Review of the Year

OTHER COUNTRIES
Canada

National Affairs

SEPTEMBER 11 HAD A PROFOUND IMPACT ON Canada. First, several dozen Canadian citizens died in the terrorist attacks. Second, Canada’s economy, already weakening earlier in the year, teetered close to recession as interest rates dropped and the unemployment rate rose to around 8 percent by the end of 2001. The Canadian dollar declined by about 6 percent relative to its U.S. counterpart, hitting record lows. Third, the threat of further terrorist incidents led to calls for tighter security that produced new legislation.

About a month after the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, the government introduced a package of antiterrorism bills that defined “terrorist” groups and activities, criminalized the collection of money for terrorism, eased the rules governing surveillance of suspected terrorists, provided for preventive arrest of terrorist suspects, and codified tougher penalties for hate crimes. Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) president Keith Landy supported the bill, citing the mood of Jews across the country in the aftermath of September 11. In contrast, a representative of the Canadian Islamic Congress denounced the legislation as “obscene,” adding, “you might as well delete the constitution from our landscape.” The bills passed in December.

In fact there had been warnings about terrorism well before September. CJC, in February, urged the government to take many of the actions that were, in fact, implemented after September 11. CJC reiterated its concerns after the convictions, in two separate trials in the United States, of Arab terrorists who had lived in Montreal, Ahmed Ressam and Mokhtar Haouari. At his trial, Ressam testified that before setting his sights on the Los Angeles International Airport he had considered setting off a bomb in a neighborhood of “Israeli interest,” which was subsequently identified as a part of the Montreal suburb of Outremont where many Hassidim lived. In July, Keith Landy declared: “We don’t want a major terrorist incident to be the clarion call. As a Jewish community and as
Jewish Canadians we call upon our government to make a strong commitment to opposing terrorism at every turn."

After September 11, two Egyptians with alleged ties to the al-Jihad group were arrested in Toronto. Another man, Nabil Al-Maralh, who used to live in Toronto, was arrested in Chicago in connection with the hijackings. A Moroccan man who had continued to live in Montreal for three years after the government had rejected his claim for refugee status, Said Atmani, was put on trial in France. He was charged with being a key aide to Fateh Kamel, an Algerian-born Canadian who had earlier been convicted in Paris for assisting terrorists. The French also claimed that Atmani had worked for Osama bin Laden.

Sensibilities of Canadian Arabs became an issue. The Canadian Museum of Civilization in Ottawa had scheduled an Arab-Canadian art exhibit for October that included a video with extreme anti-Israel material. After September 11, the exhibit was postponed indefinitely. But Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, responding to the Arab community, intervened to insure that it opened on schedule. CJC president Landy complained to the chair of the board of the museum. Landy found it unacceptable to allow "one of our national institutions to be used as a vehicle to promote the kind of hatred which is at the root of the attack against the U.S. in the first place, as well as the ugly situation in our own country."

In August, the Federal Court of Appeal in Ottawa ruled in favor of Andrew Liebmann. He had been a reserve lieutenant in the navy during the period of the Gulf War in 1991 and had sued after being barred from an important assignment in the Persian Gulf because he was Jewish. Though Liebmann had originally lost at trial, he was vindicated on appeal when the court agreed that he had suffered discrimination because he was Jewish. The decision, commented CJC Ontario Region chair Ed Morgan, endorsed the principle that "Canadian Forces cannot pander to the prejudices of foreign countries."

In October, Ontario premier Mike Harris announced his retirement. In an assessment of his nearly two terms in office, Landy praised him for introducing a tax credit that assisted parents of day school children, while others in the Jewish community criticized him for his conservative social policies.

Karen Leibovici and Stephen Mandel were elected to the Edmonton city council in October.

The new Quebec premier, Bernard Landry, continued to reach out to Jews, despite the Jewish community's overwhelming rejection of the secessionist option that defined his Parti Québécois. In a speech to Jewish
leaders marking Israel Independence Day, Premier Landry asked his au-
ditors to reconsider their devotion to the federalist cause and to be more
open-minded about possible Quebec sovereignty. Drawing parallels be-
tween Quebec and Israel as a way to connect with his Jewish audience,
he expressed the hope that "many of you, and more and more of you,
will participate in that dream of ours," Quebec as a nation.

Residents of the suburban Montreal towns of Côte Saint-Luc and
Hampstead—both with substantial Jewish majorities—were dismayed
in June when the Quebec commission assigned to redraw riding (district)
boundaries recommended that the riding of D'Arcy McGee, which in-
cluded the two towns, be eliminated and its population be absorbed into
adjoining districts. D'Arcy McGee regularly elected a Jewish member of
the National Assembly, currently Lawrence Bergman, and it was rare for
any other riding to elect a Jew. Thus, this redistricting threatened to put
an end to almost a century of at least one Jew serving in the legislature.
Bergman termed it "vandalism of the worst nature" and lamented the po-
tential loss of community representation in Quebec City. CJC Quebec Re-
gion chair Joseph Gabay accused the commission of "targeting minori-
ties." Community pressure on the commission paid off. In December, in
its final report, the commission decided to leave the riding intact.

The Quebec government forced a merger of Montreal with the 27 sub-
urban municipalities that shared the island of Montreal. The new
"megacity" came into existence at the end of the year. Elections for
mayor, city councilors, and borough councilors were held in November.
Among the 103 councilors elected: Saulie Zajdel, Michael Applebaum,
Marvin Rotrand, Robert Libman, Dida Berku, Howard Zingboim, Irv-
ing Grundman, Karin Marks, Anthony Housefather, and Maurice
Cohen. Libman was named to the executive committee.

Israel and the Middle East

Canada's voting record in the UN continued to be a source of tension
between the government and the community as Canada's membership on
the Security Council during 1999–2000 brought it under intensified Jew-
ish scrutiny. While the government saw itself as pursuing a balanced and
even-handed policy in the Middle East, Jews saw it as tilting toward the
Arab side, especially on the Palestinian issue.

In April, the annual meeting of the UN Commission on Human Rights
in Geneva passed a number of resolutions considered hostile to Israel.
Canada abstained on a resolution regarding the Palestinian right to self-
determination on the grounds that it ignored the process of direct negotiations. Canada abstained as well on three resolutions alleging Israeli human-rights violations, and on two involving Syrian and Lebanese aspects of Israeli policy. It did vote in favor of a motion condemning Israel's settlement activities in the territories, but on the other hand it voted against a resolution that was perceived as opening the way to a revival of the "Zionism is racism" canard. Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) executive director Rob Ritter was generally pleased that Canada had not supported the bulk of the resolutions.

