us in everything we do."

- Ted Cohen, CEO Hillel Lodge





# 1979

For over 40 years, Jewish Family Services has been building and integrating essential support services within Ottawa's Jewish community across three basic human needs: food security, connection to community and mental well-being.



1989  
Chairman Joel Kanigsberg displays the Certificate of Accreditation.

1979  
Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) of Ottawa-Carleton is launched and located in the basement of the Jewish Community Centre on Chapel Street.

1988  
Home Support Services launches, including Kosher Meals on Wheels, Palliative Care, Homemakers and Teleshalom.

1990  
Name changes to Jewish Family Services Agency of Ottawa-Carleton.  
--

1991  
Foundation delivers the first annual disbursement of \$9,515.

1996  
Launch of the Tikvah Fund offering immediate support for 100 vulnerable Jewish clients.

2001  
The annual disbursement figure grows by more than 60% to **\$15,165**.

--  
JFS receives the prestigious Award of Excellence from the Canadian Race Relations Foundation.

--  
With amalgamation, the name changes again to Jewish Family Services of Ottawa.

--  
Street Smarts launches.

2003  
JFS Ottawa moves offices to its current location on Carling Avenue.





# 2021

2005  
First dedicated Shalom Bayit counsellor is hired.  
--  
Miriam's Well is launched.

2006  
Thelma Steinman Seniors Support Services Unit is named.

2014  
JFS receives annual disbursement of **\$110,639.**  
--  
Walk-in clinics open across the city.

2015  
Syrian refugee sponsorship program launches.

2019  
JFS receives annual disbursement of **\$184,815.**

2020  
JFS' Tikvah program helps 70 families every month with direct financial assistance; 100 families every month receive fresh produce from Miriam's Well distribution; and more than 100 families are assisted with holiday distributions.  
--  
JFS' Thelma Steinman Seniors Support Services unit assists 291 Jewish seniors, including 68 Holocaust survivors.

--  
JFS joins the Life & Legacy initiative and has 22 letters of intent by April 2021.



"Whether we are providing case management to an aging Holocaust survivor, offering trauma counselling to a vulnerable newcomer, creating a safety plan for a woman leaving an abusive relationship or providing short-term counselling to someone struggling with mental-health issues, our staff are there to help."

- Sarah Caspi, Executive Director, Jewish Family Services





**2002**  
Federation helps to organize the Israel Solidarity Rally on Parliament Hill, attended by 10,000 supporters.

Through a collaborative community planning process and the Annual Campaign, the Jewish Federation of Ottawa raises and allocates funds to more than 20 community agencies to provide life-saving, life-changing and life-enhancing experiences for Jews in Ottawa and around the globe.

# 1933

**1933**

The idea to form a community council was brought forward by Caspar Caplan. The Vaad Ha'lr was organized to administer Jewish activity in the city, principally kashrut, Jewish education and spiritual guidance.

**1951**

Vaad Ha'lr is part of the community centre building at 151 Chapel Street and moves to 21 Nadolny Sachs Private along with the SJCC in 1998.

**1953**

The first Israeli ambassador to Canada, Michael Comay and his wife Joan, visit Ottawa and are greeted by Hyman Gould, then president of the Ottawa Jewish Community Council (Vaad). Far left: Lawrence Freiman, far right: Bert Loeb



**1976**

Hy Hochberg becomes the executive vice-president of the Vaad.

**1981**

Vaad receives its first annual disbursement from the Foundation for **\$21,589.**

**1991**

Operation Exodus Campaign to help Soviet Jewry.

--  
Maureen Molot elected first female president.

--  
Federation receives annual disbursement of **\$37,170.**

**1967**

On June 2, Ottawa Jewish Community Council (Vaad), led by then-president Jules Loeb, holds a rally in solidarity with Israel during the Six-Day War.

**1983**

The building at 31 Nadolny Sachs is purchased for Hillel Academy and the Jewish Community Campus begins.



2021

599 families have subscribed to PJ Library and 830 books are delivered monthly.



Thank you  
for helping us to  
build the Ottawa Jewish  
Superhighway



# 2021

2005

The name of the Vaad Ha'ir changes to the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

2010

Foundation total disbursements to Federation surpass a million to **\$1.9M.**

2013

Federation allocates **\$752,246** to Jewish education.

--  
4,440 free Jewish books are distributed through PJ Library.

2018

Federation launches the Challenge Fund, significantly increasing the Annual Campaign and paving the way for the Jewish Superhighway.

