

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE

AKS-NEMETZ was incarcerated in the
to for eighteen months, then hidden
ages for the remainder of the war under
fifty. She is the author of the
Old Brown Satchel trilogy
of poetry. In 2018, she
South of Truth: Buried
egree in Comparative
in Outreach Studies
Holocaust Educa



20 22 ANNUAL REPORT



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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.

HISTORY

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. Typically 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

Dear members,

We are pleased to present our 2022 Annual Report, which highlights the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre's achievements, reflects our evolving reach and impact, and recognizes the many contributors at the heart of the VHEC's activities. Note that this report covers the year 2022, rather than the 12 months leading up to the AGM, as has been our custom. For clarity and coherence, we will from now on report on the previous calendar year in annual reports.

Last year was one of continued growth, during which the Centre delivered a suite of in-person and online programs that advanced teaching and learning about the Holocaust and its enduring lessons. For the first time since 2019, we resumed our district-wide Symposia on the Holocaust and welcomed classes to the VHEC, free of charge, thanks to continued support from the Diamond Foundation. The support of the Diamond Foundation, as well as the Azrieli Foundation, allowed the VHEC to continue to develop outstanding educational programs and resources, and training opportunities for educators. Our programs reached more than 10,000 students in 2022.

In order to expand our online offerings and extend the longevity and reach of VHEC projects, we developed digital versions of several physical exhibitions, including *Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy* and *In Focus: The Holocaust through the VHEC Collection*. These initiatives allow the Centre to continue to expand our audiences across BC and beyond.

Over the course of this past year, students returned to the Centre for in-person programs. They were welcomed by our expanded team of docents, who participated in an enhanced training program designed to equip them with timely background about the provincial curriculum, inquiry-based learning and emerging approaches to trauma-informed practices and anti-racism education. Anti-racism education is a priority in the Province of British Columbia, and, at the request of the provincial government, the VHEC has joined an advisory to inform the Ministry of Education's Anti-Racism Action Plan. The Centre's close involvement with the Canadian delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance continues to inform our work, particularly around issues of combatting antisemitism and Holocaust distortion and engaging with the persecution and genocide of the Roma during the Nazi era.

Our commemorative and public programs, often delivered in partnership with other community agencies, continued this year to engage multigeneration audiences in remembrance and reflection

about the Shoah and its evolving significance. The Kristallnacht keynote presenter Liliane Pari Umuhoza, profiled in this report, gave a memorable address as a child survivor of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

On the collections front, we were deeply honoured to receive our single largest donation to date, the Felix Kuppenheim fonds, generously donated by Timothy Taylor and Shelagh Genuis. The VHEC also expanded partnerships with international archives—including Netwerk Oorlogsbronnen, Yale Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies and the USC Shoah Foundation—to broaden access to our holdings.

The VHEC's Holocaust survivor speakers continued to respond to the demand to hear from and engage with eyewitnesses. Audience feedback to these speaking engagements is highlighted in the pages of this report. Without the courage and dedication of our speakers, we simply would not have the transformative effect we have on young people. On behalf of the Centre, our sincerest thanks and appreciation to our speakers.

Our talented professional team continues to advance the work of the VHEC. This report includes profiles of some of the many staff, Board members, volunteers, contributors and partners who enrich the VHEC community with their remarkable expertise and dedication. Thank you all.

As an organization and a community we have much on the horizon to look forward to. The VHEC is poised to expand our space and achieve greater visibility and impact thanks to our partnership with the JWest project. You will be hearing much more about our exciting plans and the vision for Holocaust survivor education in the year ahead.

In the meantime, the VHEC remains deeply committed to addressing the challenges of our time, combatting antisemitism and Holocaust distortion with rigorous and fact-based exhibitions, teaching tools and programs. Thank you for your engagement and support in this vital work.

Sincerely,



Nina Krieger
Executive Director



Corinne Zimmerman
President

EDUCATION

Connecting thousands of students to Holocaust history through survivor testimony and in-person and online educational programs.



Student emcees, Ken Ipe, Alex Buckman²¹ and Dr. Sebastian Huebel, Coquitlam District Symposium.

IN-PERSON SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Diamond Foundation, some 7,000 students in British Columbia participated free of charge in VHEC school programs, including guided exhibition tours, docent-led workshops and survivor speaker engagements.

Our **Holocaust survivor speakers** shared eyewitness accounts in person and over Zoom during 70 speaking engagements with students across British Columbia, in Los Angeles, New York and beyond.

Nearly 400 students visited the VHEC

for docent-led **on-site exhibition tours and workshops**, including *Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy* and *In Focus: The Holocaust through the VHEC Collection*.

Volunteer docents delivered **24 interactive workshops**, remotely and in person, based on the short film *Pigeon*.

VHEC district-wide **Holocaust symposia** returned to the stage in November 2022 in Coquitlam, Burnaby and Vancouver. More than 1,600 students heard the eyewitness accounts of local Holocaust survivors, including speakers Alex Buckman²¹,

Lillian Boraks-Nemetz and Peter Suedfeld, Sebastian Huebel, Kit Krieger and Lauren Faulkner Rossi.

ONLINE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The VHEC offered several web-based programs for teachers and students to engage with Holocaust history and eyewitness testimony in their own classrooms.

More than 1,200 people visited **Primary Voices**, an online teaching resource that brings together survivor testimony and inquiry-driven historical thinking.

7,000

students heard
in-person testimony
from 15 survivor
speakers

1,300

visitors engaged in
school programs
online

1,200

students participated
in the “From
Bystander to Rescuer”
webinar

12

new docents
trained for tours
and workshops

18

BC classroom teachers
learned best practices
in anti-racist and
Holocaust pedagogy

More than 100 students enrolled in the online version of the **Holocaust symposium**—featuring a historical overview delivered by Lauren Faulkner Rossi and video-recorded eyewitness accounts of two local Holocaust survivors—and the workshop **Antisemitism – You Can Make A Difference: Media Literacy, Anti-Jewish Propaganda and How to Stand Up Against Hate**, a VHEC-developed online workshop that fosters the skills necessary to confront and counter hatred.

LIBERATION75 STUDENT DAY

Approximately 1,200 students in grades 10 through 12 participated in the live webinar “From Bystander to Rescuer: Moral Courage During the Holocaust,” presented by VHEC Program Consultant Lise Kirchner as part of the Liberation75 Student Day event to mark Holocaust Remembrance Day.

TESTIMONY RECORDING: DIMENSIONS IN TESTIMONY

In a first for Western Canada, the VHEC has partnered with the USC Shoah Foundation to develop a 3D interactive testimony of the Holocaust survivor Dr. Robert Krell.

This project will support the VHEC’s long-term educational mandate by preserving our ability to engage young learners in an intergenerational dialogue with Holocaust survivors far into the future.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The VHEC partnered with the Azrieli Foundation and Yad Vashem to deliver a professional development seminar for classroom teachers about best practices in Holocaust education, incorporating Holocaust survivor testimony into lessons and establishing historical context using VHEC web-based resources in classrooms. The seminar was attended by 18 classroom teachers and two VHEC docents.

EXPANDED DOCENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The VHEC welcomed 12 new docents in 2022, bringing its complement of museum educators to 24. A new expanded training program for docents was developed with the Docent Advisory Committee, covering best practices in Holocaust pedagogy, antiracism and diversity training, trauma-informed approaches to education and inquiry-based teaching techniques.

“Super grateful for @thevhec and [Pigeon] workshop leader joining us @VWGSchool tonight. Thank you for the excellent material provided.”

Dr. Dorothy Lessin, lecturer at CENES, affiliate at UBC’s Centre for Migration Studies

“It is a wonderful organization and does tremendous good. It is an honour to be part of it and to be able to engage with students and help them to learn more about the Holocaust.”

“I value contributing to education about the Holocaust and providing antiracism education to the next generation of adults. As the daughter of a survivor, it helps me feel connected to the past and the future.”

Docent feedback on why they volunteer with the VHEC



“It’s about the Holocaust, but it’s also about teaching human behaviour and teaching students, in the context of the Holocaust, about the kind of people we want to be and can be.”

