



# THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

APRIL 2015 | NISSAN 5775



## JFM funds “bikur cholim” initiative at JCFS

### Visiting the ill is a vital practice in Jewish life

“The mitzvah of visiting the sick goes back to the Torah when G-d visited Abraham after his bris,” explained Al Benarroch, Executive Director of Jewish Child and Family Service (JCFS). “Visiting the sick – bikur cholim, in Hebrew – is a core Jewish value.”

The Jewish Foundation of Manitoba recently granted \$6,000 to JCFS for a pilot program to train volunteer visitors. JCFS will select volunteers and train them using a widely accepted and very successful best practices curriculum.

“The training will equip volunteer visitors with basic counselling skills and some Jewish teachings relevant to

the experience of bikur cholim,” said Benarroch. “Also, we expect that the first cohort of 10–12 volunteers will mentor later volunteers.”

Currently, there are a few individuals in the community who take it upon themselves to visit Jewish patients in hospitals, and rabbis will typically visit ill congregants. At the same time, the backbone of bikur cholim in the community is the JCFS chaplaincy program with Rabbi Yitzchok Charytan.

“Rabbi Charytan is a wonderful and compassionate man – an ideal visitor! But he makes about 2,000 visits a year to hospitals, penitentiaries, Jewish residents

of non-Jewish personal care homes, and the Manitoba Developmental Centre in Portage la Prairie,” said Benarroch. “It’s a lot of work for one person! Our new visitors will support the chaplaincy program and help us reach more people, more often.”

Visitors will bring holiday treats as well as challah and grape juice for Shabbat, while sharing words of compassion and comfort.

Said Benarroch: “Our goal is to bring a Jewish feeling and connection to people who are vulnerable and possibly isolated. That’s part of what community is about.”

**JFM WEATHER FORECAST:**  
**WATCH FOR FROST ON OCTOBER 29**  
SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS



# RRIF Helps Donor Achieve Philanthropic Goals

## Ted Lyons grows his JFM endowment fund with retirement income



Dr. Ted Lyons, O.C., might not be planning his retirement just yet, but he is planning his philanthropy.

At 71-years-old, Lyons is still working full-time as a radiologist in Winnipeg. It's been his field since graduating in 1973.

Over his career, he contributed regularly to his Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP). Because he is 71, he is compelled by law to convert his RRSP into a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) and withdraw taxable income. Because he is still working, he doesn't feel the need to withdraw from his RRIF for his livelihood. Instead, Ted Lyons and his wife Harriet are using RRIF

withdrawals to build their "Leave More Than Memories Fund" at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba.

"When I withdraw from my RRIF, I need to pay income tax," explained Lyons. "By donating that money instead to my JFM fund, the charitable tax benefit just about offsets the additional tax I have to pay. More important, it is a wonderful way to grow a fund that matters to me very much."

The Leave More Than Memories Fund is the endowment fund of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg/Combined Jewish Appeal. Lyons is a long-time donor and active volunteer, having served a term as the Federation's President.

"The strategy of using my RRIF will help me achieve my ultimate goal of being able to match my current annual CJA gift in perpetuity through the endowment fund," he explained.

Lyons has also served as Chair of the Saul & Claribel Simkin Centre, President

of Congregation Shaarey Zedek, and President of both the Manitoba and Canadian Associations of Radiologists. For him, community service and philanthropy are essential pieces of a life well-lived.

"As more and more people work past the traditional retirement age, I hope more people will consider using their RRIF withdrawals for charitable purposes," said Lyons. "For tax and community-building reasons, it's a sound strategy."

“For tax and community-building reasons, it’s a sound strategy.”

For active radiologist Ted Lyons, you could say it's *ultrasound*.

For more information on contributing RRIF withdrawals to the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, contact **Marsha Cowan, Chief Executive Officer,** or **Ian Barnes, Chief Financial Officer.**  
**Phone: 204.477.7520**  
**Toll Free: 1.855.284.1918**

THERE'S NO SUCH THING



AS A FORMER WINNIPEGGER

## Arnie and Valerie Lowenstein BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

"I've been away from Winnipeg since 1977. That's a long time," reflects Arnie Lowenstein, a Boston-based management consultant. "Still, your roots can only be in one place and we have great memories of growing up in Winnipeg."

One of the ways that Lowenstein and his wife Valerie (née Labovitch) stay connected to their beloved Winnipeg is through their philanthropy with the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba.

Arnie Lowenstein's parents, Pauline and Rudy, were JFM donors and signers of the Endowment Book of Life. When they passed away, Arnie and his brothers, Howie and Jeff, started a new fund in their memory to provide an award to a Grade 12 student with the highest achievement in Hebrew studies at Gray Academy of Jewish Education.

And when Loretta Labovitch, Valerie Lowenstein's mother, passed away, Valerie and Arnie set up a fund in her honour as part of the Rady Jewish Community Centre Endowment Fund. The fund is to support camperships at Rady JCC Summer Day Camps.

The Lowensteins make their contributions through Jewish Foundation of Manitoba USA, Inc., an independent entity established in 2004 to help a growing number of Americans wanting to support the Foundation with tax deductible contributions.

"Contributing through JFM USA is very convenient," says Lowenstein. "And it's our honour to support the Winnipeg Jewish community through the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba."







A Women's Endowment Fund grant will help Habitat for Humanity purchase tools specifically designed for women.