The December meeting of the UN General Assembly provided a forum for 19 resolutions unfriendly to Israel. Canada voted in favor of most of them—including one sharply critical of alleged Israeli interference with the delivery of humanitarian supplies to the Palestinians—and abstained on the others. The organized Jewish community, which would have applauded Canada's adoption of the U.S. position supporting Israel even on just some of the resolutions, was not hopeful of any new direction in the Canadian approach. The CIC's David Goldberg observed that "they may be consistently wrong, but there's no change in policy."

Also in December, at a meeting of the signatories to the Geneva conventions, Canada supported a resolution that essentially charged Israel with serious violations of the rules of war, in connection with its treatment of civilians in the territories. Opposition leader Stockwell Day accused the prime minister of having authorized that vote himself. Whether Jean Chrétien or officials in the Department of Foreign Affairs were responsible, the prime minister did try to finesse the matter by stating that Canada had objected to some of the text in question. Nevertheless, Day accused him of moving Canada away from its traditional neutral stance. "It's a very disturbing pattern of duplicity on the part of the Canadian government. There isn't even a pretense of balance," said Day. In response, Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray told the House of Commons that, aside from the United States, there was no country "that stands up in a more forthright and balanced way for Israel." MP Irwin Cotler criticized the government for allowing the meeting to take place because it resulted in "undermining the very regime of international humanitarian law." The CIC denounced the final declaration, and CJC's Keith Landy called it "a morally outrageous document" that would incite hatred of Israel, "making Canada's footnote to the contrary irrelevant."

When the question of electing Syria to a two-year term on the Security Council came up, Canada would not reveal its secret vote, though it
was widely believed that Canada voted in favor despite calls from Jewish organizations to vote against.

Considerable dispute surrounded Canadian policy with regard to the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held in Durban, South Africa, in September. Although the Jewish community urged the government not to participate because the conference was likely to become a forum for Israel-bashing and anti-Semitism, Canada was represented there, albeit by a low-level cabinet minister. MP Irwin Cotler was a member of the delegation. During the August preparatory meetings, Canada did try to dissuade the Arab countries from pursuing a “Zionism is racism” resolution. Karen Mock, national director of B’nai Brith’s League for Human Rights, led a delegation of representatives of Jewish nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) at a meeting with Mary Robinson, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, but the group was unable to convince Robinson to redirect the agenda.

Canada did not follow the example of the U.S. and Israel in boycotting the conference or walking out, the government arguing that it might ameliorate the attacks on Israel and Jews by being there. Canadian Jewish representatives to the NGO forum, held in late August before the conference itself began, complained about the oppressive and discriminatory atmosphere. As CJC president Landy put it, “you just have to walk in there as a Jew and you feel extremely threatened.” After the conference ended, Landy described it “as an unmitigated failure and a complete fiasco.” The Canadian delegation distanced itself from what it termed the “irresponsible” declaration and expressed its “strongest objections” to inclusion of anything to do with the Palestinian-Israel conflict in the final document. Canada’s ambassador to the UN, Paul Heinbecker, noted that his delegation “registers its strongest objections and dissociates itself integrally from all text in this document directly or indirectly relating to the situation in the Middle East.”

Irwin Cotler, in a Montreal speech in November, criticized the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the United Nations and to Secretary General Kofi Annan. Their selection, he charged, conferred legitimacy on the “festival of hate” that had singled out Israel and Jews for international opprobrium. In recounting his experiences in Durban, Cotler stressed the pervasive anti-Semitism. He noted that, by remaining until the end of the conference, when the declaration was adopted by consensus, Canada made itself a party to it, despite the subsequent attempt to dissociate it-
self. However he did praise his fellow members of the Canadian delegation for their strong efforts to remove offending language. Cotler also lamented the inattention of Israel and the rest of the Jewish world to the impending conference until the summer, whereas the Palestinians had been working for their cause for three years.

A number of policy issues related to the Middle East arose during the year, and they often put Minister of Foreign Affairs John Manley at the center of controversy. Rumors surfaced in January that Canada had made a secret offer to take in thousands of Palestinian refugees in the context of a peace settlement. Palestinian leaders were outraged because they feared that such action would undermine their claim to a right of return. Manley confirmed that Canada was ready to take in refugees, and noted that, as chair of the Refugee Working Group, Canada had a particular interest in the matter. Visiting Israel in May as part of a trip to the region, Manley publicly called for an end to the construction of settlements in the territories, a view that Prime Minister Ariel Sharon rejected. The two also clashed on the proper response to an Egyptian-Jordanian initiative. Upon his return to Canada, Manley announced Canada’s support for the Mitchell Report proposed by the U.S., saying, “it closely mirrors our own policies.”

Israel Asper, whose Can West Global Communications Corp. had become a major media presence, pulled no punches in his evaluation of Canadian foreign policy at a dinner in his honor in Toronto in June. He denounced Canada’s “shameful and wrong-headed policy on Israel,” asserting that “it is not too late to regain our honor and integrity.” He criticized Manley by name, and the foreign secretary responded with an article in the National Post in July that termed the criticism “unfortunate, untrue, and harmful,” adding that strong support for Israel “has been at the core of Canada’s . . . policy since 1947.

Manley created a great rift between the government and the Jewish community with comments in a newspaper interview in October, just before he left on another trip to the Middle East. He suggested a distinction between the terrorism that the U.S. suffered on September 11 and that which Israel faced on a regular basis, saying: “Whatever else you might say about September 11, I’m not aware it was a claim for some kind of territory on Manhattan Island. These are very different situations.” Hit by a storm of criticism, Manley explained, in a letter to the editor of the Canadian Jewish News, that he rejected the notion that “terrorist attacks against Israel could be more acceptable than the recent terrorist attacks against the United States.” The basis for distinguishing the two
cases, he explained, was that there was a peace process going on in the Middle East. At a panel discussion in Montreal, the new CIC executive director, Shimon Fogel, pointed out that Manley had taken a strong stand against terrorism in his talks with Arab leaders. In remarks made in December, Manley lamented the increasing violence involving Israel and the Palestinians. Although he called on Palestinian chairman Yasir Arafat to end the uprising and dismantle the terrorist networks, the CIC nevertheless took him to task for not being more forceful in putting his demands to the Palestinians.

Opposition leader Stockwell Day came out squarely on Israel's side. In a speech to the CJC national plenary assembly in May, Day delighted the delegates when he blamed the violence on the Palestinians. Day drew a moral distinction between "an accidental injury or death of bystanders who are tragically caught in the crossfire of violence, and the deliberate murder of innocent people in a premeditated act of terrorism." He sharply criticized Canadian foreign policy as being based on "group-think" rather than facts, and blasted Canada's UN voting record for supporting "blatantly anti-Israel resolutions." Spokespeople for the Canadian Arab community were outraged, threatening legal action for alleged incitement against Arabs and called for Day's resignation.