Helen Heacock Rivers

Volunteer docent

The VHEC is fortunate to have a team of dedicated and passionate docents who deliver our educational programs, making them accessible and meaningful for students. The VHEC’s docents are at the core of our engagement with young people, and are involved in leading school groups in interactive tours of museum exhibitions, travelling to classrooms to conduct workshops and facilitating survivor speaker sessions.

Helen Heacock Rivers is one of our long-time volunteer docents. Helen first encountered the VHEC 18 years ago when she accompanied her daughter’s class on a tour of the exhibition *Anne Frank: A History for Today*. After the tour, the survivor speaker Alex Buckman²¹ shared his story of survival and loss during the Holocaust with the class. Helen described the experience as life changing and one which inspired her to “do something.” In 2008, she began volunteering with the VHEC, first as a docent and later as a board member and member of the development committee.

A recently retired faculty member of School of Health Sciences at BCIT, Helen brings a wealth of teaching experience and communication skills to her role as a docent. Her passion for the work of the VHEC and the study of the Holocaust shines through in every tour she leads. Helen’s style of delivery ignites the curiosity of students and draws out their observations. The process is a two-way street for Helen; while she engages and educates the students during her tours, she also learns from them. She is representative of the commitment, enthusiasm and expertise we are so fortunate to have among our docents.

COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAMS

Remembering the victims, honouring the survivors and committing ourselves to ‘never again.’

4

commemorative services with in-person, online and pre-recorded components

500+

community members gathered for in-person commemorations

900+

people accessed our online and pre-recorded service components

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY, JANUARY 27

More than 600 people viewed the community commemoration of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, hosted by the VHEC in partnership with CIJA and the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver. The Holocaust survivor Claude Romney delivered the keynote address. Mayor Kennedy Stewart and Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung spoke, the Grade 7 Talmud Torah students lit the candles, and two King David High School students performed a song of hope.

The VHEC partnered with the Bayit synagogue in Richmond to present a keynote lecture by the survivor speaker Miriam Dattel. In partnership with Hillel BC, the survivor speaker Louise Sorensen^{z1} shared her story of enduring the Holocaust as a child in the Netherlands.

YOM HASHOAH, APRIL 27-28

Vancouver

Nearly 200 people gathered at the Wosk Auditorium in the Jewish Community Centre (and another 200 attended online) to remember those who perished and to honour Holocaust survivors. For the first time since before the pandemic, Holocaust survivors were able to light memorial candles in person.

This program featured the second-generation speaker Marsha Lederman, author of *Kiss the Red Stairs: The Holocaust Once Removed*, and a keynote address by

Amalia Boe-Fishman, who survived the Holocaust as a child in hiding at the home of a member of the Dutch resistance.

The musical program arranged by Wendy and Ron Stuart featured four vocalists and the VSO violist Andrew James Brown.

Victoria

The VHEC partnered with CIJA Pacific Region for a Holocaust Memorial Day service live streamed from the BC Legislature. The Honourable John Horgan spoke about the importance of commemoration and remembrance.

Leo Vogel, a Holocaust survivor speaker, delivered the keynote address.

“Today, as we remember and honour those who were lost and those who survived, we must recommit to building a more just and inclusive province where everyone is safe and the horrors of the past are never repeated.”

Premier John Horgan, statement on Yom HaShoah, Victoria



Candle lighting with Holocaust survivors, Yom HaShoah.

HIGH HOLIDAYS CEMETERY SERVICE, OCTOBER 2

More than 100 community members gathered at the Holocaust memorial at the Schara Tzedeck Cemetery to mourn those who perished during the Holocaust.

The film maker and third generation descendant Daniel Schubert delivered the keynote address and shared his experience of making *Martha*, his NFB-produced film about a Holocaust survivor from Czechoslovakia.

The event was presented by the VHEC and Schara Tzedeck Cemetery. The Rabbinical speaker was Rabbi Baitelman of Chabad Richmond, and the reading of names was done by Dr. Abby Wener Herlin.



Daniel Schubert, High Holidays Cemetery Service.

KRISTALLNACHT, NOVEMBER 9

More than 100 participants attended via livestream and more than 250 participated in person at the JCC commemoration of the Kristallnacht, presented by the VHEC in partnership with the Beth Israel Congregation. The Honourable Irwin Cotler, Canada's first Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism, delivered his speech online. Dr. Chris Friedrichs, professor emeritus of history at UBC, spoke about the importance of synagogues as a place of refuge for Jewish communities in the context of the Holocaust. Liliane Pari Umuhoya, a child survivor of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, delivered the keynote address.

“Antisemitism can be nebulous. Back when I was in high school, the internet was still in its infancy. Now, as we all know, the internet has become a rabbit hole portal to whatever misinformation you need to support your beliefs. This is why Holocaust awareness and education is more vital than ever; so that when kids eventually hear the well-established tropes and lies of antisemitism, they’ll have an armour of knowledge with which to fend it off.”

Daniel Schubert, “Typical Ignorance,” *Zachor*, Fall 2022



“When we remember, we help ensure that the memories and legacies of victims and survivors continue to resonate for future generations. When we remember, we learn about history and create awareness. But that’s not enough. What matters the most is how we use that history to create a better world. It’s our duty, not only to remember, but also to remember with purpose.”

Liliane Pari Umahoza

Kristallnacht keynote speaker

Liliane Pari Umahoza is a child survivor of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, and the founder and program coordinator of the Women Genocide Survivors Retreat. She is currently a master’s student in Public Policy and Global Affairs at the University of British Columbia.

Liliane was two years old during the genocide against the Tutsi, in which her father and some of her uncles, aunties, cousins and other relatives were killed by Hutu extremists. Liliane and her mother escaped to Congo and lived there as refugees until it was safe to return to Rwanda. Her mother remarried, and Liliane ended up with a stepfather and stepsiblings, for which she feels fortunate, as many child survivors have grown up with one or no parents. Though she doesn’t vividly remember the genocide because she was so young, she has faced the consequences of it her whole life. As a child, she began to exhibit symptoms of trauma, including depression, post-traumatic stress, nightmares, frustration, anger and confusion, until she went through therapy, shared her story and was able to find resilience and move forward in her healing journey.

For much of her life Liliane has dedicated herself to human rights, genocide education and community work. For her undergraduate degree, Liliane studied peace and conflict studies at Juniata College in Pennsylvania. During this time, she worked for Survivors Fund in Rwanda as an intern, translating into English the survival stories of Rwandan women so that those stories could reach audiences beyond Rwanda. She also worked as a volunteer at Yad Vashem in Israel in order to broaden her context of genocide studies and meet and learn from survivors of other genocides. In 2017 she founded the Women Genocide Survivors Retreat, a program of the Survivors Fund.

When she arrived in Vancouver in 2022 for her studies at UBC, Liliane was billeted with a Jewish family who connected her to the VHEC. Through this connection she spoke at King David High School and at the 2022 Kristallnacht commemoration at Congregation Beth Israel. In her keynote address Liliane referred to the genocides in Rwanda, Bosnia, Syria, Darfur and Myanmar. Her message was clear: genocides are never a surprise, and they are not of the past; they continue to happen, and that is why we must always speak up against oppression, injustice and against the denial of genocides.

Watch the 2022 Kristallnacht commemoration online here:
<https://www.vhec.org/events/events-gallery/#videos>

PUBLIC PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS

Engaging community through events that reflect evolving practices of Holocaust remembrance.

500+

people reached by VHEC public programs

7

partnerships on 8 public programs

FESTIVALS

As part of the **Cherie Smith JCC Jewish Book Festival**, Dr. Abby Wener Herlin of the VHEC moderated an online talk with Isa Milman, author of *Afterlight: In Search of Poetry, History and Home*, and Menachem Kaiser, author of *Plunder: A Memoir of Family Property and Nazi Treasure*, attended by nearly 100 people.

A double book launch at the **Cherie Smith JCC Jewish Book Festival** brought together two important works of local Holocaust history: *Out of Hiding: Holocaust Literature of British Columbia* by Alan Twigg; and Robert Krell's *Sounds from Silence: Reflections of a Child Holocaust Survivor, Psychiatrist and Teacher*. The event was moderated by Yosef Wosk and attended by around 400 participants at the Wosk Auditorium in the JCC.

