



# A TASTE OF home

AV 5777 | SUMMER 2017



## Toronto/Winnipeg Tourney Honours Richard Tapper



### FUNDS RAISED FOR CAMP MASSAD ENDOWMENT FUND

It's an annual event that celebrates Camp Massad, community, sports, philanthropy, and leadership. Richard Tapper<sup>z</sup> would approve.

On two separate evenings in May, more than 60 players gathered in Toronto and more than 70 in Winnipeg for the third annual Richard Tapper Memorial Floor Hockey Tournament. Tapper, a beloved member of Winnipeg's Jewish community, passed away in 2012 at the age of 35.

"The idea to do a tournament in Richard's honour actually started in Winnipeg and Toronto simultaneously. He had a lot of friends in both cities," says Paul Chodirker, who moved from Winnipeg to Toronto with his family in 1997. "When he passed away, we all knew we had to do something to celebrate him. The tournament was a type of catharsis."

Chodirker, a lawyer with Gilbert's LLP, became friends with Tapper at Camp Massad despite a four-year age difference.

"He was the most selfless person I've ever known. He always put others first and always had a positive attitude," says Chodirker. "His passing left a big hole. The tournament helps keep his memory alive."



One of the six Toronto teams

The funds raised in the first year were used to enhance and expand a cabin at Massad. In the second year, an amphitheatre was added to the cabin, now known as "Mecaz Tapper" ("Tapper Centre"). By year three, the whole project was paid for, so Massad officials and tournament organizers agreed to put all new money raised into the Richard Tapper Memorial Fund, housed under Camp Massad's organizational endowment fund. In 2017, about \$8,000 was raised (about half in each city).

"Richard was a Massadnik through and through – a truly dynamic personality," says Danial Sprintz, Massad's Executive Director. "He always wanted to inspire young people to think more about leadership and community. He embodied everything Massad stands for: Jewish identity, creativity, inclusiveness, and kindness."

Tapper, who at one time was the youngest signer in the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba's Endowment Book of Life, was a respected chiropractor and a great athlete.

"Richard devoted himself to bringing out the best in others," adds Sprintz. "I think Paul and 130-plus floor hockey players are evidence of that."

## Stay IN Touch

Do you know someone who lives outside of Winnipeg who would enjoy receiving newsletters from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba?

Please let us know!

Phone  
204.477.7520

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Email  
[info@jewishfoundation.org](mailto:info@jewishfoundation.org)



Toronto organizers  
Lainey and  
Paul Chodirker





# BB Alum David Klein Pays it Forward

## NEW FUND SUPPORTS CAMPERSHIPS

When David Klein stepped onto Town Island in 2014 for a B’nai Brith Camp alumni reunion, he was overcome by a deep sense of nostalgia and a deep desire to give back to a community that made his attendance at camp possible.

“My father passed away when I was 11,” says Klein, 63. “Our family was poor and couldn’t afford summer camp. My three siblings and I were able to go to BB Camp because of donors from the Jewish community.”

Klein, now a resident of Vancouver, describes his summers at BB as “transformative”. He attended three sessions every summer for six consecutive summers. “I looked forward to it all year,” says Klein. “I was in an advanced academic program at Faraday School and was the only Jewish kid in my class. It was a lonely time. At BB, I connected with kids from the previous summer and everyone was the same – rich, poor, north, south. I was like everyone else, and everyone else was like me.”



Klein, wearing white, at BB Camp in the late 1960s

Klein recently decided that it was time to give back and help kids in financial need to attend BB Camp. He established the Klein Family Campership Fund with \$36,000 representing \$2,000 for each of the 18 sessions he was at camp. “I figured it was about time I paid my camp dues,” he jokes.

“BB taught me to play well with others, it taught me how to work as part of a team, and it taught me to be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others. It also gave me a strong sense of Jewishness and the values that encompasses,” says Klein. “The decision to make this gift is a direct result of what I gained from the BB experience.”



The Klein Family: (L-R) Aaron, David, Alison, wife Gerri, Aden

*If you would like to ensure that any child in our community who wants a Jewish camping experience will have one, please contact Rob Berkowits, Director of Development & Gift Planning, by telephone 204.477.7522 or toll-free from the US/Canada at 1.855.284.1918 or by email at [rob@jewishfoundation.org](mailto:rob@jewishfoundation.org).*



### –JEWISH COMMUNITY– CAMPERSHIP FUND

### LET EVERY JEWISH CHILD HAVE A SPECIAL SUMMER

Each and every year, our community’s summer sleepover camps accept many campers whose families can’t afford to pay the full tuition – including many newcomers to the community. B’nai Brith Jewish Community Camp and Camp Massad never refuse a camper who can’t pay. And Jewish Child and Family Service makes sure that Jewish foster kids can have Jewish summer camping experiences.

Six years ago, recognizing that increasing support for community camps had become an essential community priority, the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba launched the Jewish Community Campership Fund. As of June 2017, this fund holds over \$735,000.

Based on recent trends, we can say with certainty that our Jewish community camps will need ongoing support to help subsidize tuitions for campers whose families cannot afford to pay. We will learn about these needs before camp, during the summer, and even after the camping season.

**The need will be immediate.**  
**The impact will be enormous.**



For more information about the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, please call or visit our office on the 4th floor of the Asper Jewish Community Campus.  
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