VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE

MISSION
Through education and remembrance, the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre engages students, educators and the broader public in British Columbia and beyond with the history of the Holocaust — the Shoah — and its ongoing relevance. As a teaching museum that stewards programs and collections initiated by Holocaust survivors, we honour and support those who survived and remember those who perished.

VISION
A world free of antisemitism, discrimination and genocide, with social justice and human rights for all.

The Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance was founded in 1983 by survivors of the Holocaust. The founders’ goal, realized in 1994, was to leave a permanent legacy in the form of the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre devoted to Holocaust-based anti-racism education.

The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre: A Teaching Museum
Reaching more than 25,000 students each year, the VHEC is Western Canada’s leading Holocaust teaching museum. We promote human rights, social justice and genocide awareness through education and remembrance of the Holocaust. The VHEC has presented more than 50 thematic exhibitions, many featuring local or Canadian themes, each accompanied by educational programs and resources.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This Annual Report straddles two vastly different contexts that have informed the delivery of our mandate. Before the outbreak of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the VHEC was welcoming an increasing number of school groups to the Centre, supported by generous subsidies from the Diamond Foundation, and delivering student symposia on the Holocaust across Metro Vancouver thanks to partnerships with a number of school districts. In November 2019 and in conjunction with the annual Kristallnacht commemoration, we launched an ambitious new exhibition, Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy, to an audience of more than 400 community members. Vancouver was the proud host of an international delegation of Holocaust survivors and their descendants attending the 31st annual conference of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Descendants.

Following the closure of the VHEC and the indefinite suspension of our in-person programs in March 2020, the professional team worked to maintain, and even expand, our engagement with audiences by pivoting our offerings to online formats. We joined and contributed to a national virtual commemoration of Yom HaShoah that engaged thousands of Canadians from coast to coast. We developed new thematic galleries on our collections website to offer curated entry-points into our library holdings. We continued to digitize and catalogue our archival materials, museum objects and Holocaust survivor testimonies. And we developed the first Online Symposium of the Holocaust featuring a historical overview and eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust, which has engaged students from across British Columbia.

This Annual Report offers an overview of the programs that have straddled different contexts and taken varied forms, but that have all worked to advance the VHEC's mission to engage students, educators and the broader public in learning about the Holocaust and reflecting on the important issues it raises for the present day. The pandemic has not only highlighted and magnified inequities in society, but has also unfortunately amplified the relevance of Holocaust education. With a rise in antisemitism, racism and xenophobia, educators are turning to the VHEC's programs and resources, which foster social responsibility, critical thinking and empathy in their students. The broader community turns to the VHEC as a space (at times virtual) of learning and commemoration, in which we come together to reflect on the events, lessons and legacies of the Shoah.

The impact of the VHEC extends beyond the classrooms and communities of the province. The Centre is involved in the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and in a national advisory committee working to counter radicalization to violence in Canada. Our programming for postsecondary audiences continues to grow.

As we look forward to the 2020-2021 school year—which will look very different from the last one—we will continue to strive for excellence and innovation as we expand our online offerings, which will include Holocaust survivor speaking engagements via Zoom. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Holocaust survivors in our community, who continue to be the inspiration for our work. Your courage and resilience serve as a timely model to us all.

We would also like to take this opportunity to express our deepest thanks and appreciation to the professional staff, Board of Directors, Guardians of the Society and volunteers of the VHEC—as well as to all of you, our members and supporters—for your abiding commitment to Holocaust education and remembrance. As we collectively navigate these uncertain times, the Society needs your partnership more than ever. Thank you for your continued engagement and support.

Sincerely,

Philip Levinson
BOARD PRESIDENT

Nina Krieger
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EDUCATION

Each year, the VHEC engages thousands of educators and students in teaching and learning about the Holocaust through our exhibitions, school tours, Holocaust survivor speakers, teaching resources, professional development activities and workshops. Learning about the Holocaust prompts students to consider the consequences of antisemitism and racism unchecked and to reflect on their responsibilities as global citizens.

SCHOOL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CLASSROOM WORKSHOP

In addition to on-site learning at the museum, the VHEC also offered the classroom-based workshop, Pigeon, to provide a learning opportunity to teachers and students unable to visit the Centre.

Facilitated by a trained volunteer docent, the workshop consisted of a short film, Pigeon, focusing on moral decision-making and rescue in France during the Holocaust. Questions by the workshop facilitator following the film fostered critical thinking and ideas about social responsibility, two core competencies of the BC curriculum.

EXHIBITION TOUR & WORKSHOP

The VHEC offered a comprehensive on-site school program based on its original exhibition, Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy.

Through a docent-led interactive tour and workshop, students and teachers learned about the Hahn family’s history, their prominence in Germany as leading industrialists, the loss of their possessions, and more, during the Holocaust, and the intergenerational efforts to restitute the family’s lost Judaica collection. Through the family’s rare artefacts, documents, photographs as well as other records, students and teachers learned how the Holocaust affected a single family’s life, gaining a window of understanding into the magnitude of consequences for millions of other lives during the Holocaust.