As an official partner of the **Jewish Film Festival**, the VHEC presented *Valliant Hearts* by Mona Achache, a French film about the odyssey of six Jewish children who in 1942 took refuge in the Château de Chambord, among the stored masterpieces from the Louvre.

Programmed by the VHEC in partnership with the **Chutzpah! Festival** and the Sidney & Gertrude Zack Gallery, *Site: Yizkor* was a multimedia installation and performance by Maya Ciarrocchi and Andrew Conklin about

the Yizkor books, created to remember people and places lost in the Holocaust. The VHEC provided public outreach facilitation and consultation, and loaned several Yizkor books for the project. About 50 people attended in person and another 10 joined online. A conversation between the artists and Dr. Abby Wener Herlin followed.

THE HISTORIAN AND THE SURVIVOR: NOTES ON A COLLABORATIVE WRITING PROJECT

The VHEC joined with SFU's Department of History as part of their 2021–22 Colloquium Series for a program with Dr. Lauren Faulkner Rossi about her experience working with the Holocaust survivor Mariette Doduck on her memoir, *A Childhood Unspoken*.

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE

As part of the Canadian delegation to the IHRA, Executive Director Nina Krieger, who is Deputy Chair of the IHRA project to develop recommendations for teaching guidelines about the persecution and genocide of the Roma during the Nazi era, travelled with six other expert delegates and representatives from Global Affairs Canada and Canadian Heritage to the IHRA Plenary Session in Stockholm. Guided by the motto, "Together for impact," more than 200 experts and political representatives

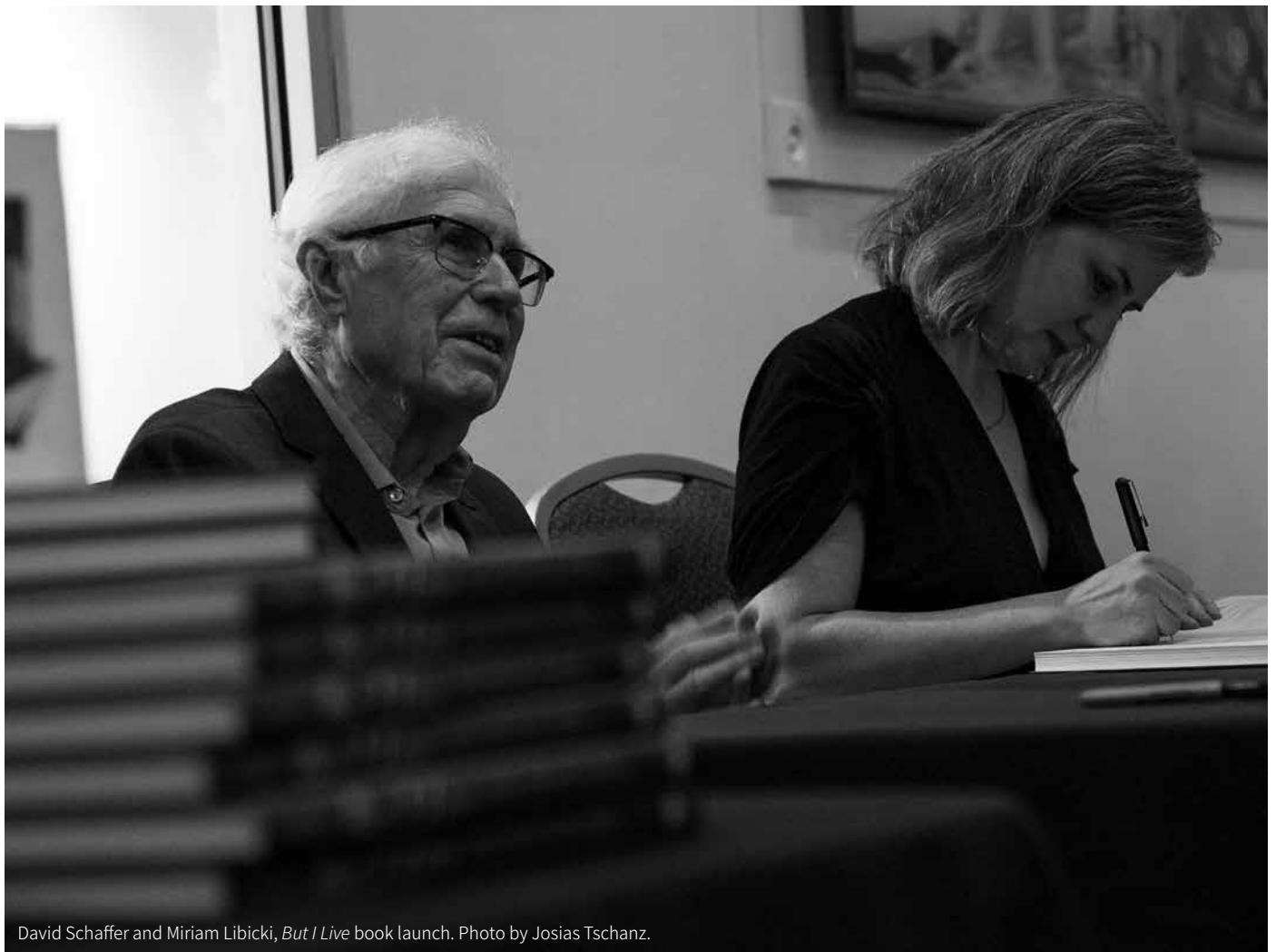
met in Stockholm over four days in June to advance education, remembrance and research of the Holocaust and the genocide of the Roma.

BOOK LAUNCH FOR BUT I LIVE

The VHEC, UBC Public Humanities and the UVic Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies presented the book launch for *But I Live: Three Stories of Child Survivors of the Holocaust*, a graphic memoir collaboration between four Holocaust survivors and three graphic novelists. The event featured a conversation between Charlotte Schallié, the editor, Miriam Libicki, one of the graphic novelists, David Schaffer, one of the Holocaust survivors, and Dr. Abby Wener Herlin. More than 100 people attended.

RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS CEREMONY

Israel's Ambassador to Canada, Dr. Ronen Hoffman, and the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, in partnership with the VHEC, Jewish Federation and CIJA, hosted a ceremony and reception at the VanDusen Botanical Garden to honour Helena Fiszhaut & Mieczyslaw Rygalski as Righteous Among the Nations for their efforts in rescuing Polish Holocaust survivor Iza Laponce.



David Schaffer and Miriam Libicki, *But I Live* book launch. Photo by Josias Tschanz.



Yosef Wosk and Robert Krell, Cherie Smith JCC Jewish Book Festival.



Righteous Among The Nations Ceremony.



Dr. Nataliia Ivchyk

Visiting scholar

Dr. Nataliia Ivchyk is a scholar of the Holocaust with an interest in public history and memory politics. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Sciences at Rivne State University for the Humanities in her hometown of Rivne, Ukraine. Nataliia co-founded and is a project manager for the Centre for Studies of Memory Policy and Public History “Mnemonics,” an award-winning independent association whose purpose is to study memorial policy and public history, and to promote democratic models in the field of memory policy of Ukraine.

In the fall of 2022, months after the Russian Federation attacked Ukraine, Nataliia secured a visiting scholar placement at UBC for 2023-24. While in Vancouver, Nataliia is also developing the Russian-speaking Holocaust Survivor Documentation Project in collaboration with the VHEC. She has already been working with the Russian-speaking Holocaust survivor groups in Richmond, Coquitlam and Vancouver, attending monthly survivor meetings. For the project, which is inspired by and based on the survivor interviewing techniques pioneered by Dr. Robert Krell, VHEC founding president, Nataliia will interview around ten Jewish victims of Nazi persecution from the former Soviet Union—the cities of Donetsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Odesa, Kyiv and others—about their experiences before, during and after the Second World War and the Holocaust, as well as their emigration.

The interviews will be done in Russian and Ukrainian and the testimony captured will serve to fill out informational gaps in the reconstruction of events in that part of the world, and to promote a deeper awareness in Ukraine and Canada about the Holocaust and the experience of survivors, both at the regional level and in Ukraine as a whole. Project documentation will be available in Russian, Ukrainian and English. The interviews will be transcribed and translated, catalogued, preserved and made available for research, reference and use at the VHEC and Centre for Studies of Memory Policy and Public History “Mnemonics.”