Responding to pressure from the Jewish community and others, the government decided in December to widen its official list of terrorist groups to include the entire Hamas structure. As a result, any funds belonging to Hamas or associated organizations, such as the Holy Land Fund and the Al Aqsa Bank, would be frozen if found in a Canadian financial institution. Previously, charitable operations of the group were considered acceptable.

Léger Marketing conducted a poll of Canadians in December to ascertain their views on the Israel-Palestinian conflict. The major finding was that 26 percent held Arafat responsible for the surge of violence, 12 percent blamed Sharon, 24 percent assigned blame equally, and 38 percent had no answer. As for general sympathies in the conflict, 21 percent favored Israel, 11 percent favored the Palestinians, 45 percent favored neither, and the rest had no opinion.

An old terrorist case, dating from 1988, continued to work its way through the legal process. Mahmoud Mohammad Issa Mohammad, who had been convicted in Greece for his part in a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine attack on a plane at the Athens airport in 1968, had been seeking permanent residence status in Canada for years. Canada, however, had been trying to deport him because of his terrorist back-
ground. In November, the Immigration and Refugee Board dismissed his appeal on the grounds that his continued presence in Canada would be "a mockery of Canadian legislation." Mohammad indicated that he would appeal further in the courts.

**Anti-Semitism and Racism**

The controversy over the alleged anti-Semitism of Quebec nationalist Yves Michaud was a contributing factor in the surprise decision of Premier Lucien Bouchard to resign in January. Michaud, while seeking the Parti Québécois (PQ) nomination for a vacant legislative seat in Montreal in 2000, had made several hostile remarks on radio and television about Jews who opposed an independent Quebec, and spoke slightly about the Holocaust. Bouchard, the party leader, denounced him, eliciting praise from Jewish organizations. Allan Adel, for example, Quebec Region chair of B’nai Brith Canada (BBC), spoke of the premier’s “great leadership and courage.” For the Jews of Quebec, Bouchard’s rejection of Michaud’s intolerance marked an important milestone: a separatist leader was on record affirming that Jews were full citizens regardless of their position on the independence issue (see AJYB 2001, p. 288).

In his resignation announcement, Bouchard demonstrated his distaste for the issues raised by Michaud, stating that he had “no appetite” for debates over which groups tended to oppose secession or over the Holocaust. “The Holocaust,” he declared, “was the supreme crime, a systematic attempt to eliminate people. We should not hold it against the Jewish people for being traumatized by this.” Bouchard also defended the National Assembly for its vote to condemn Michaud. BBC Quebec director Robert Libman termed the remarks “the most articulate and passionate defense of the Jewish community I have ever heard from a Quebec leader, PQ or Liberal.” The CIC Quebec chair, Thomas Hecht, observed that the Michaud affair demonstrated that “Quebec has changed significantly. It is a much more open society. The old ethnocentric chauvinism is no longer mainstream or forms the consensus.”

In a letter to Bouchard, Michaud argued that he was no anti-Semite, pointing out that he had lived harmoniously for 37 years in a Jewish neighborhood and acknowledging the “unique and incomparable character” of the Nazi attempt to wipe out the Jews. Michaud nevertheless renewed his attack on B’nai Brith for having the temerity to challenge the Quebec nationalists. Some 150 of Michaud’s supporters, including a former Quebec premier and two members of Parliament, signed an adver-
tisement that appeared in the newspaper *Le Devoir* in January condemning the 2000 National Assembly motion that censured Michaud, and calling it an attack on “the freedom of expression of Quebecers.”

In an address in March to the Stockholm International Forum on Combating Intolerance, MP Cotler, who headed the Canadian delegation, called for the development of a new international legal strategy to deal with the incitement of group hatred that would include measures to fight the hate transmitted over the Internet. He proposed an international legal commission to launch such efforts.

B’nai Brith Canada expressed ongoing concern about a rising tide of hate crimes and anti-Semitic incidents that was clearly tied to the new round of Palestinian violence that began in late 2000 (see AJYB 2001, pp. 288–89). September 11, 2001 brought even more incidents in its wake—anti-Semitic graffiti, bomb threats, synagogue and cemetery desecrations, and verbal and written abuse. Of the 286 anti-Semitic incidents audited by B’nai Brith Canada for 2001, 35 percent occurred during September and October. In Toronto, 41 percent of the year’s incidents were concentrated in those two months, including the spray painting of graffiti against Jews and for Osama bin Laden on the walls of Shaar Shalom Synagogue in the suburb of Thornhill, and a rash of anti-Semitic graffiti at Ryerson University.

After many years of legal tangles with the authorities, Holocaust denier and anti-Semite Ernst Zundel left Canada in March and settled in the United States. Keith Landy, then the Ontario Region chair of CJC, expressed his satisfaction: “The many years of efforts, of hounding Zundel, have finally paid off.” Landy concluded that Canadian extremists had “lost their champion.”

The Doug Collins case, in which the Human Rights Tribunal of British Columbia ruled against the journalist in 1999 for promoting hatred of Jews (see AJYB 2000, p. 271), appeared in the news again, this time on appeal. Another tribunal upheld the constitutionality of the judgment that Collins’s newspaper columns fomented hatred or contempt of Jews, holding that the provincial human-rights code was compatible with the federal Charter of Rights and Freedom. Collins also lost in the Supreme Court of Canada, where his appeal on jurisdictional grounds was denied in August.

In the New Brunswick Court of Appeal in May, cartoonist Josh Beutel succeeded in overturning a 1998 judgment for $7,500 against him for a cartoon that depicted anti-Semitic former teacher Malcolm Ross as a Nazi (see AJYB 2001, p. 289). The court found Beutel’s cartoon to be fair
comment on the views expressed by Ross in two books, and also agreed with the lower court that "Ross is a racist and anti-Semite." Beutel, awarded court costs of $5,000 from Ross, praised the decision as a victory for free expression.

*Al-Moustakbal*, an Arabic language newspaper in Montreal, published two articles that CJC characterized as inflammatory attacks on Jews. The editor, however, claimed that the articles referred to Israel and not Jews, even though the writer had employed classic anti-Semitic stereotypes. She said that she had demanded that Elias Bittar, the freelance journalist who wrote the offensive pieces, write another article to clear up the confusion: "I asked him to write and explain. It's a form of apologizing."

Eustace Mullins, a West Virginia author accused of anti-Semitism, was dropped from the program of the Total Health 2001 show, which was held in Toronto in March. His invitation was withdrawn after pressure from CJC, which demonstrated that Mullins promoted notions of Jewish conspiracies. David Icke of Great Britain, similarly known for his advocacy of bizarre conspiracy theories involving Jews, suffered the cancellation of a scheduled lecture at a Unitarian church in Toronto in June. In addition, both Mullins and Icke had also been booked to appear on a Canadian speaking tour, but the former withdrew after adverse publicity. Icke appeared without Mullins at a seminar in Montreal in June that was closed to the press, but two talks scheduled for Toronto had to be canceled when the owners of the planned venues backed out of their agreements.

