

"Founded by the leaders of Jewish student associations across the country, the Canadian Federation of Jewish Students (CFJS) is the representative body of Jewish Students on Canadian Campuses."



CANADIAN FEDERATION OF JEWISH STUDENTS
JEW SLETTER
FEDERATION CANADIENNE DES ETUDIANTS JUIFS

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IT'S OFFICIAL: NOW CONFERENCE 2005!

January 19 to 22, 2006 in Montreal, QC - REGISTRATION OPENS NOV. 1

Sara Berger, CFJS VP of Programming



ONE great thing leads to ONE more. Last year's ONE conference brought together over 300 Jewish Students from across the country to learn, party and celebrate. It was a huge success – and this year is going to be even better!

This year the Canadian Federation of Jewish Students (CFJS), in partnership with Montreal Hillel, Centre Hillel, Fednext, the Bronfman Israel Experience Centre, and National Jewish Campus Life, is bringing you the NOW conference. NOW will draw even MORE STUDENTS than last year, host new and EXCITING SPEAKERS, feature INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS, and hold the BIGGEST PARTY EVER FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDENTS!!!

The NOW conference will be held in Montreal from January 19th-22nd. REGISTRATION OPENS ON NOVEMBER 1ST at www.nowweekend.com. This website will be up and running when registration opens on November 1st. Prices will be available on our website as of November 1st as well. Last year over 600 people applied for just 300 spots. Please make sure you apply as soon as possible to ensure that you are considered for a spot. REGISTRATION CLOSES ON NOVEMBER 22ND. Due to high demand, applications will not be accepted after that date.

Get excited for the NOW conference – it's a weekend you don't want to miss! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at sara@cfjs.ca.

To register for NOW 2005, visit www.nowweekend.com starting November 1, 2005

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Want To Attend NOW For FREE?!

Sarah Foster, CFJS Engagement Chair

"Write Here, Write NOW!" – Win a Free trip to NOW

The Canadian Federation of Jewish Students is looking to you to answer the question "What does it mean to be a Jewish Student in Canada?" Submit a 500 word essay before November 22nd. The best entry will win its author a guaranteed FREE spot at "NOW" the 2006 CFJS National Conference. Send your response to sarah@cfjs.ca. Good Luck!

CFJS Does Tikkum Olam

Ashlee Firsten, CFJS Tzedek/Social Action Chair

The concept of *tikkun olam* or repairing the world through social action, is one of the traditional categories of *tzedakah*. The obligation to repair the world emerges from innate Jewish values. Engaging in acts of *tikkun olam* is the primary means of satisfying the need to create a sense of Jewish community and identity. From this perspective, the commitment to *tikkun olam* is a mission which we must assist in.

With this being said, the month of November kicks off The Jewish Social Action Month, which takes place during the Hebrew month of Cheshvan. Cheshvan is the second month of the Jewish year and is sometimes referred to as MarCheshvan. This prefix Mar, which literally means bitter, is added because Cheshvan contains no chagim, and because suffering befell Israel during this time in various points in history. Throughout this Cheshvan, Jewish organizations in Israel and across the world will launch initiatives based on the principles of Chesed, Tzedek and Tikkun Olam. Organizations taking part include; The Chief Rabbis of Israel, England and South Africa, The World Zionist Youth Movements, The World Union of Jewish Students, Hillel, the Israeli Police Force and the Israel Organization of Community Centers. Some of the project ideas include environmental projects, donating blood to sporting activities for underprivileged children.



The Canadian Federation of Jewish Students will be creating its own projects based on our own ideas across Canada. If you are interested in being a part of this project or you would like to know more information please contact your school liaison or myself at ashlee@cfjs.ca. If you want to see more ideas, you can go to http://www.wujs.org.il/home/100_ideas.shtml.

I hope you will all take initiative on your own or together with us to tikkun olam.

Join Us At The WUJS Congress 2005

Samuel Zeev Konig, WUJS Liaison

As you know the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS) hosts the Jewish Student Congress in Israel every year. This year, for the first time, the WUJS Congress will take place in the picturesque town of Zichron Yaakov at the Eden Inn hotel, between the 28th December 2005 and the 2nd of January 2006.

We are expecting around 250 Jewish student leaders and activists from all over the world. So make sure that you are one of them.

The theme of the congress this year is "Jewish Creativity" and the congress will focus on providing creative and practical tools to you, the student leaders, as well as helping provide answers to common problems. The focus will be in the following areas: fundraising, marketing, creating attractive programs and so on.

If you are interested please send an e-mail with a CV to your WUJS Liaison Samuel Konig at sam@cfjs.ca

The approximate cost will be \$500 CAD.

DEADLINE is NOVEMBER 10, 2005!

If you would like to know more about the congress please visit WUJS website <http://www.wujs.org.il>



AEPI @ UWO Rocks For Cancer Research!