COLLECTIONS LIBRARY, MUSEUM, ARCHIVES & TESTIMONY

Acquiring, digitizing and caring for collections that highlight the experiences of BC Holocaust survivors and their families.



Felix Kuppenheim fonds

SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Collections staff helped descendants in watching their relatives' Holocaust testimonies, welcomed visits from library patrons, supported remote and in-person reference requests, and helped develop exhibitions and other in-house projects featuring artefacts from the VHEC collection.

The Collections department supported Dr. Nataliia Ivchyk, a Holocaust scholar from Rivne State University for the Humanities in Ukraine, who in 2022 became a UBC visiting

scholar. Nataliia is developing a testimony project to document Russian-speaking survivors in the Lower Mainland.

ACCESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Collections developed partnerships with Network Oorlogsbronnen, Yale Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies and the USC Shoah Foundation, and made significant progress on our FileMaker Pro cataloguing and access project, funded by a grant from the Library and Archives Canada Documentary Heritage Communities Project.

"I can't tell you how helpful it is to have the archives accessible online! It's been such a lifesaver as a remote-working researcher (before and during the pandemic!). A big thank you to everyone involved with that digitizing project."

SJ, PhD candidate

20

archival
collections
processed

771

items digitized
and catalogued

583

library records
created

127

reference queries
answered

7

artefacts on loan
to the Canadian
Museum of
Human Rights

4

graduate students
received training
and mentorship

ACCESS THROUGH DIGITIZATION

In spring 2022 Collections staff completed the cataloguing of 96 issues of *Zachor*, allowing researchers from all over the world to easily find information about people, programs, events, objects and places covered in the magazine.

Our online catalogue received more than 60,000 unique pageviews and an average of 50 users per day in 2022. VHEC collections were referenced by researchers from Canada, Poland, Israel, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

COLLECTIONS IN CONVERSATION

Ten Yizkor books from the VHEC Rare Books & Special Collections were displayed as part

of *Site: Yizkor*, at the Sidney & Gertrude Zack Gallery, programmed by the Chutzpah! Festival. Approximately 60 people visited the exhibition and 18 participated in Yizkor book workshops.

A chess set from the Warsaw ghetto in the VHEC collection was discussed in “Checkmate: Making, Playing and Picturing Chess in Extremis,” a talk delivered by Dr. Rachel Perry, University of Haifa, hosted by the Ghetto Fighters’ House (available on YouTube).

Photographs from the John F. McCreary Bergen-Belsen photograph collection feature in *Kingdom of Night: Witnesses to the Holocaust*, by Mark Celinscak, published in 2022 by University of Toronto Press.

Poetry written as part of the Gesher Project appears in the *Canadian Jewish Studies* Fall 2022 issue, in the Archives Matter section, contributed by Shyla Seller, Director of Collections.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 COLLECTION DONORS

Robert Armstrong, The Azrieli Foundation, Margaret B., Lee Coulter, Erika Galinskaya, Jean Gerber, Shelagh Genuis, Robert Krell, Shoshana Krell, Kit Krieger, Marsha Lederman, Ed Lewin, Stuart Michelson, Peter Moogk, Hart Snider, Timothy Taylor, John Trainor, Mark Weintraub, Kathryn Woodward, Yosef Wosk.

The Felix Kuppenheim fonds was donated by Timothy Taylor and Shelagh Genuis in 2022. Felix Kuppenheim, a German Jew from Pforzheim, wrote thousands of pages of correspondence and diaries, exchanged between him and his brother, Hans, on subjects including the persecution of Jews in Germany, efforts to flee the Nazi regime, the separation and fates of family members, emigration to Ecuador, the suicides of their parents to avoid deportation to Gurs, as well as politics and cultural matters. This is the largest aggregation of papers belonging to a single individual ever acquired by the VHEC.



Yizkor books on display at the Sidney & Gertrude Zack gallery.



“I believe that the VHEC archives have a significant impact on preserving history, honouring the memories of those affected by the Holocaust, and promoting education, social justice, and human rights. By digitizing and processing these materials to make them accessible, I feel that I am contributing to this important work. It’s a very rewarding experience to be a part of something that aligns with my passions and values of supporting Holocaust education and commemoration.”

Amanda Alster

VHEC Digitization Assistant

Amanda Alster has been working at the VHEC for more than two years in archives and collections. In her role as digitization assistant, she processes donations and digitizes documents, which are then housed on the VHEC online collections portal, accessible to researchers and students all over the world.

Amanda’s maternal grandparents’ families were Jews who immigrated from Russia and Austria and settled in New York. Her great-grandmother survived pogroms in Russia and suffered fear and trauma as a result. Her grandfather experienced antisemitism in looking for work in New York, but eventually found a job in the garment district and even went on to own a suit and coat factory. Hearing these stories as a child instilled in Amanda a sense of activism and motivated her to take a stand against prejudice and racism. Amanda’s grandparents passed away when she was young, and there wasn’t a large Jewish community where she grew up. As a result, she developed an interest in learning more about Jewish history and culture, including learning Yiddish, which her maternal grandparents spoke. Amanda has taken introductory Yiddish classes and hopes to pursue this further.

Amanda did her undergraduate degree in cultural anthropology at Humboldt State University, exploring the themes of trauma, guilt, memory, apologies, forgiveness and reparations after the Holocaust. She then pursued a dual master’s in information and archival studies at UBC where she cultivated an interest in personal and community archives. She is interested in exploring the ways that archival work can be used to achieve justice and bring about positive social change. It was during her studies at UBC that she connected with the VHEC.

EXHIBITIONS

The VHEC returned to in-person exhibitions, allowing visitors to once again get a personal look at the artefacts of the Holocaust, while also maintaining digital exhibitions that broaden access to our materials.

2	7	400+	127	10,000
exhibitions at the VHEC	interactive online exhibitions	visited exhibitions at the VHEC	reference queries answered	viewers experienced our online exhibitions



ON-SITE EXHIBITIONS

After a two-year hiatus, the VHEC was able to welcome back school groups and other visitors to our exhibition space.

Treasured Belongings: The Hahn Family & the Search for a Stolen Legacy

Concluding its successful run in June 2022, *Treasured Belongings* told the story of the German-Jewish Hahn family as they experienced various stages of Nazi persecution, the family's separation and displacement, loss of property and businesses, confiscation of their renowned collection of silver Judaica and fine art, the murder of their parents, and their post-war quest for justice. The exhibition featured nearly 100 primary sources, including rare artefacts, personal correspondence, photographs, artwork and official documents.

In Focus: The Holocaust through the VHEC Collection

The 2018 exhibition *In Focus* was re-mounted in November 2022 with many never-before-displayed artefacts from the VHEC collection. Ninety-one rare artefacts and archival records are thematically arranged in the exhibition to convey the personal stories of survivors in our community and the broader historical causes of the Holocaust. In 2022 we began developing a companion exhibition that highlights the VHEC's unique collection of Nazi propaganda targeted at youth. This new exhibition, *Age of Influence: Youth & Nazi Propaganda*, opened in March 2023.

ONLINE EXHIBITIONS

Demand for online programs and exhibitions remained high, despite pandemic restrictions easing and the re-opening of our physical exhibition space. Our online exhibitions are developed from physical exhibitions. They present exhibition materials in a digital forum accessible to

anyone in the world with a computer and an internet connection.

In 2022 the VHEC hosted seven online exhibitions and tours seen by nearly 10,000 viewers:

- *Faces of Loss: Remembering Those Who Perished*
- *"Enemy Aliens": The Internment of Jewish Refugees in Canada, 1940–1943*
- *More Than Just Games: Canada and the 1936 Olympics*
- *Nuremberg: Justice in the Aftermath of the Holocaust*
- *Open Hearts – Closed Doors*
- *Rhodes and the Holocaust: One Survivor's Story*
- *Treasured Belongings* virtual tour

An online version of *Treasured Belongings* is currently in development, and we are developing an extension of the exhibition *In Focus* for the Digital Museum of Canada, scheduled to launch in 2023/24.

"[Treasured Belongings] gave students more context to survivor stories of the Holocaust and helped them to understand that there were real people behind the statistics."