**Nazi War Criminals**

In the annual report of the War Crimes Section of the Justice Department, issued in July, the government reported that no new cases had been launched over the preceding year, largely due to the paucity of evidence that would be admissible in court. Some 1,600 files had been examined since 1986, when war crimes prosecutions began. Currently, there were 85 active files from the Nazi period, with 147 preliminary investigations underway in other prospective cases. In 1998 the government had promised to launch 14 new cases by 2001, but fell far short, with only a handful filed.

Since 1995, when the strategy changed from criminal prosecution to citizenship revocation and deportation, the government had initiated 17 cases. Of these, five were successful (two of the defendants died after losing their cases and the other three were contesting denaturalization),
three defendants won in court and preserved their citizenship, six died before proceedings could be completed, two cases are still in court, and one had been completed but not yet decided. Two other accused war criminals departed Canada voluntarily. A particularly egregious example of delay was the case of Vladimir Katriuk. Even though a Federal Court judge found in 1999 that he had entered Canada illegally, the government had yet to denaturalize him. On the other hand, Serge Kisluk, subject of a similar finding in 1999, did lose his citizenship in 2000. He died in June 2001 while awaiting a deportation hearing.

Terry Beitner, director of the War Crimes Section, addressed the executive of the CJC Ontario Region in September, trying to explain his group's slow progress. "We only go after those people who we say were war criminals," said Beitner, and the decision of whom to pursue reflected a policy judgment based on evidence of criminal responsibility. Beitner noted that the department had committed resources to enable him to pursue cases, and said that new legal actions would be filed in the near future. He concluded: "We'll see the fruits of those efforts shortly."

It was revealed in December that the federal government has paid $1.7 million to cover the legal fees of defendants in the three cases it had lost, those of Eduards Podins, Peteris Vitols, and Johann Dueck.

Andrew Telegdi, an MP from the Kitchener area of Ontario, where there were many residents of German descent, caused a stir when he sharply criticized the process of denaturalizing alleged Nazi war criminals. Since it was the cabinet that made the final decision to revoke citizenship, and naturalized citizens who obtained their citizenship fraudulently did not have the right to appeal to higher courts, Telegdi considered the Canadian process comparable to totalitarian abuse. After a public outcry, he was forced to apologize in the House of Commons in May, and he told his colleagues of his loathing for Hitler's regime.

In a public speech in June, New York investigator Steve Rambam, who had identified a number of alleged Nazi war criminals living in Canada, argued that the slow pace of action on these cases was due both to the government's fear of antagonizing certain ethnic groups in the country and to passivity on the part of the Jewish community. Rambam asserted that at least 500 of the 1,000 war criminals originally admitted to Canada after the war were still alive. He observed that "Canada has become an old-age home for Nazi war criminals. The lesson is that if you killed Jews, you have nothing to fear living here." In September, Rambam and the CJC announced that they would cooperate on several cases of alleged war criminals.
In 2000, a Federal Court judge found that Helmut Oberlander had misrepresented his background—membership in Einsatzkommando 10A—when he obtained citizenship. In 2001, the German-Canadian Congress accused Citizenship and Immigration Minister Elinor Caplan of seeking "revenge" rather than justice; Paul Tuerr, vice president of its Toronto chapter, went so far as to suggest that the Jewish community had special access to government officials. Incoming CJC president Landy lamented that "some leaders of the German-Canadian community are trying to turn this into an ethnic conflict." After agreeing in May to hear from Oberlander, the cabinet announced in August that he would lose his citizenship. Appeals were anticipated that would delay deportation, possibly for years.

Wasyl Odynsky, a former guard at the Trawniki SS camp who entered Canada in 1949, faced a Federal Court proceeding on how he had obtained citizenship. The judge ruled in March that he had lied about his wartime activities, but did not find any evidence that he had "participated personally in any incident involving the mistreatment of prisoners." The matter then went to the cabinet for a decision on revocation of Odynsky's citizenship.

The trial of Walter Obodzinski, scheduled to begin in July, was put off because the defense team launched an appeal on procedural grounds related to his health. Until such time as the Supreme Court of Canada would decide whether the case might proceed notwithstanding his ill health, the matter was in abeyance. Meanwhile the trial of Jacob Fast began in November, despite his lawyer's claims that he could not represent Fast properly because of the defendant's Alzheimer's disease. The government alleged that Fast served as an auxiliary member of the German security police in Ukraine between 1941 and 1944, participated in "the arrest and mistreatment of prisoners," and lied about his past when immigrating to Canada in 1947.

A Federal Court judge ruled in September that Michael Baumgartner, an SS man and a guard at concentration camps, would have been ineligible for entry to Canada had he told the truth about his background when he entered the country in 1953. This decision paved the way for the cabinet to denaturalize him.

The government filed a case against Michael Seifert in November, accusing him of personal involvement in war crimes in Italy in 1944–45 and of lying about his past during his immigration process in 1951. Seifert was an SS guard who, according to the government, participated in "the beatings, the torture and the killing of prisoners in the camp and in the
[camp's] isolation cells." He was convicted in absentia in Italy in 2000 for killing 11 prisoners. His lawyer, Douglas Christie, claimed that Seifert had been a prisoner during the period in question, and that Minister Caplan was motivated by "Jewish animosity" and bias.

**Holocaust-Related Matters**

In January, CJC and the Canadian Museums Association agreed to try to locate artworks stolen from Jews during the Holocaust that might be in Canada. Among the museums that had identified works with uncertain provenances were the National Gallery, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Ian Lumsden, executive director of the Beaverbrook Art Gallery in Fredericton, New Brunswick, created a furor when he suggested, in an interview in December, that "the greater good of mankind might have been served inadvertently" by the Nazi confiscations, since "if some of these works had been left in homes in Amsterdam and God knows where, they'd have been bombed and the works might have been destroyed. That would be much more heinous than actually having these things surface in major collections. . . ." He quickly apologized.

In connection with the processing of claims of Holocaust survivors, CJC and the Jewish Holocaust Survivors of Canada charged that Canadian Jewish survivors were not receiving proportional institutional support from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. Michael Rosenberg, president of the Holocaust Survivors, stated that "we must ensure that Canadian Jewish organizations show no complacency in seeking institutional funds to support Holocaust survivors and long-term education on the Holocaust."

In June, the federal government designated January 17 as Wallenberg Day, to be commemorated annually in honor of Canada's only honorary citizen, Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who had saved thousands of Jews in wartime Hungary. The Canadian Heritage Ministry would prepare an educational program for all Canadian schools to mark the day. In remarks in the House of Commons, MP Cotler praised the initiative to recognize "the best of humanitarian intervention" and to demonstrate "that one person can confront radical evil, prevail and transform history."

