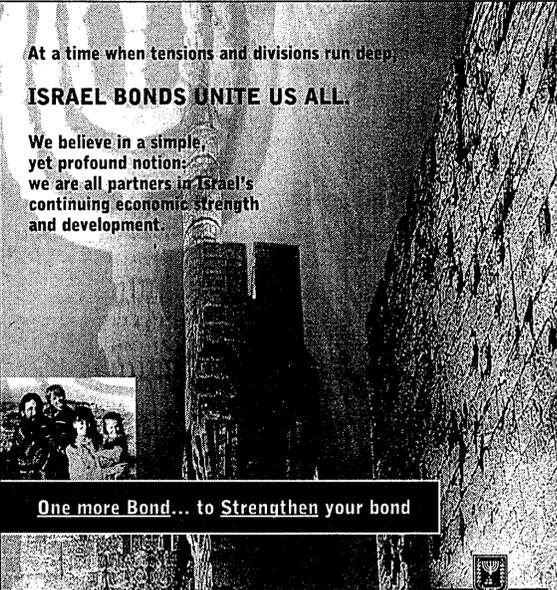


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## Bonds' 50th anniversary campaign begins with open letter to the community

**T**ORONTO, Feb. 06, 2001 - State of Israel Bonds Canada will celebrate its 50th anniversary throughout 2001. In an open letter to the community dated this February, Chairman of the Board George A. Cohon called for increased investments due to the "difficulties in our beloved homeland".

Cohon also stressed the unifying aspect of Israel Bonds, whose "sole purpose is to strengthen Israel's economy".

The letter also quotes Israel's former Minister of Finance as saying, "I think it's safe to say that there is no place and no major project in Israel in which Israel Bonds has not played a part. These projects have included construction of the National Water Carrier in 1955, the Darom Power Station in 1985, which supplies over 50% of the nation's energy needs, and the Tel-Aviv - Jerusalem Highway. In 2001, Israel Bonds money is being used for one of the most important endeavors in history: advanced destination and water projection projects."

Cohon's letter stresses that Bond dollars are from loyal sources that keep Israel's best interest at heart.

"In good times as well as bad this economic strength and security are of paramount importance. We look forward in working with our community to maintaining this much needed capital for the State of Israel", concludes the letter.

Israel Bonds can be contacted at (204) 942 2291. The Winnipeg Director is Shoshana Shalev-Minuk.

## Community news

### New 'initiative' at York U training teachers for Gray Academy, other Western Canadian day schools

Students offered financial help in return for promise to start careers at Western Canadian Coalition of Jewish Educators' schools

By MATT BELLAN

Two Canadian Jewish educators were on a headhunting mission here last month.

They were in Winnipeg to meet with students interested in training to become Jewish day school teachers in Western Canada.

Joshua Bensimon is coordinator of the Western Canadian Coalition of Jewish Educators. Professor Alex Pomson oversees the Jewish Teacher Education Program at York University's Faculty of Education.

They work together, recruiting students for a program they're both involved in - the York University Western Canadian Jewish Teacher Education Initiative.

The initiative is designed to meet the need for Jewish teachers in Western Canadian Jewish day schools belonging to the coalition, says Bensimon, a former Winnipeg educator now based in Edmonton.

Until now, finding suitable teachers for day



JOSHUA BENSIMON (at left), coordinator, Western Canadian Coalition of Jewish Educators, holds a pamphlet describing the York University-Western Canada Jewish Teacher Education Initiative, while Professor Alex Pomson looks on.

schools in Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver has been a hit-and-miss affair, he adds.

Principals recruited teachers from "Israel and other places..."

Teachers would often come from Israel for only three years. And by the time they adjusted to the school and life in Canada, it was time for them to go home.

The program at Toronto's York University, in contrast, trains students from Western Canada.

They spend their first year studying in York's undergraduate Jewish Studies Programme. They then enter the university's three-year Jewish Teacher Education Programme, which includes one year of studies in Israel. They also practise teach at public and Jewish day schools in Toronto and Jewish day schools that belong to Bensimon's coalition.

The initiative, funded partly by the Covenant Foundation, covers "up to 50 per cent" of students' tuition and living expenses at York University, says Pomson.

"In return for the scholarship and subsidies, the students have to commit to work for three years in one of the coalition's day schools," which include Winnipeg's Gray Academy of Jewish Education.