Grade 10 teacher, Fraser Academy

"This is a must-have experience for your students. The exhibit is both interesting and informative. Students are engaged from the moment they walk into the Centre. My only complaint: time went way too fast!"

Grade 7 teacher, Queen of All Saints School



In Focus exhibition. Photo by Rachel Topham.

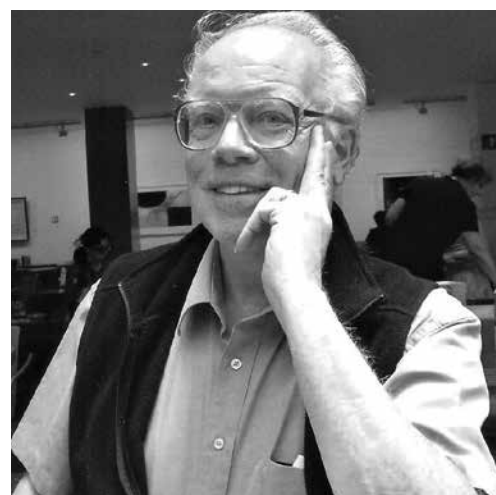
Dr. Peter Moogk

Long-time artefact donor and supporter of the VHEC

The VHEC maintains significant holdings of Nazi and antisemitic propaganda that bear witness to centuries of anti-Jewish hatred. Most of these artefacts were donated to the VHEC by Dr. Peter Moogk, a long-time collector of Holocaust-related artefacts and professor emeritus (history) at the University of British Columbia. In 2022, several of Peter's donations—a menorah, documents, and currency from Sternberg, Germany, dating from the eighteenth century to the Second World War—featured in *In Focus: The Holocaust through the VHEC Collection*.

Peter Moogk comes from a Protestant Christian family with strong connections to Jews, including business connections from his great-grandfather's wholesale fruit import-export business to his father's circle of art collectors. Peter's family lived in the Netherlands in the 1950s, where his father was Air and Military Attache in the Canadian embassy at The Hague. Peter attended Eerde Quaker School, established in 1934 to provide German Jewish students with a harassment-free education. After the Germans occupied the Netherlands in 1940, fourteen students from the school were captured and murdered by the Nazis. The trial of Adolf Eichmann in 1960–61 had a profound effect on Peter, revealing the industrial scale of murder under the Nazis, killing people like his fellow students from Jewish families at Central Collegiate in Regina. When he attended the University of Saskatchewan Regina campus in the 1960s, he organized a branch of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews to promote mutual understanding.

As a professor Peter included a Holocaust component in his European history course, partly because he wanted to understand how an apparently cultured people—Germans and Austrians—could be converted to a hateful and destructive ideology. That led him to start collecting Third Reich publications and artefacts, as well as evidence of the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. One of his most significant finds is a series of photographs made from negatives taken between 1938 and 1942 by the Stapf Bilderdienst, the official press photographic agency in Amsterdam and, after German occupation, the photographic propaganda service for the German administration and the Dutch Nazis. Over the years, Peter has donated hundreds of photographs, documents and artefacts to the VHEC. His donations have appeared in many exhibitions, and have served researchers all over the world. A companion exhibition to *In Focus*, called *Age of Influence*, about Nazi propaganda directed at youth, is currently on display, and features many more of Peter's artefacts.



“The value of artefacts, photographs and documents from a certain time is that, as tangible evidence, they have authority and are persuasive. Showing students a German passport with a large red J stamped on the front page, or a yellow cloth star of David that was to be sewn on clothes, provides undeniable proof of discrimination against Jews in the Third Reich. I supplemented my lectures and seminars with physical items from the period or event being studied. They had a dramatic impact that words alone could not have.”

HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SERVICES

Building and sustaining communities for survivors.



This year the child survivor group and Russian survivor group were thrilled to resume in-person meetings for the first time since before the pandemic. These two groups met monthly at the VHEC. In addition, the child survivor group held monthly virtual meetings over Zoom.

THE VHEC PARTNERS WITH JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

In January, Jewish Family Services (JFS) took on the administration and coordination of the Claims Conference-funded programs, supporting case management and socialization programs for Holocaust survivors. The VHEC continues to work in partnership with JFS in delivering social programs, hosting monthly survivor

meetings and special events, and supporting the local survivor community.

SURVIVOR OUTREACH SPEAKER APPRECIATION LUNCH

In June, 12 of the VHEC's Holocaust survivor outreach speakers attended an appreciation lunch hosted by Temple Sholom in their back garden. It was a wonderful opportunity for the VHEC to share our appreciation of these dedicated survivor outreach speakers and to acknowledge their profound contributions to the work of the VHEC.

SUMMER SURVIVOR LUNCHEON AT RICHMOND COUNTRY CLUB

In June, 57 survivors attended a luncheon at the Richmond Country Club. It was a lovely

afternoon, with a catered lunch overlooking the golf course, live music, dancing and an opportunity for the broader survivor community to come together. This event was funded by the Claims Conference and organized by JFS.

CHILD SURVIVOR HANUKKAH LUNCHEON

On December 14 the child survivor group gathered to celebrate Hanukkah at the Dayson board room of the JCC, lighting menorahs, singing songs, eating latkes and sufganiyot and enjoying being together for this joyous occasion.



Child survivors, Hanukkah luncheon, December 2022.



Rudi Kovanic

“When I joined this group, it was the first time that I had been with others who had had a similar experience, of putting together a life that was not founded in the bosom of your family. Just being with this group of people who have accomplished so much in their lives, who all have their traumas to deal with and have dealt with them in their own ways, I find this very comforting. Being a part of the group gives me at least some degree of comfort, in that there are reasons for what I did or didn’t do in my life. And other people with the same history have variations of the same kind of dilemmas.”

Rudi Kovanic, child survivor from the Czechia. Rudi travels from his home on Bowen Island by ferry each month for child survivor meetings at the VHEC.



“People are often given the opportunity to choose goodness rather than evil, this is something I seek to impart on the students. I cannot let the occasion lapse and not mention that people are often faced with choices, quandaries, what to do, what to believe. It is the attempt of education to convey to students that moral choices are eternal and often fall on innocent people.”

Tom Szekely

Survivor Speaker

Tom Szekely is a child survivor of the Holocaust who has been a dedicated survivor outreach speaker for more than thirty years, sharing his testimony with hundreds of students each year.

Tom was born in Hungary in 1935. He describes his early childhood as a happy time, until the German occupation of Hungary in 1944, at which point Tom’s father was detained and then forced to march to Mauthausen, where he died just before liberation. The rest of Tom’s remaining family had been arrested and assembled in an old school, but a family friend who belonged to the Hungarian Nationalist Socialist party, the Arrow Cross, pretended to arrest them and took the family to the Jewish ghetto where they would be safer. While there, the family learned of the intentions to liquidate the ghetto of all of the Jewish residents. Another Hungarian officer, who was sympathetic to the Jewish people, advised a prominent German general to spare the Jews of the ghetto. Tom describes that his family survived because of the actions of these two individuals, who were later bestowed the status of Righteous Among the Nations.

Tom left Hungary in 1947 and settled in Vancouver in 1974. He connected with the VHEC and joined the child survivor group. Many members of the group were sharing their testimonies with high school students as part of the VHEC education program. Tom was encouraged to share his experience and became a survivor outreach speaker.

PUBLISHING & MEDIA

Communicating engaging, accessible content about the Holocaust over multiple platforms for significant reach.

60,000

unique page views
on vhec.org

2,100

subscribers to our
general & education
e-blasts

30

books distributed

9

blog posts published

2

Zachor articles
reproduced in the
Jewish Independent

GROWING OUR ONLINE PRESENCE

Under the helm of communications consultant Lori McNulty, we launched a blog, *Latest News*, for timely and flexible communication about VHEC projects and activities. We redesigned our monthly e-newsletter for a more digestible, scannable reading experience, linking out to blog posts for in-depth information. In its third month of existence, *Latest News* was already in the top ten most visited pages on vhec.org.

We also hired a new staff member to manage social media and implement recommendation from our communications consultant, resulting in notable growth for VHEC social media platforms in 2022.