In October, a photography exhibit at the Koffler Centre of the Arts at the Bathurst Jewish Community Centre in Toronto told the heroic story of journalist Varian Fry, who helped save many Jews in France in 1940–41.
That same month, Vision TV showed two documentaries in connection with Holocaust Education Week: "Out of the Fire," directed by Shelley Saywell, and "Rendezvous," directed by Dominique Darmon. Both were about survivors returning to visit the villages where they once lived.

Prof. Gary Evans, a University of Ottawa film historian, spoke in Montreal in December about Holocaust films. In particular, he reviewed the National Film Board projects and television programs on the Holocaust that had appeared, going as far back as the war years. He criticized filmmakers for "looking for meaning instead of presenting the reality" and urged them to use the testimony of survivors as the basis for scripts. Often, he pointed out, Canadian films downplayed the tragedy of the Jews during the Holocaust period, but he believed that the situation was improving.

**Jewish Community**

*Demography*

In the hope of reversing a long-term demographic decline, the Winnipeg Jewish community launched its Grow Winnipeg plan. Despite the substantial growth of the Jewish population in the country as a whole over the previous 40 years, the number of Jews in Winnipeg had dropped from 19,000 in 1960 to about 14,000, of whom a quarter were senior citizens. Grow Winnipeg sought to boost the Jewish population to 18,000 by 2010 by attracting immigrants from Argentina, the former Soviet Union, South Africa, and elsewhere, luring back former residents, and finding employment for young Winnipeg Jews so as to keep them from moving. Bob Freedman, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg/Combined Jewish Appeal—the source of funding for the project—warned: "if we don't take a proactive approach, we will continue to slide backwards.”

Montreal’s Federation/Combined Jewish Appeal conducted a survey of Russian immigrants who arrived during the 1990s. Some 198 families were located and interviewed, nearly all of them still living in Montreal. Over half of the respondents were working in the same field as they had in the former Soviet Union, but nearly 45 percent reported difficulty finding work or considered themselves to be underemployed. Only about a sixth belonged to a synagogue or other Jewish group. Nearly 82 percent said that they were optimistic about their lives in Canada.
Communal Affairs

The Canadian Jewish Congress held its 26th triennial plenary in May in Toronto, with nearly 1,000 registered delegates in attendance. Sessions dealt with funding religious schools, advocacy strategies, Holocaust restitution, child poverty, student issues, the Middle East and Jerusalem, the media, and anti-Semitism. Keith Landy was elected president by acclamation and Irving Abella was elected honorary president.

Two controversial organizational suggestions were made during the year. First, there was a proposal to integrate much of the work of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services within the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, but opponents warned that this might hamper the effectiveness of JIAS. Also, Rabbi Gunther Plaut, the community's elder statesman, addressed the competition between CJC and B'nai Brith Canada in a Canadian Jewish News column in May. He expressed concern about the competition and occasional conflict that occasionally "goes off the rails and produces quite embarrassing situations." Arguing that "we are too small a number in Canada to fritter our energy away with useless antagonisms," Plaut wondered, "when will we come to our senses?"

In the immediate aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks, the community went on the alert, fearful of possible violence but with no specific evidence about any threat within Canada. The government supplied added security for Israeli diplomatic missions, and police forces stepped up their protection of community institutions. Some community events were postponed or canceled. In October several Jewish organizations in Toronto, Ottawa, Windsor, and Montreal received letters containing a white, powdery substance that resembled, but turned out not to be, anthrax. At least two contained threats against Jews.

In Toronto the Bloor JCC was completely renovated, at a cost of some $10 million, and then renamed the Miles S. Nadal Bloor JCC. Community officials saw it as a key to revitalizing the downtown Jewish community, home to about 20,000 Jews. The effort was part of the federation's Jewish Toronto Tomorrow community-wide infrastructure improvement plan, in which the federation matches private gifts. The federation also decided to shift its spending in light of the situation in Israel. The Jewish Agency for Israel was to receive more money, reversing a trend of several years toward greater emphasis on local needs. Montreal's federation budget for local needs increased by nearly 11 percent due to record fundraising.

The merger between the Jewish Hospital of Hope and the Jewish Nurs-
ing Home, two Montreal institutions, led to a lawsuit over control of several million dollars. The Jewish Eldercare Centre, the product of the merger, contended that the JHH Foundation was not releasing income from its endowment or from its new fund-raising to the new entity.

Another Montreal merger, this one involving two synagogues, also ignited a legal battle. Russian Jewish worshipers at Congregation Anshei Ozeroff objected to a merger with Adath Israel Poale Zedek Synagogue, and charged that the leadership of their synagogue had brought about the merger over their resistance. But the doors of the synagogue were locked in October, leaving its largely Russian congregants with few suitable alternatives.

In Toronto, Leon Edery was convicted of income tax violations for issuing false tax receipts for charitable donations in the names of three different synagogues. He was fined and sentenced to a year of house arrest.

Israel-Related Matters

Three Toronto rabbis, John Moscowitz, Moshe Shulman, and Baruch Frydman-Kohl, organized the Israel Now Consortium in July to mobilize support for Israel through education, rallies, and missions to Israel. Its first project was an Israel Solidarity Rally for Freedom, which attracted about 3,000 people to the Beth Tzedec Synagogue in December. Among the speakers were MP Irwin Cotler, Minister of Defense Art Eggleton, Israeli cabinet minister Dan Meridor, and Consul General Meir Romem. Eggleton declared that “Canada and Canadians must stand firmly with Israel.”

Montreal’s Jewish community set up a Strategic Action Committee in November to combat attempts to undermine Israel’s legitimacy. This joint project of the federation, CIC, and CJC focused on synagogues, campus activities, providing information, monitoring the media, and public affairs. CIC Quebec chair Thomas Hecht stressed the need “to have an engaged community in the media struggle of deciding whether Israel is the victim or the ‘victimizer.’” Two rallies were held in Montreal to protest Palestinian terrorist attacks in Israel, the first in August, just after the Sbarro pizzeria bombing in Jerusalem, and the second in December, after large-scale terrorist bombings in Haifa and Jerusalem.

Under the leadership of Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz, a delegation of 15 rabbis from Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, and Kingston sought to combat the impression that the Jewish community was not deeply involved in Israel’s plight. The delegation traveled to Ottawa in May, where it met with members of both houses of Parliament. The rabbis, who were welcomed
by the Canada-Israel Friendship Group, told the assembled parliamentarians that Canadian Jews strongly supported Israel and rejected any notion of moral equivalence between Palestinians and Israelis. They also met with senior foreign-affairs officials and representatives of the various political parties.

Toronto artist Michaele Jordana and her partner Douglas Pringle launched a pro-Israel Web site called Project One Soul. The combination of stunning visual imagery and pointed commentaries enabled visitors to the site to comprehend how terror affected Israelis.