The program comprised activities based on primary sources as well as discussions promoting critical thinking. The workshop closed with a group reflection on restitution and reconciliation in the Canadian context.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SPEAKERS

Holocaust survivor speakers shared their eyewitness accounts with students in classrooms. Thanks to online video-conferencing sessions with a survivor speaker, students and teachers from places such as Prince George and Salmon Arm had the opportunity to engage with an eyewitness of the Holocaust.

DISTRICT-WIDE SYMPOSIAS ON THE HOLOCAUST

Approximately 3,000 students and teachers attended six district-wide symposia on the Holocaust held across the Lower Mainland. At these highly impactful half-day symposia—often described by students as life-changing—participants interact with historians and survivors of the Holocaust.
Thank you again for bringing a survivor speaker to my students. There is one student in particular I’ve had a hard time getting through to. He strongly connected with the survivor’s story about settling into Canada after the war. The survivor speaker really gave this young man a sense of hope, and I am so grateful.

TEACHER, GRADES 11 AND 12
I want to thank you for the virtual experience you have provided for students during this difficult time of COVID-19.

... I have watched countless documentaries and survivor testimonies, but I found this particular experience to be far more impactful than anything I have ever seen... Seeing a member of my community, a man you would pass on the street without a second glance, tell his story put things into perspective for me...

...By telling their stories, the survivors don’t define themselves, but instead they define the Holocaust. Thank you for teaching people like me the importance of the human story behind every history lesson.

STUDENT, LITTLE FLOWER ACADEMY
ONLINE LEARNING RESOURCES

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the suspension of our in-person school programs, the VHEC disseminated pre-existing and newly developed online resources to support remote Holocaust education. These include:

ONLINE SYMPOSIUM ON THE HOLOCAUST
Through this virtual symposium, students learned about the history of the Holocaust and its important lessons for today and the future by engaging with a historical overview by Professor Lauren Faulkner Rossi, SFU, and eyewitness accounts by Holocaust survivors Lillian Boraks-Nemetz and Dr. Robert Krell. Recordings were made at the presenters’ homes in April 2020 and launched to coincide with the planned date of the 45th Annual Symposium on the Holocaust.

COLLECTIONS GALLERIES
The VHEC’s online galleries were updated and expanded with recommendations of primary and secondary sources described in the VHEC’s collections database. The galleries feature suggested readings, video testimonies, museum objects and archival items grouped together into curated subject- or theme-based resources for Holocaust-based learning.

LIGHTBOX
Teachers and students were promoted a platform to create their own customized online collection of items from the VHEC archives, library, testimony and museum holdings. The lightbox platform allows users to present their collections through web-based slideshows, interactive timelines and a shared digital workspace with interactive capabilities.

WORKSHEETS FOR ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES
Printable worksheets guide learning and inquiry into primary and secondary source materials in the VHEC’s collection. Students can choose from hundreds of digitally available documents, objects and photographs, and use the worksheets to study their historical significance.

PRIMARY VOICES
This web-based pedagogical resource provides access to Holocaust survivors’ accounts of persecution, loss, and survival through excerpts of video testimonies in the VHEC’s holdings. The website suggests student discussion topics and activities, fostering core competencies of the BC curriculum, including personalized learning and reflection on social responsibility.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS
The VHEC’s virtual exhibitions explore a number of topics, including: the internment of Jewish refugees during the Second World War, the immigration of Holocaust war orphans to Canada and Canada’s response to the 1936 Olympics. These virtual exhibitions include integrated lesson plans and supporting material for student engagement and lessons with links to the BC curriculum.

TEACHER’S GUIDES
A teacher’s guide to the Treasured Belongings exhibition was developed and disseminated along with a list of all of the VHEC’s teacher’s guides, which can be adapted for independent theme-based distance learning with suggested activities, discussions, readings and primary sources.
I am a grandchild of two Holocaust survivors who fled to Russia as children during the war. This conference gave me a lot of insight into how I can bring their voices to my class.

ATTENDEE, 2020 TEACHERS’ CONFERENCE
TEACHERS’ CONFERENCE

With more than 70 participants and nine presenters from BC and beyond, Holocaust Education: New Strategies and Best Practices for the Classroom, held on February 14, 2020, hosted day-long concurrent workshops exploring the challenges of and possible approaches to Holocaust education, linking the subject of the Holocaust to courses in the BC curriculum. Attendees learned about advanced lesson plans, activities and resources supporting Holocaust education in the classroom.