## WEF Grants Build Community... and Houses

Habitat for Humanity one of six charities to benefit from recent grants

Thanks to the JFM Women's Endowment Fund (WEF), Habitat for Humanity's "Women Build" this coming spring will be a little easier and a little brighter for dozens of volunteers.

A grant of \$2,290 was approved by the WEF Committee in November 2014, and confirmed by the Foundation's Board of Directors in December. The funds will be used to purchase construction tools specifically designed for women, as well as volunteer t-shirts.

"Our 'Women Build' is a key component of our program which encourages women to learn construction and leadership skills,"

said Kim Wilson, Habitat for Humanity's Director of Development. "For their Blitz Build in May, we'll have 200 volunteers in total building a home on Atlantic Avenue for a disadvantaged family."

After completing their "sweat-equity," the family will purchase their home with affordable mortgage terms, giving them the hand-up they need to have a better future.

"'Women Build' helps us equip women to take on leadership roles in our projects," said Wilson. "We're grateful to the Jewish Foundation's Women's Endowment Fund for its support."

### OTHER WEF GRANTS APPROVED IN DECEMBER 2014:

**Jewish Child and Family Service** for a menopause education program and support group, in association with the Rady Jewish Community Centre. **(\$3,000)**

**Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba** for a pilot literacy program for incarcerated women. **(\$6,185)**

**L'Arche Tova Café** to train and employ a woman with disabilities in the serving area, as well as prep work, cooking, and baking. The Jordan Lazareck Special Needs Fund also contributed to this initiative. **(\$3,000)**

**Survivor's Hope Crisis Centre** for a series on initiatives in eastern Manitoba during Victims Week 2015. **(\$2,800)**

**North Point Douglas Women's Centre** for an enhanced volunteer training program. **(\$4,500)**

## LET'S DO LUNCH... NEXT YEAR!

Donate to the Women's Endowment Fund by May 8 for a chance to win a great prize

With a major gala this past October and a special Anniversary Garden Party/Endowment Book of Life Event coming up on Sunday, June 14, the Women's Endowment Fund Luncheon is taking a break for 2015.

We still welcome and encourage your annual contribution of \$100 or more in support of the Women's Endowment Fund.

Donors who make their gift by May 8, 2015, will be entered into a draw for a gift basket from Edward Carriere.

In 2014, the Women's Endowment Fund reached over \$1.2 million in total assets. Since 1994, the Fund has distributed more than \$400,000 to organizations that help girls and women of all backgrounds in Manitoba. As a donor, you make a difference!

To make your 2015 contribution, contact Katarina Kliman at 204.477.7529, [kkliman@jewishfoundation.org](mailto:kkliman@jewishfoundation.org) or [www.jewishfoundation.org](http://www.jewishfoundation.org)

Jewish Foundation of Manitoba

## ANNUAL LUNCHEON

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER

**RICK FROST**

Chief Executive Officer  
The Winnipeg Foundation



Rick Frost, CEO  
The Winnipeg Foundation

Thursday.

October 29, 2015

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

The Fairmont Winnipeg

2 Lombard Place

Tickets \$75

Call 204.477.7520

or send a note to

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

to reserve your seat.

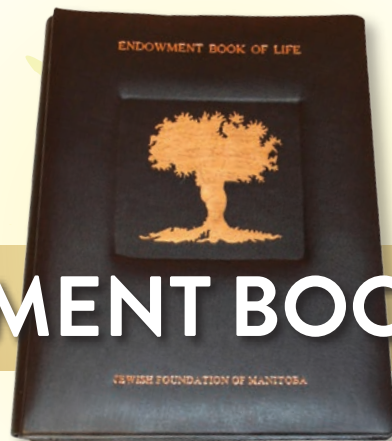
More details to follow.





# Celebrate in style. Celebrate in the sun!

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL CEREMONY AND  
OUTDOOR GARDEN PARTY HONOURING  
OUR NEW SIGNERS OF THE



## ENDOWMENT BOOK *of* LIFE

**ASPER JEWISH COMMUNITY CAMPUS**  
**6:00 PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2015**

Starting in the gymnasium and then moving on  
to the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba Garden.

**TICKETS: \$36 IN ADVANCE**  
**DRESS: SPRING/SUMMER CASUAL**

- **Featured entertainment** –  
Shayla Fink, Kinzey Posen, and more
- Sandwiches and special party treats
- A fun evening of celebration as we wrap up  
our 50th anniversary year and look to an  
exciting future together

**For tickets and more information, contact**  
**Katarina Kliman at 204.477.7529 or**  
**kkliman@jewishfoundation.org**

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## Board Member Spotlight

“When Mr. Justice Guy Kroft invited me to sit on the Foundation Board over a decade ago, he made his case by talking about the impact the Foundation had – and would continue to have. He was so very right. It’s remarkable to me how important the Foundation is. Having been active on the Scholarship Committee for a few years, I’m especially impressed by how our education awards truly make a difference in people’s lives. And there are plenty of examples of award recipients becoming leaders and contributors in our community once they become established in their careers. It always feels good when that happens. Very closely related to the impact we have, is the way we manage our assets. I’ve always been very impressed by the rigour and professionalism of our Investment Committee, with which I am well-acquainted as a member of the Executive. The staff and external advisors who support the Investment Committee are also exceptional. As my tenure with the Foundation winds down, I look back with pride and optimism.”



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#### JFM Focus Newsletter

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