Rabbi John Moscowitz criticized his own Reform movement for canceling summer youth trips to Israel, a decision he described as “a large blow to Israel, and a victory for Palestinian terrorists.” Other Reform rabbis, however, such as Steven Garten of Ottawa, expressed sympathy for the dilemma faced by the trip organizers, who could not confidently guarantee the safety of the participants.

The situation on many university campuses, where Arab students energetically organized against Israel, was a source of deep concern. The crisis led Jewish student activists to gather at a retreat in the Laurentian Mountains north of Montreal, in January, to organize a national advocacy structure to combat the anti-Israel propaganda.

The atmosphere at Montreal’s Concordia University was probably the most hostile in the country. Large numbers of Arab students and a well-organized and very active organization called Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights made Jewish students feel uncomfortable and even intimidated. In April, Concordia students passed by referendum a resolution, “Palestinian Human Rights,” that called upon the government to consider cutting political and economic ties with Israel. Only about 1,400 of the 20,000 eligible students actually bothered to vote, and the resolution passed by a thin margin. The student union, under the control of pro-Palestinian elements, put out a student handbook, entitled Uprising, replete with anti-Israel material and blatantly promoting the Palestinian cause. The handbook, financed from student fee revenue, was distributed free to all students. Adverse publicity hurt the university’s fund-raising efforts, especially since many of its benefactors were Jewish. Rector Frederick Lowy tried to mollify donors by pointing out that the student union was legally independent and not under the administration’s control. He deplored the handbook’s contents, calling many of its statements “inflammatory and possibly libelous.” The radical element was ousted in new student union elections in December, but the election was nullified on a technicality and the situation on campus remained in limbo.

There were also anti-Israel activities at Toronto’s York University, in-
cluding anti-Israel articles in the student newspaper, graffiti, and an “anti-racism” rally in November with pictures and posters that were offensive to pro-Israel students.

An attempt, in January, to craft a statement acceptable to a broad consensus of Jewish community leaders and academics proved to be divisive. Over 150 prominent Jews did sign a declaration supporting Israeli sovereignty over an undivided Jerusalem, which appeared in local and community newspapers. But a number of those asked to sign declined. Some were reluctant to appear to be committing their organizations, others did not want to be seen as taking sides in the Israeli election campaign then underway, and yet others argued that an Israeli government might not choose to adhere to the positions taken in the statement. University of Toronto Jewish history professor Derek Penslar, commenting on the lack of unity, observed that “Jerusalem is a symptom of a much larger and deeper problem, of a rift within each Jewish community.”

In July, Canada’s Jews sent a smaller-than-planned team to Israel to compete in the Maccabiah, because of the threat of terrorism there. Canadian athletes won two gold medals, ten silvers, and 18 bronze medals. Maccabi Canada president Roy Salomon pointed out that “there was a level of emotionalism that we have never seen before.”

**Religion**

Toronto was the site of several important events and initiatives. The Conservative movement’s Rabbinical Assembly held its annual convention there in June. One highlight was a session devoted to rabbinic leadership that featured a panel of Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform rabbis. The Canadian Council for Reform Judaism joined with several other faith groups in organizing an “End Child Poverty” fast in Toronto in September. Rabbi Larry Englander of Solel Congregation declared that “as we fasted on Yom Kippur, we not only made the statement that we were fasting for forgiveness for our sins, but for the collective sin of allowing our children to starve.” A group in Toronto announced plans to establish a virtual synagogue on the Internet, to be known as myShul, that would offer several kinds of synagogue experiences online. One of the backers, Martin Hoffmitz, said that the site “will encourage people to build their own spiritual space at a level that is comfortable for them.” Toronto rabbis arranged an “interdenominational Jewish service of memorial and hope” for the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Several hundred people attended the event, which was held at a local synagogue.
Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, president of the Toronto Board of Rabbis, said, “we weep at the perversion of God’s holy name, and through these tears we bring this message: Though there are madmen in this world, the world is not mad.”

**Education**

Ontario was the only province that did not provide public funding for Jewish schools, a situation that Jews deeply resented, especially since Catholic schools were constitutionally guaranteed such funding. For 17 years Jewish community organizations had pursued legal and political avenues to rectify this inequality, but without success. In March, all 42 Jewish day schools in Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, and Kitchener jointly founded the Ontario Association of Jewish Day Schools, which was to coordinate advocacy and lobbying activities.

The first major breakthrough—an unanticipated one—occurred in May, when the provincial government of Progressive Conservative Premier Mike Harris announced that it would introduce an income-tax credit to help parents who were paying tuition to private schools. The credit would be worth a maximum of $700 per child in 2002, increasing annually until it reached $3,500 per child in 2006. Jews welcomed the news enthusiastically, but outside the community feelings were mixed. Backers of the public-school system, fearing that it would lose students, expressed opposition, and even some who favored tax credits for families sending their children to faith-based schools felt that the proposed legislation went too far by including private schools that did not have a religious orientation. Dalton McGuinty, the leader of the Liberal Party, announced his opposition. At the legislative hearings on the plan, spokespeople for the Jewish community were fulsome in their praise. Rabbi David Shochet, speaking for the Toronto Board of Rabbis, described the plan as a “bold initiative,” which would begin “to eliminate the discrimination that characterizes the current system.” The bill passed in June as part of the budget, with the Liberals and New Democrats opposed.

At the beginning of the year, unionized teachers at six Jewish day schools in Montreal engaged in work-to-rule tactics in a dispute with the school administrations over how to allocate a $1-million retroactive salary adjustment received from the Quebec government. The parties settled in January when the schools agreed to abide by the same principles as those used in the public sector.

Several universities benefited from community largesse directed to-
ward their Jewish studies programs. The Diamond Foundation gave $1 million to the University of British Columbia, to be matched by UBC, for a chair in Jewish law and ethics. At the University of Toronto, Andrea and Charles Bronfman established a chair in Israeli studies, and Prof. Emanuel Adler, a political scientist from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, was named as the initial chairholder. At Montreal’s McGill University, Leeanor Segal donated $1 million to create a chair in Jewish studies. There were also plans for an Institute for Jewish Education at McGill, which already had a program for training Jewish studies teachers. Prof. Gershon Hundert, chair of Jewish studies, predicted that “the institute will make McGill one of North America’s leading centers for the preparation of teachers in Jewish studies.”

Montreal’s Torah and Vocational Institute (TAV), serving ultra-Orthodox Jews, launched a lawsuit in March against the Université du Québec à Montréal for $8.1 million in damages because UQAM terminated its contract with TAV in 2000. The two institutions had originally agreed that TAV students would receive university credit for their programs through UQAM. But faculty opposition at UQAM over separation of the sexes, the particularistic nature of TAV, and the fact that English was the major language of instruction, induced the administration to renege on its agreement only one year into its three-year commitment.

