



Centre commémoratif  
de l'Holocauste à Montréal

Montreal Holocaust  
Memorial Centre

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Montréal Holocaust Museum Combats Holocaust Denial on International Remembrance Day

**Montréal, QC, January 17, 2017** – In honour of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Montreal Holocaust Museum is organizing three events during the week of January 23, 2017. The Museum will be screening the film, “Denial” on January 24, hosting an open house with free admission to the Museum and survivor testimony on January 27. Finally, the Montreal Holocaust Museum will partner with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA) and the Consulate General of Israel in Montreal on January 29 for the screening of “Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust”.

The screening of “Denial” at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 24 at the Montreal Holocaust Museum will precede a discussion with Robert Jan van Pelt, whose world-renowned research on architecture and Auschwitz resulted in his being called upon as an expert witness in the case brought against historian, Deborah Lipstadt by Holocaust denier, David Irving. This trial is the subject of “Denial” and is significant for Holocaust remembrance, as Irving’s revision of history was discredited and ruled an antisemitic and deliberate manipulation of the truth.

The Montreal Holocaust Museum’s open house, offering free admission, will take place on Friday, January 27 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Visitors are invited to hear testimonies from Holocaust survivors, Ted Bolgar, who will speak in English at 11:00 am and Elie Dawang, who will speak in French at 1:00 pm. Both men have long been involved in the MHM and have spoken to countless students and adults about their experiences during the Holocaust; Bolgar survived deportation from Hungary and several concentration camps including Auschwitz, and Dawang survived the war in France and life in hiding.

In partnership with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and the Consulate General of Israel in Montreal, the Montreal Holocaust Museum will present the film, “Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust” at the MMFA’s Maxwell Cummings Auditorium at 2:00 pm on Sunday, January 29. The event will include a presentation from Mélanie Loisel, author of “Ils ont vécu le siècle” and “Ma vie en partage avec Martin Gray,” as well as the singing of music from the Holocaust by survivors, Sidney Zoltak and Fishel Goldig.

*“In 2017, the battle against Holocaust denial has not yet been won,”* said Alice Herscovitch, Executive Director of the Montreal Holocaust Museum. *“Our Museum’s exhibits, projects and events work to combat denial, in part by allowing the public to meet Holocaust survivors and experts. This direct contact with history and those who lived it is a powerful way to learn about the Holocaust, inspire defense of the truth, and understand the links with contemporary crimes of mass atrocity against minorities. We strongly encourage the public to join us during the week of International Holocaust Remembrance Day and meet the experts and survivors themselves.”*

**About the Montreal Holocaust Museum:** The MHMC educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust, while sensitizing the public to the universal perils of antisemitism, racism, hate and indifference.

-30-

**For additional information or to schedule an interview with a Holocaust survivor, contact:** Audrey Licop, MHMC Communications and Events Coordinator | 514-345-2605 ext. 3026 | 514-892-2605(cell.) | [audrey.licop@mhmc.ca](mailto:audrey.licop@mhmc.ca) OR Sarah Fogg, MHMC Communications and Events Assistant | 514-345-2605 ext. 3437 | [sarah.fogg@mhmc.ca](mailto:sarah.fogg@mhmc.ca)