



Musée Holocauste Montréal
Montreal Holocaust Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Annual Yom Hashoah Commemoration
Transmits Legacy of Holocaust to Future Generations***

Montréal, Friday, April 14, 2017 – Alongside Denis Coderre, Mayor of Montreal, the Montreal Holocaust Museum will hold its annual Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) commemoration on Sunday, April 23, 2017 at 7:30 pm at the Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem Congregation (6519, Baily Road, Côte-Saint-Luc). Montrealers are invited to participate in this community-wide ceremony, honouring the memory of Holocaust victims and the legacy of those who survived.

This year's ceremony will emphasize the transmission of the legacy of the Holocaust. Through video testimony, Holocaust survivors will share their personal experiences during World War II. In addition, these survivors and their descendants will light six candles representing the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust.

The Montreal survivors sharing their testimony are **Elvira Hood** (born in Bucharest, Romania, she remembers the passage of the legionaries when she was six years old), **Gilbert Uzan** (born in Tunis, Tunisia, he witnessed the invasion of German troops in November 1942 and the subsequent occupation), **Pinchas Blitt** (born in Kortiles, western Ukraine, he hid in a forest near Ratno), **Sylvia Fogel** (born in a small village near Lublin, Poland, she experienced the horrific living conditions in the Lodz ghetto), **Magda Freiman** (born in Ungvar, Czechoslovakia, she escaped death at Auschwitz, thanks to her mother), and **Anny Levy** (born in Montbéliard, France, she was a hidden child during the German occupation).

In addition to a candle-lighting ceremony and the screening of video testimonies, the program includes the reading of poems and other short texts in English, French, Hebrew and Yiddish. Songs will also be performed by a Jewish children's choir. A diverse audience, including political and diplomatic representatives will be present to commemorate the Holocaust and the millions murdered.

The Montreal Jewish community and its estimated 5,000 (approx.) Holocaust survivors have commemorated Yom Hashoah for nearly 70 years. It was declared Holocaust Memorial Day in Quebec in 1999 and in Canada in 2005. Today, the Montreal Holocaust Museum's Yom Hashoah Committee organizes the commemoration.

About the Montreal Holocaust Museum: The Montreal Holocaust Museum educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust, while sensitising the public to the universal perils of antisemitism, racism, hate and indifference. Through its Museum, its commemorative programs and educational initiatives, the Montreal Holocaust Museum promotes respect for diversity and the sanctity of human life.

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To meet one of the Holocaust survivors or set up an interview, please contact: Audrey Licop, Communications and Events Coordinator at 514-345-2605 ext. 3026 // audrey.licop@museeholocauste.ca
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