



## Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES)

Newsletter, Vol. 6, No. 3, September 2026

### Words from CHES Chair Mina Cohn



CHES Chair Mina Cohn

As summer wanes and we reflect on a very busy period at CHES, I am pleased to share that one of our major projects was the much-needed update of the CHES website. With technology and user expectations constantly evolving, we knew it was time to bring our online presence up to date and create a more engaging experience for our members and visitors. [Read more](#)

### Michal Cotler-Wunsh to Open Holocaust Education Month 2026 — Not to be missed!

By CHES Secretary Marion Silver

**Michal Cotler-Wunsh**, LL.B., LL.M, a leading international human rights lawyer, expert on antisemitism, and CEO of the International Legal Forum will deliver the keynote address to open Holocaust Education Month 2026 on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. [Read more](#)



Michal Cotler-Wunsh

### CHES Workshops Prepare Teachers for Ontario's New Grade 10 Holocaust Curriculum



Kenra Mroz, Alyssa Novick, and Paul Gowans prepare for the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation workshop.

By CHES Vice-Chair Alyssa Novick

This fall, Ontario history teachers will begin implementing the new Grade 10 Canadian History curriculum requirements that place a stronger focus on Holocaust Education. To support educators, CHES will be offering two professional development workshops designed to provide both historical context and practical classroom resources. [Read more](#)

### 3<sup>RD</sup> Generation Descendants Remember and Celebrate Together



(R to L): Jenny Shinder, Tracy Pulvermacher, Mina Cohn, Orly Fremeth, Howard Fremeth, and Dana Strauss.

**By Jenny Shinder**

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, CHES hosted a dessert reception at the home of **Jenny and Jason Shinder**, bringing together more than 20 3<sup>RD</sup> G descendants of Holocaust survivors. It was an opportunity for grandchildren and descendants of survivors to come together, discover connections through our shared family histories, and begin building a community of our own. [Read more](#)

## CHES Joins International Roundtable on the Fight Against Online Antisemitism

**By CHES Director Artur Wilczynski**

In June, **CHES Chair Mina Cohn** and **Director Artur Wilczynski** participated in a roundtable on international approaches to fighting online antisemitism. Entitled *International Approaches to the Fight Against Online Antisemitism* and sponsored by the Embassy of Israel and moderated by University of Ottawa **Professor Michael Geist**. [Read more](#)



(R to L): Lawyer Warren Kinsella, Professor Michael Geist, Ambassador of Israel Iddo Moed, and Ambassador of the Netherlands Margriet Vonno

## CHES and Federation Continue Work to Counter Antisemitic Hate

Over the course of the summer, CHES and the Jewish Federation of Ottawa continued to work with Strategy Corporation to develop and refine training modules to counter antisemitic hate crimes in Ottawa. Efforts have been focused on developing train-the-trainer sessions to address contemporary forms of antisemitism with scheduling of the sessions being planned. It is hoped that CHES members will consider volunteering for these efforts. A campaign to promote these sessions and recruitment of volunteers will be undertaken in the coming weeks.

## Germany Close Up: A Unique, Immersive Educational Program



Germany Up Close, founded in 2007, has since brought 250 participants to Germany. Photo Credit: DAAD

**By CHES Vice-Chair Shirley Siegel**

CHES, in cooperation with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and in partnership with Hillel Ottawa, has brought together a group of current and former Jewish university students to participate in *Germany Close Up: North American Jews Meet Modern Germany*. [Read more](#)



# Memorial Scrolls Trust Torah Coming to Parliament Hill

By Evelyn Lazare

During WWII, the Nazis confiscated an estimated 30,000 Torah scrolls from across Europe. An untold number were destroyed; others were damaged through fire, flooding, and vandalism. A very few made their way to safety. [Read more](#)



Please follow CHES on Social Media—[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [WhatsApp](#), and [LinkedIn](#)—where each month we share the powerful stories of Holocaust survivors and survivors’ family members.

Donate now

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

CHES is accepting donations of securities-in-kind.  
CHES now offers a Legacy Program.

Please visit the [CHES Legacy program for more information](#).

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