2020

Federation joins the Life & Legacy initiative and has 27 letters of intent by April 2021.



2020-2021

Annual Campaign along with Emergency Campaign for Community Resilience raises **\$7.2M** for Jewish Ottawa.

"In a building, the foundation supports the load of a building. In our community, the Foundation provides the support our community provides for today and for tomorrow. I have led organizations dependent on the support of the Foundation for 15 years. Never have I seen what the Foundation and its Board decided to do in the early part of the pandemic. With global markets in a downward spiral, and the income on which it depends for disbursements in negative territory, the Foundation Board decided to stay the course and continue to disburse 4% on an annual basis. The Board recognized that in the face of the pandemic, its very reason to exist was to provide that base of support to agencies dependent on those funds. The Foundation's actions allowed our agencies some breathing room to get through the crisis. It was a genuine act of leadership and calm amidst a lot of early panic. *Yasher Koach* to the Board, and congratulations on 50 years!"

- Michael Polowin, Chair, Jewish Federation of Ottawa





# 1949

1968  
Graduates and teachers  
of Hillel Academy day  
school (Talmud Torah.)



The Ottawa Jewish Community School is dedicated to enriching students' lives, strengthening their character and instilling a love for Israel. Inspired by Jewish values and heritage, a love of learning, and guided by innovative teaching practices, the trilingual curriculum combines the teaching and understanding of Judaism, Hebrew and French.

**1949**  
Talmud Torah moves to 453 Rideau Street where 13 children are enrolled in the Ottawa Hebrew Day School. This was the beginning of Hillel Day school as a community Hebrew school, offering study from junior kindergarten to Grade 8.

**1953**  
The first class graduates from Hillel Day School.

**1960**  
Name changes to Hillel Academy, located at 151 Chapel Street.

**1981**  
School receives its first annual disbursement from the Foundation for \$8,094.

**1983**  
School moves to Ottawa Jewish Campus, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private.

**1998**  
School opens brand new computer lab with 12 new PCs. -- Director of education Mark Weinberg reflects, "I don't think it is possible to measure the importance of Hillel. We affect how our community functions and will function in future years."

**2001**  
Former graduate Jesse Levine, at age 13, wins the U.S. Clay Court 14 Nationals singles tennis championship and goes on to a successful tennis career.

In 2022, OJCS will celebrate its 75th anniversary!







# 2021

**2006**  
Hillel Academy and Yitzhak Rabin High School merge and school is renamed Ottawa Jewish Community School.

**2009**  
Foundation annual disbursement grows to **\$88,235.**

**2013**  
Stephen Victor and Richard Sachs launch **\$6M** school campaign to ensure financial sustainability.

**2017**  
OJCS students welcome first Shinshinim who run engaging and inspiring programs focused on Israel.

**2019**  
School launches Makerspace. Made possible by a grant from the Beth Shalom Legacy Fund, the program provides for a collaborative workspace for students using high-tech to no-tech equipment like 3D printers, laser cutters, soldering irons and even a green screen room with video equipment.  
--  
Foundation annual disbursement grows to **\$166K.**

**2020**  
OJCS joins the Life & Legacy initiative and has 29 letters of intent by April 2021.



“We are so grateful to have the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation available to inspire and nurture donations to so many vital institutions and organizations. Here at OJCS, thanks to the generosity of donors who have designated us for support and thanks to the Foundation for their sage stewardship, we will be able to sustain our school into its next 75 years and thus help secure the future of our community by graduating new generations of Jewish leaders.”

- Dr. Jon Mitzmacher, Head of School, OJCS





In 1943, a committee was created to start planning for a Jewish community centre. They were called the Community Centre Committee of the Vaad Ha'Ir and their purpose was to: "Ask their respective congregations to adopt a resolution that they are in agreement in principle to erect and support a Community Centre which will house a synagogue, Talmud Torah, assembly hall, social and athletic centre."



# 1951

**1951**  
The Jewish Community Centre (JCC) opens at 151 Chapel Street with expansion continuing until 1960.

**1991**  
The JCC receives an annual disbursement of **\$1,550**.



**1998**  
The community centre moves to 21 Nadolny Sachs Private to the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, at the heart of the Jewish campus where it is a full-service JCC with a fitness centre and library, including educational and cultural programs for all ages, from the youngest toddlers to the oldest seniors in the community.