Jonas Rubinoff, AEPI Rock for Research Coordinator

The London chapter of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity at the University of Western Ontario was founded in 1985. Since its inception, AEPI has prided itself in its community work and fundraising initiatives. Every fall, our fraternity works closely with the Canadian Cancer Society to help raise money for cancer research. The Canadian Cancer Society is leading the way in the fight against cancer. It funds research on all types of cancer, offers comprehensive and credible information on risk reduction and treatment and provides support for people living with cancer, family members and friends.



The month of October is considered Breast Cancer Awareness Month (and when the Society's "Pink Ribbon Campaign" takes place). It was therefore fitting to hold our campaign during this time. Beginning on Tuesday October 18 at 7:00am Daniel Warner, President of AEPI Western, Sean Konkol, Josh Gleicher, and Adam Fox began their rocking marathon. "The Rock for Research Campaign" is an event where four brothers representing our fraternity sit outside of the University Community Center, the focal point of the University, in rocking chairs for a continuous 36 hours. It is through their dedication that we capture the attention of students across campus urging them to donate to this worthy cause. Over this two day period, all brothers and pledges of the fraternity campaigned for donations while distributing pink ribbons and bracelets. "The Rock for Research Campaign" concluded with a party on Wednesday October 19, with all proceeds being donated to the Canadian Cancer Society.

This event would not be possible without the generosity of many businesses, the student body, family, friends, alumni and a dedicated effort from the brotherhood. This year alone we raised over \$9000! We thank all of you who have made contributions to our drive towards the ultimate goal of finding a cure for cancer.

For more information visit <http://www.aepiwestern.com/>

McMaster & SFU Party Israeli Style!

Elise Kayfetz (MacMaster) and Jess Apter (SFU)

It's hard to create a mini Israel in the middle of Hamilton, especially in the backyard of a student house, but somehow, the JSA social chairs managed to do so. On Sept 24th, on a crisp evening in Steeltown Hamilton, 30 JSA members showed up at the student house - known for the time being as little Tel Aviv. Seven beautiful hookahs aligned in the middle of the backyard surrounded by burlap to create that Israeli sand look. We served pita and CH-umus and blasted out a variety of Israeli tunes to create that true Israeli ambiance.

Meanwhile, in Vancouver, students were reminiscing about their version of the Tel Aviv Beach Party that had taken place the week before, with students smoking hookah, listening to everyone's favourite Israeli hip-hop music, and eating Hillel-sponsored CH-umus and pita, veggies, junk food, and Vancouver's new favourite snack, graham crackers with icing.



With their feet in the sand, the students watched the sun set over the Pacific Ocean, a sunset almost but not quite as beautiful as

the ones they fondly remembered from their time spent in Israel.

For ideas on how to turn your campus into a Tel Aviv beach, or for a blank copy of the poster for "Off the Hookah", email elise_kayfetz@hotmail.com or jjapter@sfu.ca.


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Want To Be An International Journalist?

Robert Meth, CFJS Communications Chair

Do your parents ever say this to you: "Oh motek! Why does that Ariel Sharon wear his pants so high? Doesn't that hurt? Anyways... what's going on on your campus these days?" Probably not, unless your parents follow Ariel Sharon's fashion stylings and want to make conversation!

But it doesn't matter! The point is that this is your chance to become an internationally published journalist! An initiative started by the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS), and endorsed by the Canadian Federation of Jewish Students, is asking students from Canada to submit articles to its monthly publication. WUJS is now working on an international student magazine and looking for writers. This fantastic initiative should profit everybody involved, and has incredible potential. It is an opportunity to connect with Jewish students from all over the world and reach thousands. The main objective is to create a forum for a meaningful discussion amongst students on essential subjects that are relevant to the Jewish world and to build a better connection between them. So, feel free to send articles on the following subjects: Interfaith and multiculturalism in the world. Israel, articles on politics and the situation, perspectives from around the world, reactions etc. Israeli culture, general articles on subjects common to all students such as - human rights, current issues, the student struggle, animals etc- Culture - Jewish philosophy, literature, poetry, music, fashion, etc.

So now, in addition to writing articles for our national *Jewsletter* which you are reading now, your articles can now be published in the international monthly publication of WUJS that is sent out to all member countries and their publications.

For more information on how to participate email rob@cfjs.ca or check out the WUJS website at <http://www.wujs.org.il/about/newsletters/index.shtml>

GA Is Coming, Are You?