The conference took place at Vancouver Technical Secondary School, in partnership with the Azrieli Foundation and the BC Social Studies Teachers Association (BCSSTA), and concluded with a moderated Q&A panel with Dr. Stephanie Corazza of the Azrieli Foundation, Lindsay Hutchison, Facing History and Ourselves representative, BCSSTA executive member and Social Studies teacher, Graeme Stacey, Genocide and World History teacher and Anna-Mae Wiesenthal, Jewish History and Psychology teacher.
EXHIBITION

The VHEC is recognized as an innovative producer of original Holocaust-related exhibitions that explore diverse aspects of Holocaust history and its ongoing relevance, often highlighting stories with local relevance.

TREASURED BELONGINGS: THE HAHN FAMILY & THE SEARCH FOR A STOLEN LEGACY

Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy features artefacts, photographs and other records from the Hahn family archives. These objects document the family’s history as prominent business owners in pre-war Germany, to their separation and the murder of Max and Gertrud Hahn under the Nazi regime. The exhibition looks at the fate of the family’s celebrated silver Judaica collection that was stolen by the Nazis, and the intergenerational struggles for restitution. These efforts are still ongoing, with only one item from the silver Judaica collection successfully recovered and on display at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre.

This exhibition was generously supported by Michael and Sandy Hayden, their children, the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Vancouver, the Isaac and Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund of the Vancouver Foundation, Isaac and Judy Thau, Yosef Wosk, Audre Jackson and the Goldie and Avrum Miller Memorial Endowment Fund of the VHEC.

An exhibition catalogue, in development, is supported by the Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany and Diana and Benny Kanter.

VOLUNTEER DOCENTS

A dedicated team of 17 volunteer docents supported the VHEC in Holocaust-based anti-racism education by facilitating tours and workshops through the exhibition, Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy. In these interactive tours, docents engaged students and teachers with the story of the Hahn family and their Judaica collection, and facilitated discussions addressing Nazi theft, restitution, reconciliation and the question of justice in the aftermath of the Holocaust. Some members of the docent team also facilitated the classroom-based workshop, Pigeon.

In preparation for their guided tours, the docents and docents-in-training completed a half-day docent training in December 2019, facilitated by the VHEC’s education director and curator Dr. Ilona Shulman Spaar. Thanks to the wide-ranging skills of its volunteer docents, the VHEC was able to offer programs to students of diverse grades and backgrounds and to the general public in English, French and German.
Thank you for hosting my class at the Treasured Belongings exhibition. The session was informative and impactful. It was important for my students to be exposed to the primary sources you provided. Focusing on one family, my students were able to extrapolate the impact of the Holocaust on all families and individuals involved.

TEACHER, GRADE 11
Holocaust survivor David Schaffer meets graphic artist Miriam Libicki at Emily Carr University, Vancouver. Photo by Mike Morash.
NARRATIVE ART & VISUAL STORYTELLING IN HOLOCAUST AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

SSHRC PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT 2019–2022

The VHEC is proud to participate in an interdisciplinary and international Holocaust and human rights education project alongside partners like the University of Victoria, University of British Columbia, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Anne Frank House Amsterdam, University of Haifa, Centre for Holocaust Studies Munich and many more. This initiative is funded by a three-year Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Partnership Development Grant and is based out of the University of Victoria.

The project brings together Holocaust survivors, historians, visual artists, librarians, educators and students. Artists from different countries work directly with Holocaust survivors to co-create graphic novels based on their personal experiences before, during and after the Holocaust with the help of historians, researchers and students. The graphic novels will be used as educational resources, both in digital and print formats, accompanied by pedagogical materials for educators and learners.

As a partner institution, the VHEC helped liaise between local Holocaust survivor David Schaffer and Vancouver-based Israeli-American artist Miriam Libicki, and assisted in the development of educational materials.
COMMEMORATION

The VHEC is the lead organization responsible for delivering four community-wide events dedicated to Holocaust remembrance that foster commemoration, reflection, education and dialogue.

HIGH HOLIDAYS CEMETERY SERVICE

More than 100 community members gathered at the site of the Holocaust memorial at the Schara Tzedeck cemetery on October 6, 2019, to observe the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre’s annual High Holidays Cemetery Service with keynote speaker, Marsha Lederman. Lederman, the western arts correspondent for The Globe and Mail and a second-generation survivor, offered remarks entitled, Enough: Thoughts from a Child of Holocaust Survivors on a Tragic Past and Ugly Present. Rabbi Shlomo Estrin delivered Hesped and Jeremy Berger recited Kaddish. Schara Tzedeck Congregation and the Jewish War Veterans also held services.

KRISTALLNACHT

On November 7, 2019, more than 400 community members gathered at the Jewish Community Centre to commemorate the 81st anniversary of Kristallnacht. Dr. Michael Hayden shared the remarkable story of his family and the search for their treasures before, during and after the Holocaust in his remarks entitled, A Treasured History: A Story of Loss, Courage and Renewal. The audience heard how pivotal the night of Kristallnacht, November 9th, 1938, was for his family.