Three students from Western Canada started their studies in the initiative in September, 2000, he adds. A second group of five will start in September, 2002, because the initiative only recruits students every two years.

Asked how students who've enrolled so far like the initiative, Pomson says they're "absolutely thrilled" to have university-level Jewish studies. "There are very few opportunities for them in Winnipeg."

York University, in contrast, has the largest and most diverse program of Jewish studies in Canada.

"The students also like the idea of getting away from home," adds Bensimon.

Bensimon also offered an update on the Western Canadian Coalition of Jewish Educators, formed about three years ago to

Moshe Nahir, a professor of linguistics at the University of Manitoba who also teaches one Hebrew course a year, says he hadn't heard of the initiative.

Until about a decade ago, the University of Manitoba offered enough Judaic and Hebrew studies courses for wouldbe Jewish day school and Hebrew bilingual program teachers to get their training here, he says.

### New Leadership Division honouring Rabbi Green at their next Comedy Night event!

**W**innipeg - The New Leadership Division of the State of Israel Bonds invites the entire community to join them in honouring Rabbi Alan Green in their next program, Comedy Night, Saturday, March 3, 2001, 7:45 p.m. at the Fort Garry Hotel, 222 Broadway Avenue, Provencher Room.



RABBI ALAN GREEN

Rabbi Alan Green was born in Los Angeles, California, in 1953. He graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies in 1976, and went on to study at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles from 1978 to 1981.

After receiving his M.A. in Religion from UCLA in 1987, Rabbi Green became Spiritual Leader of Temple B'nai Emet of Montebello, California, where he trained for ordination under the direction of Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, Rabbi Green received ordination in 1991, and became Rabbi at Beth Israel Synagogue in Winnipeg in autumn of 1992.

Over the past nine years, Rabbi Green has become an integral part

of the life of the Winnipeg Jewish community. In addition to his duties at Beth Israel and Shaarey Zedek Congregation, Rabbi Green has led services, spoken at assemblies, and taught classes at Talmud Torah, Shore Early Years, Simkin Middle School, and Joseph Wolinsky Colligate. Rabbi Green has also

addressed many groups in the Winnipeg Jewish community, as well as the community at large over his years in Winnipeg.

Rabbi Green will be presented with Israel Bonds Independence Issue Award in recognition and appreciation for his devotion to our community and to the State of Israel and for his commitment to the Israel Bonds program.

The Comedy Night evening will be part of celebrating "Israel Bonds at 50" as this year marks State of Israel Bonds 50th Anniversary.

We are expecting to have a full house attendance. Tickets are available at the State of Israel Bonds office. For more information about the event or investing in Israel's future, please call our office at the number in the ad at left.

**Comedy Night**

Saturday, March 3, 2001

New Leadership Division of The State of Israel Bonds, Winnipeg Co-Chairs Ahava Halpern and Marty Minuk

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Saturday, March 3, 2001

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FEATURE PRESENTATION  
Comedian  
**JOEY ELIAS**  
also  
JOAN DRUXMAN & MICHAEL SILVER

Tickets: \$25 per person  
Tickets may be payable by cheque or Visa to the State of Israel Bonds  
Cash Food and Bar will be available.  
Dietary laws will be observed.

For information about the event or to order your tickets, please call  
**204-942-2291**  
by: February 26, 2001



### Winnipeg's Jewish community joins with international agencies to assist victims in El Salvador

**T**he Jewish Federation of Winnipeg/Combined Jewish Appeal in conjunction with the Canadian Jewish Congress, UIA-Federations Canada, Ve'ahavta, and the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian and Relief Committee is raising funds to provide food and medicine to the victims of the devastating earthquake in El Salvador.

The American Jewish World Service, which has a strong presence on the ground in El Salvador and La Coordinadora/Foundation for Self Sufficiency are the main partners with whom the Canadian Jewish consortium will be working with.

These two organizations have created a network of 86 communities working cooperatively on locally generated development projects.

In addition Ve'ahavta will work directly with the Israeli Humanitarian Aid Organization (LATET) to provide food and emergency health care in El Salvador.

Contributions clearly marked for relief for El Salvador can be sent to:

The Jewish Federation of Winnipeg/Combined Jewish Appeal  
C300-123 Doncaster Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3N 2B2  
ph (204) 477-7428  
fax (204) 477-7405