Robert Meth

The General Assembly is the premier event of United Jewish Communities, the organization representing 155 Jewish federations and 400 independent communities across North America. This year, the city of Toronto has been chosen to host this remarkable gathering, and it's only two weeks away. Speakers so far include:

- ☑ **HON. IRWIN COTLER** Canadian Minister of Justice
- ☑ **BEN STEIN** Writer, actor and television personality
- ☑ **DENNIS ROSS** Former Special Middle East Coordinator
- ☑ **DEBORAH LIPSTADT** Holocaust Scholar
- ☑ **ROBERT PUTNAM** Author of "Bowling Alone"
- ☑ ...and you didn't hear it from us, but on Monday November 14, between 8:00pm-9:30pm at the session entitled International Plenary: The Global Challenges Today, Israeli PM Ariel Sharon is supposed to speak, followed by a performance of the Idan Raichel Project... just reporting what it says.
*<http://www.gatoronto.com/speaker-program-highlights.htm>

If you have not signed up yet to attend this amazing opportunity, contact your local Hillel or visit the link below. This is a great opportunity that should be missed.

For more information contact your local Hillel or visit <http://www.gatoronto.com>

UBC's Sandwich-Making Marathon Disperses Good Will

Julia Segal, Social Action Chair UBC Jewish Students Association

Are you open for business? A reasonable question for a UBC student to ask upon seeing a big white tent outside the Student Union Building bustling with people hard at work making sandwiches.

He had his wallet out, ready to buy a plump peanut butter and jam sandwich on whole wheat bread for his breakfast. Nope, these sandwiches, in the making on October 11th, were definitely not for sale. This year, the UBC Ismaili Students' Association and the Campus Association of Baha'i Studies joined together with the UBC Jewish Students Association for Hillels annual Peanut Butter & Jam-a-Thon, a sandwich making marathon that culminates with the donation of peanut butter and jam sandwiches to local shelters and drop in centres across Greater Vancouver.



For many clubs, social action and charity work fall within club goals, so pairing up with Ismaili and Bahai students for a benefit event like the PB&J-a-Thon made good sense considering the common mandates and commitments of all three clubs. These three student organizations recognize the value of social action but more eminent yet, is the shared desire for building constructive relationships with other student groups on campus. Thus, along with the 2000 sandwiches that were made, the potential of these three unique student groups to learn from and support each other was a major highlight of the event.

While making sandwiches, one Ismaili student shared what was, to me, a striking fact: she could not sample a sandwich because it was Ramadan and she was fasting. With Yom Kippur soon approaching, many of the Jewish students at the event could empathize- and could see that making sandwiches for the homeless must have taken on a whole new meaning on a fasting day, a day dedicated to separation from physical needs, and reflection on our role in the world. Handling and packaging up food for people who need it while stealthily setting aside her own hunger is a genuine mitzvah.

This mitzvah was definitely a shared one. With the JSA heading up coordination and planning, the Ismaili Students Association and Campus Association of Bahai Studies made it all worthwhile, partaking in the work and the fun of the day and helping it all get done: our goal of making 2000 sandwiches would not have been met without their partnership. Students who had heard about the event as well as those who were just passing by and decided to stop and roll up their sleeves, boosted morale and strengthened the effort. Generously,

Fraser Valley Bakery (Langley) donated much of the bread we needed for the sandwiches, selling it to us at cost. Point Grey Safeway and the Alma Street Buy-Low Foods notably donated peanut butter and jam.

At the receiving end of this event was Covenant House, the YMCA shelter, First Baptist Church, and the Lookout Emergency Aid Societys downtown shelter as well as their drop in centre, The Living Room - all of whom stressed the impact that our donation and interest makes.

Never in the three years that Hillel has dropped off sandwiches at such shelters has there been an ungrateful or indifferent shelter staff person to greet us; the need for such relief is real. Still, our days worth of sandwiches does not close the case of poverty and hunger in Canada. Peanut butter and jam is not a permanent solution, but it carries the weight of understanding, awareness and connection between students and the Vancouver community- and that connection is the seedling of potential for a future of understanding and fulfilled responsibility.



Nominate Your Hillel Staff Member

Emily Sufirin, CFJS VP Internal

Richard M. Joel Exemplars of Excellence Nomination Form

If you know a particularly outstanding Hillel professional and would like to nominate them for the Exemplars of Excellence Award then fill out the nomination form and return it by Tuesday, November 15, 2005 .

To find a copy of the form and print one out visit the address below and scroll to the bottom:
<http://www.hillel.org/hillel/NewHille.nsf/0/fd5beb7279ad4e818525697700561e4c?OpenDocument>

NEXT ISSUE OF THE JEWSLETTER...GET INVOLVED!

The Canadian Federation of Jewish Students monthly publication, JEWSLETTER, is now offering advertising space within the publication. If you have a small business, or a business of any size and you would like to advertise with us, please contact Rob Meth at rob@cfjs.ca for more info and rates. **ALSO**, if you are a young Jewish entrepreneur or know one, we are now accepting submissions for the next Jewsletter. Tell us how your involvement with Jewish organizations has helped you professionally. Submissions to rob@cfjs.ca DEADLINE NOVEMBER 25, 2005.

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