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

On January 24, 2019, more than 130 people gathered to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Held at and in partnership with Hillel BC, the ceremony included memorial candle lighting by survivors and a panel presentation with Holocaust survivors on their reflections on liberation after 75 years. The program was part of a three-day symposium at the University of British Columbia marking the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Presenting partners included: UBC Opera, UBC Modern European Studies Program, the Department of Central, Eastern and Norther European Studies, UBC Witnessing Auschwitz International Seminar and UBC Go Global.

The VHEC partnered with the Bayit, Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, Kehila Society of Richmond and the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver for the city of Richmond’s first-ever commemoration of International Holocaust Remembrance Day. On January 22, Mayor Malcolm Brodie declared January 27, 2020, as Holocaust Remembrance Day in Richmond, BC. Lillian Boraks-Nemetz shared her personal Holocaust experience during the program.

YOM HASHOAH

On April 20, 2020, the VHEC participated in an online cross-Canada Yom HaShoah presentation with the Azrieli Foundation, March of the Living Canada, the Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre and 11 other organizations. The program included greetings from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and other dignitaries, films with survivor testimony, including clips provided by the VHEC, musical performances and prayers. The program was viewed by almost 19,000 households.

The VHEC is the lead organization responsible for delivering four community-wide events dedicated to Holocaust remembrance that foster commemoration, reflection, education and dialogue.
This is really a story of forgiveness, for me being open, of finding a way to not forget the past, but not to be captive by it.

DR. MICHAEL HAYDEN, MC, OBC
SURVIVOR GROUPS

The VHEC, with generous support from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, offers a variety of services for the benefit of local Holocaust survivors.

Through the receipt of a socialization grant from Claims Conference, the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre is honoured to offer a Child Survivor and Hidden Children Group and a Russian Survivor Group, both meeting monthly. When possible, the VHEC hosts holiday celebrations for all survivors on Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, Purim and at the end of the year. During the COVID-19 pandemic, survivors have gathered remotely via Zoom meetings organized by the VHEC, where they can maintain important social connections, reflect on the past and support each other.

SECOND GENERATION GROUP

The experiences of children of Holocaust survivors are shared monthly among peers in meetings of the Second Generation Group.

HOLOCAUST RESTITUTION

The VHEC provides current information on a variety of restitution and compensation funds. Survivors can request assistance in filling out restitution and compensation claim forms. These forms may be used to apply for compensation including pensions, one-time payments and social welfare services.
PUBLIC PROGRAMS

THE VHEC partners with other organizations to present a variety of public and cultural programs that engage audiences in reflecting on the ongoing and contemporary significance of the Holocaust.

CHERIE SMITH JCC JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL
In partnership with the Polygon Gallery, the VHEC presented a reading by Terry Kurgan, author of Everyone is Present: Essays on Photography, Memory. Kurgan is an eminent South African artist and writer based in Johannesburg. She has exhibited and published widely in South Africa and internationally and has received numerous awards. Her richly satisfying essays are part memoir, part detective story, part investigative reportage, and depict her quest to unravel, through a few remaining photographs, her family’s epic journey across Europe as they flee Nazi occupation, country by country, through the Middle East to India, until they finally reach Cape Town, South Africa.

VANCOUVER JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL
The VHEC presented and co-sponsored a screening of Those Who Remained, a film revealing the healing process of Holocaust survivors through the eyes of a young girl in post-Second World War Hungary. Those Who Remained was shortlisted for this year’s Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.
WORLD FEDERATION OF JEWISH CHILD SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST AND DESCENDANTS CONFERENCE


The WFJCSH&D brings together Holocaust survivors and descendants to share their families’ unique histories and keep alive the memory of the six million murdered Jews, including 1.5 million children.

The conference opened with a Shabbat dinner and, over the weekend, survivors and second, third and fourth generations and their spouses shared in over 30 workshops, panel discussions and plenaries. The conference ended with an all-generation discussion on the future of Holocaust memory and education.

Over 400 people attended the conference, about half from British Columbia, and others coming from South Africa, the Netherlands, Australia, France, Israel, Germany, Poland and across the United States. Approximately 120 survivors, 200 second generation, 50 third generation representatives and 50 spouses participated. Two workshop facilitators described the conference as “educational, deeply meaningful, connecting and surprisingly joyous.”

The VHEC was proud to host 200 conference attendees for a special program and preview of the exhibition, Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy.
The conference was well prepared and the workshops interesting. I particularly enjoyed the ending of the commemoration when the young members of the community concluded with a musical rendition.

WFJCSH&D ATTENDEE

“"It was fabulous. This was my fifth or sixth conference and I think this has been the best of them all. It’s just been wonderful being in Vancouver, seeing what a beautiful city it is and how lovely the people that we’ve met.""

WFJCSH&D ATTENDEE
The VHEC acquires, preserves and makes available the largest collection of Holocaust-related artefacts in Western Canada, including survivor testimonies, archival materials, books, films and educational resources as documentary evidence of the Holocaust and its effect on individuals, families and society.

