

## Musée Holocauste Montréal Montreal Holocaust Museum

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MONTREALERS INVITED TO REMEMBER THE HOLOCAUST THROUGH VIRTUAL YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

Montreal, Tuesday, April 14, 2020 – Given the current health crisis and the cancellation of the traditional in-person commemoration of Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), the Montreal Holocaust Museum will hold a virtual event on its <a href="Facebook page">Facebook page</a> on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Montrealers are invited to honour the memory of Holocaust victims from their homes and participate in this virtual ceremony.

This year's commemoration was originally planned to highlight the **75**<sup>th</sup> **anniversary of liberation** and the end of the Holocaust. It now serves the additional purpose of demonstrating the entire Jewish community's **solidarity with Holocaust survivors**, who are in our hearts during these difficult and isolating times. The commemoration will feature traditional readings, poems, messages of hope, songs and survivor testimonies. Among the confirmed speakers are the following individuals:

- David Levy, Consul General of Israel in Montreal
- Gail Adelson-Marcovitz, President of Federation CJA
- Fishel Goldig, Holocaust survivor and Montreal Holocaust Museum speaker
- **Tommy Strasser,** Holocaust survivor, Montreal Holocaust Museum speaker, and volunteer at the Cummings Centre
- Rabbi Lisa Grushcow, Senior Rabbi at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom
- Naomi Azrieli, President of the Azrieli Foundation
- The Honorable Jacques Saada, President of Communauté sépharade unifiée du Québec and Montreal Holocaust Museum board member
- Avraham Elarar, President of the Canadian Sephardi Federation
- Brenda Gewurz, Co-President of CIJA Quebec
- Bobby Teitelman, Co-Chair of March of the Living 2020
- Jason Rosenblatt, JPPS Choir Director

The Montreal Jewish community and its estimated 4,000 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.

**About the Montreal Holocaust Museum:** The Montreal Holocaust Museum educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust, while sensitizing 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. -30-

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