The VHEC engaged a broad audience on Facebook and Twitter, including:

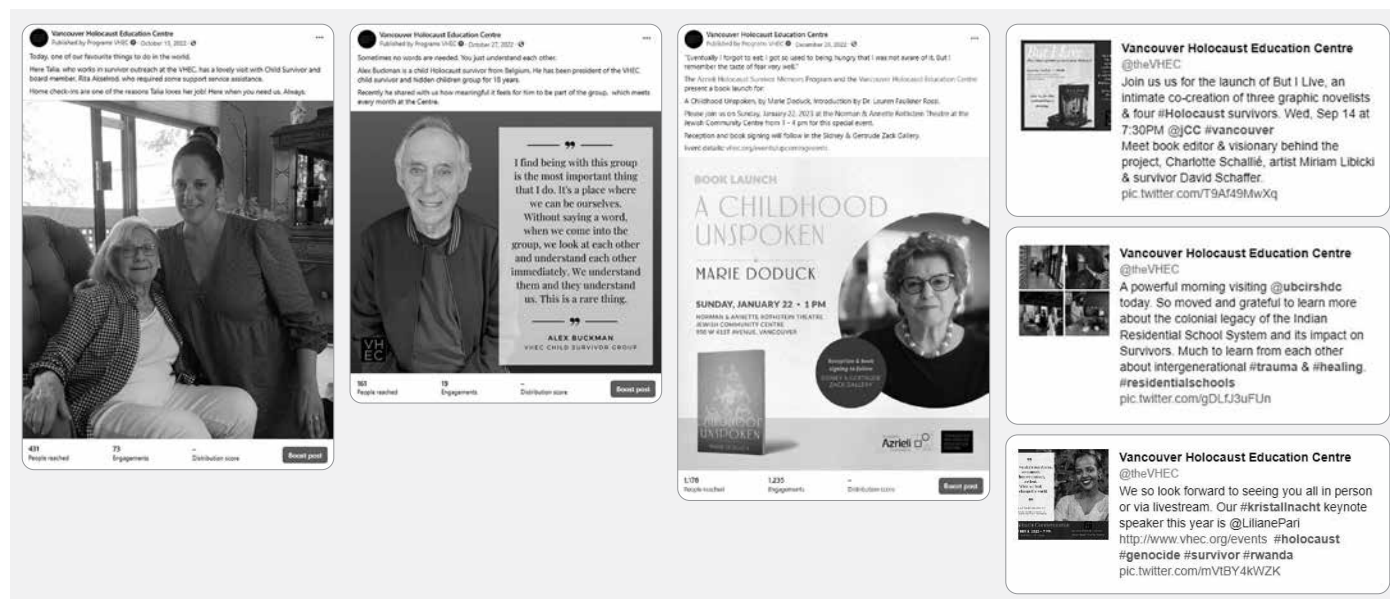
- 2,800 Facebook likes and follows
- 3,082 Twitter followers
- 17,439 Facebook users reached, up 431% from 2021
- Page visits increased by 135.5% from 2021, to 1,255 visits
- New page likes increased by 167.7%

The impact of our online presence is significant, fostering meaningful discussions, inspiring action and raising awareness of Holocaust education and human rights advocacy.

ZACHOR

The VHEC developed and published the work of 19 contributors in two issues of *Zachor*, our biannual magazine, circulation 1,300 copies per issue. In a 2022 VHEC member survey, 73% of respondents cited *Zachor* as an important or very important benefit of membership, and 97% of members said they read *Zachor*.

A reader from the Okanagan highlighted that *Zachor* helped them feel connected to the work of the VHEC and called the magazine excellent: "Learn from it each time."



FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT

We are grateful for the strong support of our dedicated donors and members. Your 2022 donations ensured the delivery of engaging and inspiring educational programs, exhibitions and commemorative events.

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

The VHEC's annual campaign launched on June 1, 2022. Donations were tripled thanks to a generous pledge of \$50,000 by Marilyn and Robert Krell and a \$50,000 pledge from a group of passionate and committed donors. This campaign raised more than \$144,000.

Donations ensured that the lessons of the Holocaust continue to inspire students and community members in confronting injustice, antisemitism, and Holocaust denial and distortion.

Our new workshop on moral courage explores the heroic actions of Holocaust rescuers and teaches young people the importance of moral decision making in the face of injustice. A new exhibition on the timely topic of rescue during the Holocaust is in development and set to open in 2024.

We are preparing for the time when there are no longer eyewitnesses to the Holocaust by producing new digital content that will preserve, document and expand accessibility to survivor testimony.

Our exhibition *Age of Influence: Youth & Nazi Propaganda* helps audiences understand the key role of propaganda in the Holocaust. The exhibit challenges viewers to look critically at the techniques used by Nazi propagandists to influence youth and encourages the development of media literacy skills, giving viewers the tools to recognize disinformation and distortion in the media they consume.

To learn more or to donate, please visit vhed.org/donate, call 604-264-0499 or email info@vhed.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Our 2022 membership campaign raised \$71,552! VHEC members are dedicated to fighting racism, antisemitism and hate in all of its forms, and to building a more just and inclusive society.

Special thanks to Peter Voormeij, a child Holocaust survivor and the VHEC child survivor group for making this campaign a success: Robbie Waisman, Alex Buckman^zl, Lillian Boraks-Nemetz, René Goldman, Mariette Doduck, Amalia Boe-Fishman, Miriam Dattel, Peter Suedfeld, Tom Szekely, Claude Romney and Serge Haber.

Thank you kindly to everyone who responded to our first survey of members and provided us with the insights we need to better prepare the VHEC for the future, and reflect the diversity of our community. The survey told us: most of our members have been with us for between three and

five years; membership is overwhelmingly driven by a desire to support Holocaust education and remembrance in British Columbia; members especially appreciate *Zachor*, our biannual magazine, and its role in keeping our community connected.

NEW ENDOWMENTS FUNDS

Jakob-Izrael & Goldstein-Reisz Families Endowment Fund

Mimi, Leo & Nancy Sweedler Endowment Fund

Initiated by Yosef Wosk:

Irwin Cotler Endowment Fund

Initiated by Dr. Robert Krell and Yosef Wosk:

Rudolf Vrba Memorial Endowment Fund

Elie Wiesel Memorial Endowment Fund

“In today’s chaotic world antisemitism is rising. It is a concept and drama that has existed for centuries, and it has to be confronted wherever it appears. The VHEC documents the history of the Holocaust, something that has to be long-remembered and never forgotten.”

Frances Belzberg, VHEC member, endowment fund donor



“I feel strongly that sharing and learning are our greatest hope of creating peace within our society. There is so much power with young minds, they are open to creating understanding and unity.”

Michelle Guez

VHEC Board Member & Chair of the Development Committee

Michelle Guez is the grandchild of Holocaust survivors. She was born in Israel and moved to Vancouver with her family at a young age. As a child she felt a special connection to her maternal grandmother, who shared with her some of her experiences of surviving the Second World War in hiding in Poland. Though she was very interested in her grandmother's experiences, she realized only as an adult the preciousness of the stories shared with her. After Michelle completed her MBA in commerce, she worked in France in market research, returning to Vancouver with her three kids and husband in 2011. Shortly thereafter she became involved with the VHEC through her friend Shoshana Krell-Lewis, organizing events and fundraisers.

Several years ago, Michelle joined the VHEC board. This year she became Chair of the Development Committee, whose purpose it is to build up the VHEC's capacity. To these ends, the Committee has focused on engaging third generation survivors and attracting young people to become involved with the VHEC, as donors, volunteers, society members or board members.

Michelle's commitment to the VHEC is grounded in her belief that the testimonies of Holocaust survivors have invaluable lessons for us, as do the stories of all people who are subject to injustice, hate crimes and crimes against humanity. Michelle believes that it's imperative for students to learn about hate crimes and discrimination not only from the Holocaust perspective. The Canadian context is particularly urgent, with Indigenous peoples experiencing extraordinary injustice still. Holocaust education can demonstrate how citizens become trapped in feeling that injustice can be tolerated and how this can lead to serious forms of hate and discrimination. “It's important to show how anyone in any community can play any role—this realization creates an awakening,” Michelle says. The goal is to teach students to be aware, to question, to be willing to speak up. This is particularly the case with social media, a powerful tool that requires attention because of how easily misinformation spreads there. Survivor testimonies are an important part of standing up to that. Students must learn to be sensitive to misinformation, to think about their sources, and ask themselves, Does this make sense? Is this something I want to support? Having VHEC programming in schools has shown that teachers are seeing the relevance of using Holocaust education as a springboard to teach against hatred of all kinds.