The VHEC received several generous donations of archival and museum items this past year, including diaries exhibited as part of the Enemy Aliens exhibition, donated by the Gerson family, and artefacts, photographs and/or documents donated by Louise Stein Sorenson, Wendy Oberlander, Serge Vanry, Bonnie Bohl, Sidi Schaffer, Julie Gutovich, Ellen Greenspoon, Peter Moogk, Arthur Hollander, Shoshana Fidelman, Vivian Claman, Helen Karsai, Marc Lindy, the Estate of Eva Kero, Mark Douglas, Harry Lieber, Sara Frisby, Allan Switzer and the Estate of Jannushka Elisheva Jakoubovitch. The library added 262 new resources to its collection, including several items ordered off the VHEC’s wish list.

The VHEC’s collections database at collections.vhec.org was the 2019 recipient of the BC Museums Association Award for Excellence in Collections. The Centre’s Digital Preservation Strategy, funded by a Library and Archives Canada Documentary Heritage Project Grant in 2017, received a 2020 Certificate of Honour from BC Heritage. Fourteen finding aids were added to collections.vhec.org; the MemoryBC archival portal now displays 37 of the VHEC’s finding aids. Thirteen audio testimonies recorded in conjunction with the exhibitions Broken Threads: The Destruction of the Jewish Fashion Industry in Germany and Austria and Shanghai: A Refuge During the Holocaust have been newly catalogued and digitized.

Prior to the onset of the pandemic, the collections database was seeing an average of over 500 visitors per month to the site, primarily from Canada and the US, but also from countries as far away as Germany, Israel, Australia, the United Kingdom and Hungary. This visitor count to the database spiked in April, 2020, and has shown gradual growth in the months following, coinciding with increased interest in online educational resources.

Collections staff visited two classrooms taught by Anna-Mae Wiesenthal at King David High School and introduced students to collections.vhec.org and guided their searches for Holocaust testimonies used to complete individual assignments.

Digitized artefacts from collections.vhec.org were used as the basis for university-level student projects in German Representations of the Holocaust, a course taught by Dr. Uma Kumar in the Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies at UBC.
1 Brass Menorah. Donated by Peter N. Moogk.


4 Pass from the mayor of Poříčí allowing Julie Dottner to leave a labour camp and travel to town. Donated by Julie Gutovich.
The Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre is fortunate to have committed members who, in addition to giving annual gifts, have shown their commitment by establishing an endowment fund. The following funds provide much needed support for our educational programs, commemorative events, exhibits and collection, as well as the publishing activities of the Centre.

Selina Alko, Karen Alko Bichin, Amber Quiring, David & Michael Yochlowitz Endowment Fund
Gary & Dianne Averbach & Betty Averbach Endowment Fund
Sam & Frances Belzberg Endowment Fund
Dr. Barrett Benny Endowment Fund
Bluman Family Endowment Fund
Larry Brandt & Family Endowment Fund
Joseph & Mary Bulles Legacy Endowment Fund
Ron, Martha, Maija & Katie Burnett Endowment Fund
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Charles & Isabelle, Craig & Carrie Diamond Endowment Fund
Dr. Arthur & Judith Dodek Endowment Fund
Mariette & Sid Doduck Endowment Fund
Samuel & Else Dunner Legacy Endowment Fund
Eva & Michael Dymant Holocaust Education Endowment Fund
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Erica Fleischer Memorial Endowment Fund
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Gaerber Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Edgar & Marilyn Gaerber Endowment Fund
Gechman Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Irving & Noreen Glassner Endowment Fund
David & Aurelia Gold Endowment Fund
Gottfried Family Kristallnacht Endowment Fund
Sam & Lola Haber Endowment Fund
Gail Feldman Heller Endowment Fund
Edwina & Paul Heller Holocaust Education Endowment Fund
Kitty Heller Memorial Endowment Fund
Sam & Michael Heller Memorial Endowment Fund
Kahn Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Leon & Evelyn Kahn Endowment Fund
Abrasha, Ida, Odie & Sherie Kaplan Endowment Fund
Leon & Esther Kaufman Legacy Endowment Fund
Leo Krell Memorial Book Fund
Emmy Krell Legacy Endowment Fund
Robert & Marilyn Krell Endowment Fund
Krell Special Program Opportunity Fund
Meyer & Gita Kron and Ruth Kron Sigal Endowment Fund
Landau & Hector Families' Endowment Fund
Legacy Group Endowment Fund
Lewin Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Philip & Sherry Levinson Endowment Fund
Libin Family Endowment Fund
Lovin Memorial Endowment Fund
Jocy & Leo Lowy Endowment Fund
Bob & Ralph Markin Endowment Fund
Marsid Children's Legacy Endowment Fund
Eugene, Alice & Paul Meyer Endowment Fund
Karen & Jack Micner Legacy Endowment Fund
Goldie and Avrum Miller Memorial Endowment Fund (est. 2019)
Pola & Henry Nutkiewicz Endowment Fund
Pinsky Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Leo Puterman Memorial Endowment Fund
Sarah Rozenberg-Warm Memorial Endowment Fund
Sacks Family Endowment Fund
Dr. Mark & Tracey Schonfeld & Family Endowment Fund
Rosalie and Joseph Segal Endowment Fund
Anita Shafran and Zev & Elaine Shafran Endowment Fund
David & Lil Shafran Endowment Fund
Ari Shiff & Carla van Messel Legacy Endowment Fund
Silber & Greenhut Families Endowment Fund
Lee, Bernie, Annie, Jory & Samantha Simpson Endowment Fund
Phyliss & Irving Snider Endowment Fund
Dr. Stanley Sunshine Endowment Fund
Terry Szajman Education Endowment Fund
Ronnie Tessler Archives Fund
Isaac & Judith Thau Endowment Fund
Isaak & Bluma Tischler and Aron & Neri Tischler Endowment Fund
VHCS Endowment Fund
Waisman Family Legacy Endowment Fund
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Shery & Gerald Wittenberg Endowment Fund
Miriam Wosk & Kenneth Wosk Legacy Endowment Fund
Mordehai & Hana Wosk Family Endowment Fund
Morris J. & Yosef Wosk Publishing Endowment Fund
Yosef Wosk & Family Endowment Fund
Zalkow Family Endowment Fund
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GRANTS, PARTNERSHIPS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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Vancouver Foundation
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Yosef Wosk Family Foundation