Community and Intergroup Relations

Efforts at improving interreligious relations were a prominent feature of community life. In February, priests and rabbis got together at Beth Tzedec Synagogue in Toronto for a day of study to address the problem of difficult texts associated with the Easter and Passover seasons. The Toronto Board of Rabbis and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto cosponsored the event. Among the speakers, Rev. Thomas Rosica said that anti-Jewish teaching “is no longer authentic Christian proclamation today” and that the Jewish covenant with God is “theologically intact.”

The University of Toronto was the site of a meeting, in October, devoted to Jewish-Catholic dialogue. The main speakers, Edward Cardinal Cassidy, who had been the Vatican official responsible for relations with Jews, and David Novak, a professor of Jewish studies at the university, addressed developments since the Second Vatican Council and prospects for the future.

The need for Jewish-Muslim communication was obvious after Sep-
tember 11. The Muslim-Jewish Dialogue of Montreal, a group consisting of both laypeople and clergy, had been meeting for three years. After the terrorist attacks it issued its first public statement, deploring and condemning the deeds and affirming that “Islam is a religion of peace and not a religion of violence.” Another group, the Canadian Association of Jews and Muslims, rallied at Toronto’s city hall on September 15 in support of mutual respect, the sanctity of life, and coexistence.

Despite attempts at dialogue, interfaith tensions surfaced on matters relating to Israel. The Middle East Working Group, an offshoot of the Canadian Council of Churches, produced a document in January calling for “peace with justice in the Middle East.” While early drafts, according to the group’s Jewish interlocutors, were quite antagonistic toward Israel, the final version was more evenhanded. CJC’s national director of community relations, Manuel Prutschi, noted that the Catholic Church played a key role in moderating the statement. In August, the Anglican Journal, that church’s national newspaper, featured an article that blamed Israel for the conflict with the Palestinians and compared Israel to South Africa of the apartheid era. Rabbi Reuven Bulka and Keith Landy, on behalf of CJC, expressed their “deep disappointment and dismay” to the Anglican primate in Canada.

In an incident involving public schools, a district organization of the union for Toronto high school teachers reprinted in its own newsletter an article from a leftist magazine that was hostile toward Israel, and recommended the article to its members as a resource in geography and history classes. According to editor Doug Little, “we view America, and Israel as its agent, as the prime oppressor in this case in the Middle East.” But after a wave of protests, the union president backed away, declaring that “it’s not an appropriate lesson plan,” and the chair of the Toronto district school board repudiated the article as unbalanced.

Conflict over the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer in public institutions arose during the year. In January, a lawsuit was filed in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice asking to end recitation of the prayer at each session of the legislature on the ground that it unconstitutionally promoted Christianity. In June, the Ontario Court of Appeal held that the provincial Human Rights Commission could not order the speaker of the legislature to desist from reciting the prayer, since the legislature was immune from intervention in its internal affairs. The question of whether regular recitation of the prayer should continue also came up in the legislature of Nova Scotia in April; members of that body were generally opposed to any change.
In the Montreal area, efforts to find land for new Chabad synagogues finally bore fruit in the predominantly Jewish suburbs of Côte St. Luc and Hampstead. In January, after three years of controversy and intense opposition from residents of several neighborhoods, the Côte St. Luc city council approved the necessary zoning change to permit the construction of a synagogue and community center. Another Chabad group took Hampstead to court in March in order to obtain permission to build on its chosen site, which was very close to the only Reconstructionist synagogue in the Montreal area. The town had said that it would not allow two synagogues on the same street. Now, however, in a quick turnaround to avoid a trial, the council reversed itself and granted permission for the building.

Celine Forget, a member of the Outremont city council, challenged her own colleagues in court, arguing that they had improperly allowed a Hasidic congregation, Amour Pour Israël, to modify an existing building and turn it into a synagogue. But a Superior Court judge dismissed her action and found that the council had acted in the public interest. Forget, who had a long history of clashing with the Hassidim in this predominantly French town, lost another case against a different group of Hassidim in October. She had accused Congregation Toldos Yacov Yosef of creating a nuisance because the sounds of prayer were disruptive to the public. The judge found in favor of the synagogue, noting that it had not had any problem with neighbors until Forget moved there in 1995.

The film Keepers of the Faith: Canadian Chasidim, directed by Ian McLaren, was a Chabad project funded in part by the federal government. Its depiction of the Lubavitch community provided insight into the history, traditions, and routines of its adherents and highlighted the lives of several prominent members, while also giving some attention to other Hassidic groups. The film was shown on television in both French and English versions.

Culture

Arnold Bennett’s film about the life of A.M. Klein, The Messiah from Montreal, premiered in October at the Saidye Bronfman Centre in Montreal. Al Waxman narrated the tragic story of the brilliant poet and writer whose productivity was stilled by depression. Many of Klein’s poems were recited and dramatized in the film.

The disaster of the Struma, a ship carrying Jewish refugees from Romania to Palestine that sank in the Black Sea under mysterious circum-
stances in 1942 with the loss of 778 lives, was recounted in a documentary film by Simcha Jacobovici. *The Struma* premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September. The filmmaker’s investigation into the mystery of who sank the ship led him to conclude that it was a Soviet submarine.

Other films that appeared during the year included David Kaufman’s *The New Klezmorim*, filmed at KlezKanada in 1998, and *Je Me Souviens* by Eric Scott, which recounted the story of Esther Delisle and her efforts to expose the historical record of anti-Semitism in Quebec society. The Toronto Jewish Film Festival in April included the premiere of Robert Cohen’s story of a folk-music group, *The Travellers: This Land is Your Land*. Other films exhibited there were Coleman Romalis’s *Emma Goldman: The Anarchist Guest* and Nikila Cole’s *Wanderings: Postcards from the Diaspora*.

Leonard Pearl accompanied and interviewed over 100 Canadian Birthright Israel participants in 2000 and 2001. Then he, Rena Godfrey, and Isaac Szpindel made the film *Birthright Israel*, which premiered in November at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. Also in November, Cinémathèque Ontario presented a retrospective of the films of Amos Gitai.

The Koffler Gallery in Toronto hosted an exhibit of photographs by Jill Culiner in March. Entitled “*La Mémoire Effacée,*” it juxtaposed battlefield photos from the two world wars and from concentration camps with contemporary shots of the same land as well as the sites of some former Jewish communities in Eastern Europe.

The Jewish Heritage Society of Western Canada held a conference in Winnipeg in September on Jewish Radicalism in Winnipeg, 1905–1960, recalling the days when the city’s North End was a hotbed of socialism and other leftist movements.

The new Institut de la culture sépharade was inaugurated in Montreal in November. Judah Castiel, its prime mover and first president, described its goal as preserving and promoting the historic and cultural heritage of Sephardic Jews. The joint backers of the institute were the Canadian Sephardic Federation and the Communauté Sépharade du Québec.