--  
It is re-named the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

**2000**  
The "La Joie de Vivre" bronze sculpture, commissioned by Harold Shenkman, was put in place to grace the entrance way to the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building. The three figures, mom and dad each holding a hand of their exuberant child, provide the essence of a family filled with joy in greeting all who enter.



**2006**  
SJCC Celebrity Sports Dinner hosts hockey legends: Guy Lafleur, Yvan Cournoyer, Brad Park, Dale Hawerchuk, Rejean Houle, Peter Mahovlich and Gerry Cheevers.





# 2021

**2010**  
SJCC receives annual disbursement of **\$108,593**.

**2013**  
More than 1,200 children attend summer camp programs at the SJCC, marking one of the most successful summer camp seasons ever.

**2014**  
SJCC hosts Ottawa's first-ever community Havdalah service, with more than 500 in attendance.

**2016**  
Annual disbursement grows to **\$145,920**.

**2018**  
After tornadoes hit Ottawa, the SJCC remains open to provide hot showers and power to those affected by the storm.

--  
Ganon Preschool has 80 students enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year.

**2019**  
SJCC receives annual disbursement of **\$191,306**.

**2020**  
SJCC joins the Life & Legacy initiative and has 18 letters of intent by April 2021.



"The support that we receive from the Foundation is significant. In addition to the allocation that we get from the Federation, it represents roughly 11 per cent of our overall budget. Some of the funds support significant portions of our program initiatives, particularly as they relate to our Jewish mission. For example, the fund that supports the Greenberg Families Library is a major factor in our ability to maintain the library and to continue to help the library grow. We are now well over 10,000 volumes in the library and it has become a tremendous community resource."

- Barry Sohn, President and COO, SJCC





# 1985



Tamir now serves multiple group-living programs, supports independent living units, respite care, day services, a thriving Judaic Outreach program and a day camp for children with special needs.

Tamir currently serves more than 100 residents.

1985

Tamir opens first home with three residents.

1991

Tamir receives annual disbursement of **\$4,307**.

2001

A decade after the first fund distribution, Tamir's funding more than doubles to **\$9,530**.

2006

Tamir operates first Keshet for Kids March Break Camp.

2008

At the flag raising on Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) Tamir participants lead the singing of 'Oh Canada' and 'Hatikvah.'

2009

Annual disbursement equals **\$58,136**.

2010

Tamir marks 25th anniversary with a fully integrated theatrical production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Months of preparation culminates in two performances in front of sell-out crowds at CentrepoinTE Theatre in Ottawa.





# 2021

**2011**  
Foundation annual disbursement to Tamir grows to **\$66,895.**

**2012**  
Tamir Judaic Program launches new Bar and Bat Mitzvah class, L'Dor Vad-Dor, (from generation to generation).

**2017**  
Tamir launches "Steppin' Out in Style," the city's first inclusive fashion show, with diversely-abled models strutting their stuff on the runway.

**2019**  
Tamir receives annual disbursement of **\$135,245.**

**2020**  
Tamir joins the Life & Legacy initiative and has 30 letters of intent by April 2021.



"Over the last five years, Tamir's Endowment Fund continues to be a stable and predictable revenue stream. The sound management, through the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, enables Tamir to continue to enhance the social, emotional, and physical lives of our participants. This was especially true during 2020, when Tamir was able to broaden its Judaic cultural and secular programming to keep our participants active, mentally stimulated, and engaged in the world all while being safe at home. We would not have been able to accomplish these objectives without the financial support of endowment and other donors. We extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone who made this possible."

- Risa Plotnick, Executive Director, Tamir



## What will you do to assure Jewish tomorrows?

This is the question at the heart of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation's mission and values. When the Foundation was created 50 years ago, its founders were trying to ensure that all our Jewish tomorrows would be protected and financially secure.

Their foresight was impressive. Now as we move forward as a community, we continue to ask what do we do together to ensure future generations will have what they need and that the causes we cherish will still flourish? For the Foundation, one important step toward securing this goal was to bring the **Harold Grinspoon Life & Legacy Initiative** to our community.

## What does Life & Legacy mean for Jewish Ottawa?

Life & Legacy is a North America-wide program that provides training, support and monetary incentives to motivate Jewish organizations to secure after-lifetime commitments. Its aim is to build permanent endowments that will sustain vibrant Jewish communities for years to come.

Acceptance to the program qualifies the Foundation for up to \$400K US in incentive grants from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Foundation leadership recognized this amazing opportunity and proactively worked to get accepted into the program. The bid was successful, and the Foundation has built a partnership of 14 organizations to be part of Jewish Ottawa's Life & Legacy with the collective mission of creating a philanthropic culture of legacy giving.