GRANTS
BC Museums Association
Resilience Fund
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Isaac and Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund
Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany Inc.
Jewish Community Foundation
Province of British Columbia—Community Gaming Grant
Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions and Summer Career Placements
Vancouver Foundation Community Response Fund
Virtual Museum of Canada—Virtual Exhibit Investment Stream

CORPORATE SUPPORT
Coast Hotels
Summit Ice Apparel

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs—Pacific Region (International Holocaust Remembrance Day)
Cherie Smith JCCGV Jewish Book Festival
Congregations Beth Israel (Kristallnacht)
Hillel BC Society (International Holocaust Remembrance Day)
Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver (Kristallnacht)
Vancouver Jewish Film Centre

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS
Association of Holocaust Organizations
Archives Association of British Columbia
British Columbia Museums Association
International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance
Vantage Point

AWARDS
BC Heritage Award
BC Multiculturalism & Anti-Racism Award (Honourable Mention)
BC Museums Association Award for Excellence in Collections

PROGRAM ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EDUCATION
District Symposia
Supported by the Azrieli Foundation, Coast Hotels, Diamond Foundation, Lohn Foundation, Michael Levy family, David & Danya Fugman, Lovi Memorial endowment fund of the VHEC, Vaisler family in honour of Syd & Sari Vaisler and Naomi & Mac Adler, Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver and the Province of BC.

Annual & Online Symposia
On The Holocaust
Supported by Coast Hotels, the Lohn Foundation, Michael Levy family, Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, the Province of BC, and by the following VHEC endowment funds: Joseph and Mary Bulles Legacy, Sid and Sylvia Eibschutz, Lilli and Izak Folk Memorial, Edwina and Paul Heller Holocaust Education, Leo Krell Memorial Book, Meyer and Gita Kron, Ruth Kron Sigal for Excellence in Holocaust Education, Lehrer and Sophie Waldman Endowment Funds.

Teachers’ Conference

EXHIBITIONS
Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy
Supported by Michael and Sandy Hayden and children, the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Vancouver, the Isaac and Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund of the Vancouver Foundation, Isaac and Judy Thau, Yosef Wosk, Audre Jackson, and the Goldie and Avrum Miller Memorial Endowment Fund of the VHEC.

COMMEMORATION
High Holidays Cemetery Service
Presented in partnership with Congregation Schara Tzedeck and the Jewish War Veterans.

Kristallnacht Commemorative Lecture
Presented in partnership with Congregation Beth Israel. Supported by the Robert and Marilyn Krell endowment fund and the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver. This program is funded through our community’s generous contributions to the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver Annual Campaign.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemorative Program
Presented in partnership with Hillel BC. Supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver and the Province of BC. With thanks to the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, the Azrieli Foundation, UBC Opera, UBC Modern European Studies Program, the Department of Central, Eastern and Norther European Studies, UBC Witnessing Auschwitz International Seminar and UBC Go Global.