ENDOWMENTS

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 long-term support for our educational programs, commemorative events, exhibits and collection, as well as the publishing activities of the Centre. Endowment funds can be established at any time.

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
Claman-Mielnicki Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Irwin Cotler Endowment Fund
Lorne & Sylvia Cristall Endowment Fund
Jody & Harvey Dales Hospitality Endowment Fund
Jody & Harvey Dales Legacy Endowment Fund
Charles & Dora Davis and Family Endowment Fund
Gordon & Leslie Diamond Endowment Fund
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
Reuvane Tzvi Yehuda Feigelstock Memorial Endowment Fund
Sid & Sylvia Eibschutz Holocaust Education Endowment Fund
Pavel Eisner Memorial Fund
Erica Fleischer Memorial Endowment Fund
Steve & Eva Floris Endowment Fund
Lilli & Izak Folk Memorial Endowment Fund

Abe & Rachele Fox and Family Endowment Fund
Bertha Fraeme Endowment Fund
Max & Margaret Fugman Endowment Fund
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
Jakob-Izrael & Goldstein-Reisz Families 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
Landa & Hector Families Endowment Fund
Legacy Group Endowment Fund
Philip & Sherry Levinson Endowment Fund
Lewin Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Libin Family Endowment Fund
Lovi 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 & Avrum Miller Memorial Endowment Fund
Nemetz Family Endowment Fund: Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Arnold Nemetz, Steve Nemetz & Wendy Long, David & Franci Stratton
Pola & Henry Nutkiewicz Endowment Fund
Pinsky Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Leo Puterman Memorial Endowment Fund
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Sacks Family Endowment Fund
Dr. Mark & Tracey Schonfeld & Family Endowment Fund
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Dr. Stanley Sunshine Endowment Fund
Mimi, Leo & Nancy Sweedler Endowment Fund
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Ronnie Tessler Archives Fund
Isaac & Judith Thau Endowment Fund
Isaak & Bluma Tischler and Aron & Neri Tischler Endowment Fund
VHCS Endowment Fund
Rudolf Vrba Memorial Endowment Fund

Waisman Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Gloria & Robbie Waisman Endowment Fund
Waldman Symposium Endowment Fund
Joe & Birdie Wall Foundation Endowment Fund
Baruch Weise Endowment Fund
Elie Wiesel Memorial Endowment Fund
Joseph Wertman & Family Legacy Endowment Fund
Regina & Leo Wertman Endowment Fund
Shery & Gerald Wittenberg Endowment Fund
Miriam Wosk & Kenneth Wosk Legacy Endowment Fund
Mordechai & Hana Wosk Family Endowment Fund
Morris J. & Yosef Wosk Publishing Endowment Fund
Yosef Wosk & Family Endowment Fund
Zalkow Family Endowment Fund
Henry & Ludmila Zeldowicz Endowment Fund

The VHEC is also the recipient of funding from the following endowment funds held at the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Vancouver, the Vancouver Foundation and Gift funds:

Sarah Jackson Memorial Fund
Katz Family Endowment Fund
Krell Family Endowment Fund
Thau Family Endowment Fund
Zlotnik Family Endowment Fund

GRANTS, PARTNERSHIPS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

FOUNDATIONS

Al Roadburg Foundation

Arnie and Susan Fine Family Fund
(Jewish Community Foundation)

Azrieli Foundation

BC Turf Foundation

Bruce and Merle Ames Private Giving Fund
(Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation)

C and M Private Giving Fund
(Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation)

Chaim Zbar Foundation

Diamond Foundation

Elliot and Megan Laskin Family Fund
(Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation)

Esther Chetner Family Fund
(Jewish Community Foundation)

Evelyn Goldberg Family Philanthropic Fund
(Jewish Community Foundation)

Harvey and Jody Dales Family
Philanthropic Foundation

Howard and Simone Kallner Family Fund
(Jewish Community Foundation)

Isaac and Sophie Waldman Endowment Fund

Joanne Emerman Fund
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Joseph Segal Family Foundation

Lyle and June Karasick Foundation
(Strategic Charitable Giving Program)

Kahn Family Foundation

LARK Fund
(Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation)

Lohn Foundation

Lutsky Family Foundation

Marsid Family Foundation

Martin Arndt Family Memorial Fund
(Jewish Community Foundation)

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Michael Fugman Family Fund (GiveWise)

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The Phogg Foundation for the Pursuit
of Happiness

Ranlusa Foundation

Richard and Darlene Ames Private Giving Fund
(Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation)

Robert and Marilyn Krell
Family Foundation Fund
(Jewish Community Foundation)

Ryan and Haley Davis Family Foundation
(Vancouver Foundation)

Shaffer-Marel Giving Fund
(Nicola Wealth Private Giving Foundation)

Taeda Foundation

Vancouver Foundation

Yosef Wosk Family Foundation
(Aqueduct Foundation)

GRANTS

Canadian Heritage Museum
Assistance Fund

Canadian Museum of History
Digital Museum Canada

Canadian Race Relations Foundation

Documentary Heritage
Community Program

Jewish Community Foundation
of Greater Vancouver

Jewish Federation, Greater Vancouver

Province of British Columbia
Community Gaming Grant

Young Canada Works in Heritage
Institutions and Summer Career
Placements

CORPORATE SUPPORT

Coast Hotels

Goldman Investments Ltd.

Summit Ice Apparel

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of
Holocaust Organizations

Archives Association
of British Columbia

British Columbia
Museums Association

Canadian Museums Association

International Holocaust
Remembrance Alliance

Vantage Point

PROGRAM ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COMMEMORATION

High Holiday 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 of the Vancouver Holocaust
Education Centre and Congregation Beth Israel.
This program is also funded through contributions
to the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver
Annual Campaign.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Vancouver commemoration was programmed in
partnership with the Centre for Israel and Jewish
Affairs Pacific Region, Jewish Federation of Greater
Vancouver and the Province of BC. Richmond
commemoration was programmed in partnership
with the Bayit synagogue and the Kehila Society
of Richmond.

Yom Hashoah

Vancouver commemoration supported by the
Gail Feldman Heller and Sarah Rozenberg-Warm
endowment funds, the Jewish Federation of
Greater Vancouver, the Province of BC and the
Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver.
Victoria commemoration programmed in
partnership with the Centre for Israel and
Jewish Affairs Pacific Region.

EDUCATION

Online Symposium on the Holocaust

The VHEC is grateful to the following for their
support of symposia programming: Diamond
Foundation, Summit Ice, Michael & Rita Levy, Lohn
Foundation, David & Danya Fugman, the Vaisler
family, the Azrieli Foundation, Jewish Federation
of Greater Vancouver and the Province of BC and
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and Mary Bulles Legacy, Sid and Sylvia Eibschutz,
Lilli and Izak Folk Memorial, Edwina and Paul
Heller Holocaust Education, Leo Krell Memorial
Book, Lovi Memorial, Goldie and Avrum Miller
Memorial, Meyer and Gita Kron, Ruth Kron Sigal
for Excellence in Holocaust Education and the
Lehrer and Sophie Waldman endowment funds.

Professional Development

A Foundation for Teaching: Bringing Holocaust
Education to your Classroom workshop was
presented in partnership with Yad Vashem and the
Azrieli Foundation's Holocaust Survivor Memoirs
Program.

School Programs

Supported by the Azrieli Foundation and the
Diamond Foundation. With generous sponsorship
from the Diamond Foundation, the Vancouver
Holocaust Education Centre was pleased to offer
free admission for museum exhibition tours.

EXHIBITIONS

Treasured Belongings Online Exhibition

Exhibition 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.

With profound gratitude to the Hahn-Hayden family for entrusting
the VHEC with their materials and memories for the purpose of
advancing Holocaust education and remembrance.

Faces of Loss

Online exhibition developed by Sarah Ruediger. With thanks to the
members of the community who contributed photographs of their
families to the original exhibition.