### Our partners are:

- Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa
- Congregation Machzikei Hadas
- Hillel Lodge LTC Foundation
- Jewish Education Through Torah (JET)
- Jewish Family Services of Ottawa
- Jewish Federation of Ottawa
- Jewish Memorial Gardens
- Kehillat Beth Israel Congregation
- Ottawa Jewish Community School
- Ottawa Torah Centre
- Soloway Jewish Community Centre
- Tamir
- Temple Israel
- Torah Day School of Ottawa

The program officially launched March 1, 2020. Despite this coinciding with the start of the pandemic, the results have been tremendous. In its first year, 157 donors left 289 gifts with the program. These legacy gifts, with an estimated value of almost \$11 million, will create endowments at the Foundation for the 14 agencies, which will get annual disbursements from the Foundation – in perpetuity, and so assuring our Jewish tomorrows.





Adam and Ariel Aronson are among those who recently signed a letter of intent, which states that “in keeping with Jewish tradition and an abiding commitment to my community, I wish to share my legacy with others.”

For Adam, promising to leave a gift to the Life & Legacy initiative is a way to give back to the community.

“The community has helped us for so long,” said Adam. “It’s to help sustain what these programs do. The community is very philanthropic.”

Adam considers himself a “beneficiary” of the programs and agencies that the Life & Legacy fund is designed to

support. He went to Hillel Academy, went to Camp B’nai Brith and now sits on the board of CBB, in addition to volunteering for various Federation initiatives.

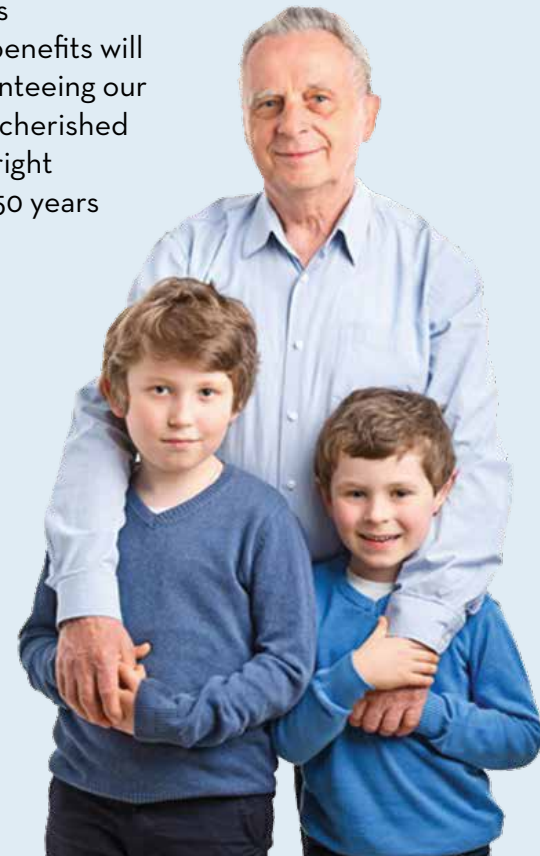
Ariel also grew up immersed in the community. “I can’t describe my life without the Ottawa Jewish community,” said Ariel, who was involved with her synagogue growing up and previously worked for the Federation.

The Life & Legacy initiative “is to ensure that when we have kids – and when they have kids – that everybody gets to benefit from the community as much as we did.”

As the Aronsons describe, legacy giving ensures that the generations that come next will enjoy all the same benefits that we currently cherish in our vibrant Jewish community. This was the goal set by the Foundations’ founders five decades ago to assure our collective futures.

It is very fitting that in its 50th year, the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation is marking the first-year success of such an important program as the Harold Grinspoon Life & Legacy Initiative. As more community members establish their legacy gift, the Foundation’s philanthropic mission and benefits will continue to broaden, guaranteeing our beloved community’s most cherished organizations will enjoy a bright future – here’s to the next 50 years of growth and community excellence.

**Life & Legacy  
Year 1:  
157 donors,  
289 gifts,  
value of almost  
\$11 million**



To find out more about the Life & Legacy initiative, please visit [https://ojcf.ca/programs\\_awards/life-legacy](https://ojcf.ca/programs_awards/life-legacy).

Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

[ojcf.ca](http://ojcf.ca) • [info@jewishottawa.com](mailto:info@jewishottawa.com)