Yom Hashoah Holocaust Virtual Commemoration
Supported by the Gail Feldman Heller and Sarah Rozenberg-Warmendowment funds, the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver and the Province of BC. With special thanks to: The Azrieli Foundation, the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, March of the Living, and the Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre.
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**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**
Joshua Sorin  
**TREASURER**
Al Szajman  
**SECRETARY**

Rita Akselrod  
**VICE PRESIDENT**
Norman Gladstone  
**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**
Jill Diamond  
**TREASURER**
Mariette Doduck  
**SECRETARY**

STAFF
Nina Krieger  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
Robert Krell  
**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**
Ed Lewin  
**EDUCATION DIRECTOR & CURATOR**
Shoshana Lewis  
**ACTING ADMINISTRATOR**
Jack Micner  
**ADMINISTRATOR**
Ilan Penn  
**BOOKKEEPER**
Robbie Waisman  
**DESIGNER**
Rabbi Yosef Wosk  
**BOOKKEEPER**

GUARDIANS OF THE SOCIETY
Rita Akselrod  
**PRESIDENT**
Jody Dales  
**VICE PRESIDENT**
Jill Diamond  
**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**
Arthur Dodek  
**TREASURER**
Mariette Doduck  
**SECRETARY**
Norman Gladstone  
**VICEROY**
Art Hister  
**VICEROY**

VHEC docents were honoured at the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

OUTREACH SPEAKERS
Janos Benisz, Amalia Boe-Fishman, Lillian Boraks-Nemetz, Alex Buckman, Mariette Doduck, David Ehrlich, René Goldman, Serge Haber, Jannushka Jakoubovitch z’l, Robert Krell, Claude Romney, Martha Salcudean z’l, Louise Sorensen, Peter Suedfeld, Tom Szekely, Robbie Waisman.
Coordinator: Rita Akselrod

DOCTORS
Reva Dexter, Sylvie Epstein, Kieran Forry, Belinda Gutman, Helen Heacock-Rivers, Gloria Joachim, Dodie Katzenstein, Vivian Kerenyi, Lise Kirchner, Ethel Kofsky, Uma Kumar, Lucien Lieberman, Ellen Millman, Herb Mills, Gita Silver, Lottie Smith, Rina Vizer, Anita Willson.

TEACHER ADVISORY

STUDENT INTERN
Haydn Lloyd, Library & Information Technology Program, Langara College.

SURVIVOR SERVICES
Donna Cantor  
**COORDINATOR**
Gisi Levitt  
**RUSSIAN OUTREACH**
Natalya Rogachyova  
**WITH THANKS**
Lisa Pullan
**DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT**
Cathy Michitsch  
**DATABASE CONSULTANT**

Thank you to our volunteers. Our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions.

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LIFE FELLOW RECIPIENTS

In recognition of those who have made special contributions to Holocaust education and remembrance.

Rita Akselrod
Lola Apfelbaum
Janos Benisz
Agi Bergida
Susan Bluman z’l
Amalia Boe-Fishman
Lillian Boraks-Nemetz
Alex Buckman
Marion Cassirer z’l
Saul Cohn z’l
Jody Dales
Mariette Doduck
David Ehrlich
David Feldman z’l
Lili Folk z’l
Ernie Forrai z’l
Klara Forrai z’l
Graham Forst
Judith Forst
Izzy Fraeme z’l
Chris Friedrichs
Norman Gladstone
Bernard Goldberg z’l
Serge Haber
Edwina Heller z’l
Paul Heller z’l
Katy Hughes z’l
Frances Hoyd z’l
Jannushka Jakoubovitch z’l
Oscar Jason z’l
Leon Kahn z’l
Ida Kaplan
Chaim Kornfeld
Robert Krell
Roberta Kremer
Kit Krieger
Ethel Kofsky
Gisi Levitt
Ed Lewin
Lucien Lieberman
Gerri London
Leo Lowy z’l
Inge Manes
Reverend Fred Metzger z’l
Jack Micner
Michel Mielnicki z’l
Frieda Miller
Bente Nathan Thomsen z’l
William Nichols z’l
Pola Nutkiewicz z’l
Peter Parker z’l
Rubin Pinsky z’l
Susan Quastel
Claude Romney
Martha Salcudean z’l
David Schaffer
David Shafran z’l
Vera Slymovic z’l
Bronia Sonnenschein z’l
Leslie Spiro z’l
Louise Stein Sorensen
Ron Stuart
Wendy Stuart
Peter Suedfeld
Aron Szajman
Tom Szekely
Stan Taviss
Ronnie Tessler
Gloria Waisman z’l
Robbie Waisman
Sophie Waldman z’l
Irene Watts

We felt very honoured to be included among the Life Fellows of the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre. Thank you!

WENDY & RON STUART

Ron and Wendy Stuart presented with their Life Fellow certificates by Corinne Zimmerman at last year’s AGM.
INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of the
VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST CENTRE SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION AND REMEMBRANCE

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST CENTRE SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION AND REMEMBRANCE that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2019, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management’s Responsibility for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner’s Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion
Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST CENTRE SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION AND REMEMBRANCE as at December 31, 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Richmond, B.C.
July 2, 2020
TREASURER’S REPORT
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