*Publications*

Canada lost one of its greatest writers with the death of Mordecai Richler. Despite the ambivalence that many Jews felt toward one of their own who did not always depict them or their religion in the kindest terms, his literary achievements were a source of pride. Richler was acclaimed
internationally for his novels, which included *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz, Barney's Version, St. Urbain's Horsemen,* and *Solomon Gursky Was Here.*

Morton Weinfeld brought together a wealth of social scientific data in *Like Everyone Else. But Different: The Paradoxical Success of Canadian Jews.* Examining religious practices, attitudes, anti-Semitism, and socioeconomic status, Weinfeld concluded, "Jewish life in Canada today is as good as it has been anywhere since the Golden Age of Spain." Since Jews participated in all aspects of Canadian society while maintaining an active Jewish life, he suggested, the community had good reason to be optimistic.

*From Immigration to Integration: The Canadian Jewish Experience,* edited by Ruth Klein and Frank Dimant, was a collection of essays by academics—mainly historians and social scientists—about the community's past, the struggle for equal rights, relationships with Israel, and future challenges. A complementary reference work, *Jews and Judaism in Canada: A Bibliography of Works Published Since 1965,* compiled by Michael Brown, Richard Menkis, Benjamin Schlesinger, and Stuart Schoenfeld, included over 1,600 entries.


Historian Gil Troy wrote *Why I Am a Zionist: Israel, Jewish Identity and the Challenges of Today.* Although realistic about the Jewish state, Troy presented an unapologetic Zionist position, citing historical facts to
make the case for Israel. Julien Bauer's *Le système politique israélien*, a more academic presentation, explained Israel’s often impenetrable political process.

*Fixing God’s Torah: The Accuracy of the Biblical Text and Rabbinic Law* by B. Barry Levy focused on how rabbis through the ages dealt with questions about the spelling of the traditional Torah text. *The Lay People in Palestine from Augustus to Hadrian: A Prosopographic Study* by Claude Cohen Matloffsky examined the daily lives of ordinary residents of the land of Israel between 40 B.C.E. and 135 C.E. Rabbi Elyse Goldstein edited *The Women’s Torah Commentary*, containing essays on each of the Torah portions from a woman’s perspective. In *Et Hazamir*, Dina Sabbah examined a number of pieces of Sephardic liturgical music. Joseph Lévy, Josué Elkouby, and Marc Éliany compiled the *Dictionnaire biographique du monde juif sépharade et méditerranéen*.


**Personalia**

A number of Jews were appointed to the Order of Canada. Companions: Jack Diamond and Mordecai Richler. Officers: Mark Greenberg and Mark Wainberg. Members: Judy Feld Carr, Murray Frum, Norbert
Rubin Morgenstern, Mona Winberg, J. Joel Wolfe, Clara Balinsky, Marjorie Bronfman, Eric Maldoff, Rabbi Erwin Schild, and Herbert Siblin. Rabbi Israel Sirota received the Citation for Citizenship.

David Young was appointed attorney general of Ontario, and Mark Freiman was named deputy attorney general. Anne Golden was appointed president of the Conference Board of Canada, Chaviva Hosek as president of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Jacques Bensimon as chair of the National Film Board, and Karen Mock as executive director of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation. Avrum Gotlieb became president of the American Society for Investigative Pathology, Harvey Weingarden was named president of the University of Calgary, Bernard Langer was elected president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and David Mock was appointed dean of dentistry at the University of Toronto. Régine Robin won the literary prize of the city of Montreal, while professors Norbert Morgenstern and Ronald Melzack won Killam Prizes for distinguished lifetime academic achievement, and architecture professor Avi Friedman won the Southam Newspapers Manning Award of Distinction.

Appointments and elections within the Jewish community included Stanley Hartt as chairman of the board of Israel Bonds; Keith Landy as CJC president and Dorothy Zalcman Howard as chair of its national executive; Shimon Fogel as executive director of the Canada-Israel Committee; Rochelle Wilner as president of B’nai Brith Canada; Sandy Posluns as president of JNF Canada; Myer Bick as president of the Jewish General Hospital Foundation; Joseph Gabay as chair of CJC Quebec Region, Ed Morgan as chair of its Ontario Region, and Nisson Goldman as chair of its Pacific Region; Steven Cummings as president of Federation CJA in Montreal; Leslie Wilder as president of JIAS Canada; Barry Steinfeld as president of the Canadian Council of JCCs and YM/YWHAs; Ralph Shedletsky as chair of the board and Allan Reitzes as president of UJA Federation in Toronto; and Gerry Fisher as executive director of Hamilton’s UJA Federation.

Members of the community who died this year included actor Al Waxman, in January, aged 65; Ben Lappin, community official and professor of social work, in January, aged 86; Irving (Yitz) Feldman, lay leader in education, kashrut supervision, and religion, in January aged 68; Rabbi Zelig Wolkenstein, executive director of the Latner Jewish Public Library, in February, aged 55; psychotherapist and community activist Rebbetzin Phyllis Weinberg, in February, aged 73; multifaceted composer Milton Barnes, in February, aged 69; UN diplomat and crusader for nu-
clear disarmament William Epstein, in March, aged 88; longtime community professional Irwin Gold, in March, aged 82; master piano teacher, composer, and author Boris Berlin, in March, aged 93; jazz musician Moe Koffman, in March, aged 72; comedian Jackie Kahane, in April, aged 79; artist Aba Bayefsky, in May, aged 78; developer, philanthropist, and community leader Maxwell Cummings, in May, aged 103; Rebbetzin Naomi Bulka, in May, aged 55; Cantor Henry Zimmerman, in June, aged 91; A.L. Stein, a lawyer who won a landmark civil liberties case against a Quebec premier, in June, aged 93; retired Senator Sidney Buckwold, in June, aged 84; eminent writer Mordecai Richler, in July, aged 70; community leader and builder Gordon Brown, in July, aged 92; academic and Yiddishist Arthur Lermer, in July, aged 92; human-rights and civil liberties lawyer Irving Himel, who fought restrictive covenants, in July, aged 86; Canadian Jewish News founder Meyer Nurenberger, in August, aged 90; artist Louis Muhlstock, in August, aged 97; film producer and patron of the arts Sandra Kolber, in September, aged 67; community leader and fund-raiser Morley Cohen, in September, aged 84; former newspaper publisher Max Wollock, in September, aged 84; Reconstructionist and community leader Rabbi Lavy Becker, in October, aged 95; real estate developer and philanthropist André Aisenstadt, in October, aged 104; former Hadassah-WIZO president Patricia Alpert, in October, aged 70; Rebbetzin Judy Taub, in November, aged 54; and Philip Simon, community leader, in December, aged 79.

Harold M. Waller