



Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES)

Newsletter, Vol. 3, No. 1, December 2022

Words from Chair Mina Cohn



Throughout October and November, CHES' activities included the Pre-IWalk Tours, the exhibit *For the Child*, with its inspiring opening event, Holocaust Education Month (HEM) program preparations, a fundraising campaign, fighting antisemitism in our schools, working with the Ministry of Education, participating in RISE UP Ottawa, and promoting CHES to the community. [Read more.](#)

Für das Kind/For the Child - The Story of the Kindertransport Exhibit Launch

By Kara Godwin

CHES, in partnership with the Embassy of Austria and the British High Commission, held the opening event of the Kindertransport photo exhibit at Ottawa City Hall. The exhibit consists of 21 images by artists **Rosie Potter** and **Patricia Ayre** and tells the little-known story of the Kindertransport through images of the children's luggage, family notes, and reflections of the child survivors.

[Read More](#)



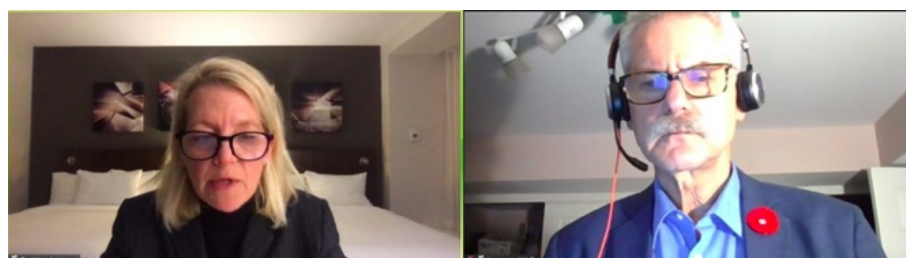
Honorable Irwin Cotler (top left) and Brayden Emberley (bottom right) spoke at the opening event of *Für das Kind/For the Child* at Ottawa City Hall.

A Resounding Success: Holocaust Education Month Recap

Dr. Wendy Lower's "The Ravine: A Family, a Photograph, a Holocaust Massacre Revealed"

By Marion Silver

It is 1941 in Ukraine. Soldiers wearing Red Army coats and armbands are positioned in collaboration with German soldiers. They are standing on top of a ravine with their rifles poised. A woman in a polka-dotted dress is bent over, holding the hand of a child. There are shoes on the ground, but their owner is unseen. The scene is punctuated by a burst of gunfire. Such is the subject of a photograph explored by Dr. **Wendy Lower**. [Read More](#)



Dr. Wendy Lower and Emcee Laurence Wall of CBC Ottawa



Dr. Debórah Dwork

Symposium for the Second Generation

By Marion Silver

An audience of second-generation Holocaust survivors was treated to two outstanding presentations on November 14th.

In *Holding on Through Letters: Jewish Families during the Holocaust*, historian and writer, **Dr. Debórah Dwork** focused on **Elisabeth Luz**, an unmarried, middle-aged, Protestant woman living in Stäfa, neutral Switzerland.

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“Creating Safe Spaces: Navigating the Language of Antisemitism” *Virtual Teachers’ Workshop* *Attracts Local Educators*

By Minda Chaikin

An important virtual Teachers’ Workshop was held by CHES on November 17th for 70 educators from the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) and the Ottawa Catholic School Board (OCSB), both of which promoted the workshop to their teachers.

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Some of the participants in Avi Posen’s workshop.



Local Universities Host a Conference to Fight Antisemitism

By Mina Cohn and Artur Wilczynski

CHES commends the organizers of *Combatting Antisemitism on Campuses: A Convening to Engage, Educate, & Empower Faculty*.

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RISE UP Ottawa

By Lisa Levitan

Hundreds of Ottawa’s Jewish community came together on November 6th to participate in the first annual RISE UP Ottawa event. The immensely successful afternoon focused on education, engagement, and learning about the unprecedented rise of antisemitism in Ottawa schools. [Read More.](#)



Tracks leading to the Sobibór railway yard.
Photo Jacques Lahitte.

Archaeology of the Holocaust: Unearthing Physical Evidence at Sobibor

Since 2015, archaeologist **Denis Renaud** has taught a module on the archaeology of the Holocaust in his class, “Méthodes et techniques archéologiques” (CLA-2510) at the University of Ottawa. The main goal of the class is to prepare students for an actual dig in the field. A practical exercise, such as a mini dig in plastic bins, is done in the classroom. This simulation is appreciated by students who say it prepares them for the dig.

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All donations contribute directly to the development and promotion of Holocaust Education programs and are eligible for a tax receipt.

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