The financial position of the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance strengthened; the Society’s net assets increased by $354,766 (2018 – decrease of $61,618) primarily due to realized and unrealized gains in its investment portfolio, aided by endowment contributions. Operating revenues increased by $180,848 during the year, aided by non-recurring receipts from the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Descendants conference, of $211,186. The Society received $72,156 (2018 – $282,915) in general donations from its members and supporters, over and above its membership dues of $36,435. The Society increased its receipts from fundraising activities, with a total of $152,022 generated in 2019 (2018 – $145,678). General operating expenditures increased by $180,402, due to non-recurring expenditures for the WFJCSH&D and an increase in salaries of $92,977 due to higher staffing levels. The Society generated a surplus of $313,794 during 2019 (2018 – deficit of $168,572). The surplus includes unrealized gains on investments of $167,129 (2018 – unrealized loss of $221,400) and realized gains of $209,426 (2018 – $104,251). The current year’s operating deficit, before accounting for investment income, realized and unrealized gains and other items, was $151,675 (2018 – $152,121). The Society is dependent on portfolio returns, funded by endowments, to supplement its deficiency from general operations. The Society’s portfolio is professionally managed and must adhere to an investment policy that has been approved by the Board of Directors. The portfolio manager was changed in 2019 as part of a periodic Request for Proposals process.
### Abbreviated Statement of Financial Position

**As of December 31, 2019 (Unaudited)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets – Unrestricted</td>
<td>$ 265,327</td>
<td>$ 402,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets – Restricted</td>
<td>10,095</td>
<td>10,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash – Restricted</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment</td>
<td>350,676</td>
<td>466,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holocaust Education Centre</td>
<td>1,057,134</td>
<td>1,120,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>3,947,260</td>
<td>3,479,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 5,630,493</td>
<td>$ 5,478,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$ 20,958</td>
<td>$ 26,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Special Projects Contributions</td>
<td>106,686</td>
<td>165,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Contributions – Permanent Exhibit, Renewal Project</td>
<td>585,504</td>
<td>724,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>4,917,345</td>
<td>4,562,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$ 5,630,493</td>
<td>$ 5,478,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Grants – Specific Projects</td>
<td>$204,252</td>
<td>$90,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Grants, Renewal Project</td>
<td>139,418</td>
<td>99,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>35,070</td>
<td>33,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Federation Grant</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>26,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims Conference Grants</td>
<td>23,158</td>
<td>29,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraisers</td>
<td>152,022</td>
<td>145,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Federation Child Survivors Conference</td>
<td>211,186</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and Tribute Cards</td>
<td>72,156</td>
<td>282,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>36,435</td>
<td>34,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Program Revenues</td>
<td>32,798</td>
<td>11,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits Revenues</td>
<td>8,789</td>
<td>5,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Going Program Revenues</td>
<td>8,530</td>
<td>10,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$951,814</td>
<td>$770,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-going Program Expenses</td>
<td>$29,956</td>
<td>$35,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Program Expenses</td>
<td>32,053</td>
<td>30,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>920,941</td>
<td>808,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Federation Child Survivors Conference</td>
<td>73,536</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit Costs</td>
<td>45,469</td>
<td>48,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Expenses</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,103,489</td>
<td>$923,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING DEFICIT BEFORE OTHER ITEMS</strong></td>
<td>$ (151,675)</td>
<td>$ (152,121)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Expenses (Income)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income from Investments Measured at Cost</td>
<td>$ (23,269)</td>
<td>$ (18,881)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income from Investments Measured at Fair Value</td>
<td>(108,490)</td>
<td>(89,009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments Measured at Market Value</td>
<td>(167,129)</td>
<td>221,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on Sale of Marketable Securities</td>
<td>(209,426)</td>
<td>(104,251)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Exchange (Gain) Loss</td>
<td>42,845</td>
<td>7,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ (465,469)</td>
<td>$16,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$313,794</td>
<td>$(168,572)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Abbreviated Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019 (Unaudited)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$4,551,063</td>
<td>$4,612,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior Period Adjustments</td>
<td>$11,515</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance, as Restated</td>
<td>4,562,578</td>
<td>4,612,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer of Funds from Deferred Revenue to Named Endowments</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Named Endowment Contributions</td>
<td>40,972</td>
<td>68,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus (Deficit) of Revenues Over Expenditures</td>
<td>313,794</td>
<td>(168,572)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BALANCE, END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,917,344</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,562,578</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Abbreviated Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018 (Unaudited)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash Provided for (Used by) Operating Activities</strong></td>
<td>$  (277,657)</td>
<td>$ (626,560)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash Used for Investing Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of Investment Portfolio Securities</td>
<td>$ (4,918,185)</td>
<td>$ (185,551)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of Israel Bonds ($55,000 USDs)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>(71,053)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection of Historical Artefacts</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in Capital Assets</td>
<td>(5,112)</td>
<td>(254,007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds on Sale of Investments</td>
<td>4,649,313</td>
<td>463,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redemption of Israel Bonds ($55,000 USDs)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>71,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return of Capital</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>8,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCREASE IN CASH</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ (273,542)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,260</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td>$389,457</td>
<td>659,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH, END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>$200,025</strong></td>
<td><strong>$389,457</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>