In Focus

2022 exhibition redevelopment supported by the Marsid Family
Foundation and the Al Roadburg Foundation.

And with profound gratitude to the Holocaust survivors, their
families, and the community of individuals who have entrusted
the VHEC with their materials and memories for the purpose of
advancing Holocaust education and remembrance.

2018 exhibition supported by the Province of British Columbia
through the British Columbia | Canada 150: Celebrating B.C.
Communities and their Contributions to Canada grant program, the
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Canada, the Leon Judah Blackmore Foundation, London Drugs,
Coast Hotels, Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Vancouver,
Dr. Robert & Marilyn Krell, Leon^{†1} & Evelyn Kahn and Family, Isaac
& Judy Thau, Jody & Harvey Dales, Birgit Westergaard & Norman
Gladstone, the Ben & Esther Dayson Charitable Foundation, Rabbi
Yosef Wosk, Bob Markin & Ralph Markin^{†2}, and the Lohn Foundation.

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& Digital Content Consultant

Lisa Pullan
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Giorgia Ricciardi
Project Assistant

Illene Yu
Designer

THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

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Janos Benisz, Amalia Boe-Fishman, Lillian Boraks-Nemetz,
Alex Buckman^zl, Miriam Dattel, Mariette Doduck, René Goldman,
Serge Haber, Robert Krell, Claude Romney, Louise Sorensen^zl,
Peter Suedfeld, Tom Szekely, Leo Vogel, Peter Voormeij.

SURVIVOR SUPPORT

Gisi Levitt, Charmaine Silva

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Heacock Rivers, Gloria Joachim, Dodie Katzenstein, Lise Kirchner,
Ethel Kofsky, Lucien Lieberman, Ellen Millman, Herb Mills, Jennifer
Monroe, Hamad Abdullah Nazar, Cathy Paperny, Michelle Patton,
Erin Salh, Gita Silver, Laurie Simpkins, Lotti Smith, Rina Vizer, Jeff
Weissler, Anita Willson.

DOCENT ADVISORY

Helen Heacock Rivers, Anita Willson

TEACHER ADVISORY

Ryan Chapman, Eyal Daniel, Mark Figuera, Stephanie Henderson,
Lindsay Hutchison, Dale Martelli, Andrea Webb, Anna-Mae
Wiesenthal, Emily Winckler.

INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance,

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance (the Society) that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2022, 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 (ASNPO), 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, 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with ASNPO.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Societies Act of British Columbia, we report that, in our opinion, the accounting policies applied in preparing and presenting the financial statements in accordance with the Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-profit Organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.



Sanders, Russell & Company
Chartered Professional Accountants

Richmond, B.C.
June 14, 2023

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year ending December 31, 2022

The financial position of the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance declined in the year ending December 31, 2022; the Society's net assets decreased by \$427,210 (2021 – increase of \$741,372) due to a dismal year in financial markets and an increase in the deficiency of revenues over expenses due to an increase in operating costs. Additionally, the Society's endowment fund received \$89,343 in contributions, while the portfolio experienced an approximate return of -5%. Operating revenues increased by \$340,596 (2021 – increase of \$63,859) during the year. The Society received \$302,900 (2021 – \$305,552) in general donations from its members and supporters, over and above its membership dues of \$62,396 (2021 – \$62,991). The Society maintained its level of receipts from fundraising activities, with a total of \$216,436 (2021 – \$230,599) generated. General operating expenditures increased by \$593,429 (2021 – increase of \$184,424), including an increase of \$332,143 in wages expense (2021 – \$120,627 increase). The Society experienced a deficiency of \$516,553 during 2022 (2021 – surplus of \$614,241). The deficiency includes an unrealized loss on marketable securities of \$408,410 (2021 – unrealized gains of \$514,023) and realized losses of \$13,718 (2021 – loss of \$1,147). The current year's operating deficit, before accounting for investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses and other items, was \$284,154 (2021 – deficit of \$31,321). The deficit when adding investment

income generated by the portfolio was \$96,207 (2021 – surplus of 101,811). The Society is generally dependent on endowment portfolio returns in the form of yield and capital appreciation, to supplement its deficiency from operations. The Board has supported the Society's increase in wages and benefits expense incurred in the past two years in an effort to grow and better meet the staffing needs of the organization and is comfortable with the increase in expenses due to an increase in sustainable grant revenue and a return to a normalized fixed income rate environment, which will provide a materially higher level of dependable investment income to support 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 Board would like to acknowledge the extraordinary effort of staff and volunteers and the generosity of community funders who have contributed to the Society's healthy financial position and a resumption of pre-pandemic operations.



Joshua Sorin

Treasurer

ABBREVIATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2022 (Unaudited)

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Assets		
Current Assets – Unrestricted	\$ 246,675	\$ 344,367
Cash – Restricted	10,230	10,143
Collections	1	1
Tangible Capital Assets	67,047	151,700
Holocaust Education Centre	868,200	931,178
Investments	4,923,825	5,442,817
	<u>\$ 6,115,978</u>	<u>\$ 6,880,206</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities – Unrestricted	\$ 61,529	\$ 36,062
Current liabilities – Restricted – Deferred Special Projects Contributions	261,590	491,856
Deferred contributions - permanent exhibit - renewal project and JWest project	174,448	306,667
Net Assets	<u>5,618,411</u>	<u>6,045,621</u>
	<u>\$ 6,115,978</u>	<u>\$ 6,880,206</u>

ABBREVIATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022 (Unaudited)

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Revenues		
General grants, specific projects	\$ 464,258	\$ 160,515
Donations and tribute cards	302,900	305,552
Fundraisers	216,436	230,597
General grants, renewal project	139,418	139,418
On-going program revenues	116,909	12,935
Memberships	62,396	62,991
Azrieli Foundation grant	50,000	50,000
Government grants	38,632	43,483
Jewish Federation grant	28,000	28,000
Exhibits admission revenues	4,920	3,415
Annual program revenue	1,000	-
Government assistance	-	26,904
Claims Conference grants	-	20,463
	<u>\$ 1,424,869</u>	<u>\$ 1,084,273</u>
Expenses		
Administrative expenditures	\$ 1,352,157	\$ 959,436
Annual programs	97,546	12,880
On-going programs	207,922	65,593
Exhibit costs – specific projects	40,816	70,355
Fundraising expenses	10,582	7,330
	<u>\$ 1,709,023</u>	<u>\$ 1,115,594</u>
Deficiency of revenues over expenses from operations	<u>\$ (284,154)</u>	<u>\$ (31,321)</u>
Other income (expenses)		
Loss on sale of marketable securities	\$ (13,718)	\$ (1,147)
Unrealized (loss) gain on marketable securities	(408,410)	514,023
Realized gain in foreign exchange	14,130	-
Unrealized loss on foreign exchange	(12,348)	(446)
Income from investments measured at cost	9,486	9,350
Income from investments measured at fair market	178,461	123,782
	<u>\$ (232,399)</u>	<u>\$ 645,562</u>
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	<u>\$ (516,553)</u>	<u>\$ 614,241</u>

ABBREVIATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022 (Unaudited)

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 6,045,621	\$ 5,304,249
(Deficit) surplus of revenues over expenditures	(516,553)	614,241
Named endowment contributions	\$ 89,343	\$ 127,131
Balance, end of year	\$ 5,618,411	\$ 6,045,621

ABBREVIATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended December 31, 2022(Unaudited)

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Cash Provided for (Used by) Operating Activities	\$ (440,120)	\$ 179,132
Cash Used for Investing Activities		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	\$ (9,526)	\$ (7,466)
Proceeds on sale of marketable securities	621,348	503,353
Purchase of investment portfolio securities	(484,173)	(1,170,575)
Redemption of Israel Bonds	69,130	-
Change in restricted cash flow	(87)	(20)
	\$ 196,692	\$ (674,708)
Cash provided by Financing Activities		
Endowment contributions	83,856	127,131
	\$ 83,856	\$ 127,131
Increase in Cash	\$ (159,572)	\$ (368,445)
Cash, beginning of year	313,766	682,211
Cash, end of year	\$ 154,194	\$ 313,766

LIFE FELLOW RECIPIENTS

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

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

