

## Annual Report – October 2021

Canadian Friends of Peace Now (CFPN) is a sister organization of Peace Now (שָׁלוֹם עַכְשָׁיו/Shalom Achshav), Israel's preeminent peace movement. We support the agenda of Shalom Achshav in Israel, and raise awareness in Canada of the need for a viable and durable solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. CFPN is dedicated to promoting Israeli-Palestinian peace on the basis of the two-state solution.

With branches in Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto, including a newly formed affiliate at the University of Toronto, and supporters throughout Canada, CFPN sponsors public talks and webinars, engages in advocacy, publishes press releases and newsletters and partners with other progressive Zionist organizations on Israeli-Palestinian peace issues.

A registered Canadian charity, CFPN raises funds to support its activities in Canada and Shalom Achshav's educational programs in Israel.



### Shalom Achshav (שָׁלוֹם עַכְשָׁיו)

Shalom Achshav became a dominant force in Israel's political scene in 1978, when the peace talks between Israel and Egypt appeared to be on the verge of failure. In order to rescue the peace talks, 348 combat soldiers and officers signed the 'Officers' Letter' – an open letter to Prime Minister Menachem Begin, calling for him to seize the window of opportunity and ensure a lasting peace. Tens of thousands of Israelis supported the letter, and the Peace Now movement was born.

Since 1978, Shalom Achshav has been the leading Israeli organization calling for peace between Israel and its neighbours and particularly for a viable resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Its key message is: two states for two peoples – Israel and Palestine.

Its activities include advocacy, public campaigns, education, and monitoring and protesting West Bank settlement expansion. Its supporters abroad include Canadian Friends of Peace Now, Americans for Peace Now (USA), Brits for Peace Now (U.K.), La Paix maintenant (France), Les Amis Belges de Shalom Archav (Belgium), Amigos Brasileiros do Paz Agora (Brazil), and Argentinos Amigos de Paz Ahora (Argentina).

## Mission

Canadian Friends of Peace Now works to promote peace, democracy and security for Israel. We believe that an equitable, negotiated two-state solution is the only way to ensure Israel's long-term security and put an end to the conflict between Israel and its Palestinian neighbours. We also believe that the best strategy for creating a two-state solution is for Israel to trade land for genuine peace.



## Where We Stand

- We support the values on which the state of Israel was created, as enshrined in its Declaration of Independence:

*"The State of Israel...will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace ...; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions; and it will be faithful to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations."*

- We are for Israel's security, democracy and Jewish character and its right to exist as a Jewish homeland within internationally recognized borders.
- We also support the creation of a viable Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, living in peace and security alongside Israel.
- We vigorously oppose the creation and expansion of settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. Settlements are an impediment to peace, undermining the two-state solution and Israel's long-term security. The settlements force Israel to rule over a large, disenfranchised Palestinian population, contrary to the state's core democratic values and international law.
- We recognize that neither Israelis nor Palestinians will give up their desire for self-determination in a state of their own – and neither should be expected to do so. Therefore, we assert that both Israelis and Palestinians will have to make painful compromises and give up maximal demands. The two states will have to be based on the 1967 Green Line, with any changes achieved through mutually agreed-upon land swaps.
- We acknowledge that these painful compromises will require: 1) that an answer to the Palestinian refugee issue will have to be found largely outside the borders of the State of Israel; and 2) that Jerusalem would have to be the capital for both states, on the basis of demographic breakdowns, with a special status for the Old City.
- We believe both sides share blame for the current stalemate. Palestinians have rejected opportunities for a reasonable compromise (particularly during negotiations in 2000 and 2008). Israel has laid roadblocks to peace through its settlement program and, in recent years, opposition to the two-state solution by successive right-wing governments. We call for brave leadership from both sides.
- We warn that Israeli political leaders who endorse unilateral annexation over portions of the occupied West Bank are proposing a flagrant violation of international law, the trampling of the rights of Palestinians and the endangerment of Israel's future as a secure, democratic homeland of the Jewish people.
- We believe that the only alternative to the two-state solution is prolonged violence and bloodshed.



## Canadian Activities

Canadian Friends of Peace Now promotes understanding of Israeli-Palestinian peace issues among Canadians, including Canada's Jewish communities. Our educational activities, such as speaker events and webinars, focus on the importance of achieving a negotiated two-state solution for the sake of both peoples.

We encourage the Canadian government to adopt policies that support peacemaking between Israelis and Palestinians and to oppose barriers to peace. To this end, we send communications voicing our views to government leaders, Members of Parliament and relevant, government officials. We also conduct briefings for Canada's Department of Global Affairs and MPs to acquaint them with the Israeli peace camp.

When dealing with external agencies, organizations or media, we emphasize that we represent an important part of mainstream Canadian Jewish opinion.

We strongly oppose one-sided attacks in which Israel is held to a different standard than other nations. We also make known our opposition to uncritical support of Israel that ignores the rights of Palestinians – a stance that runs counter to the long-term interests of Israel.

A recent example of our nuanced approach concerned “labelling” of settlement products. In August 2019, CFPN issued a statement welcoming a Canadian court ruling on wine made in West Bank Israeli settlements. The court ruled that such wine may not be labelled “Product of Israel.” We agreed because to do otherwise suggests that the West Bank may be regarded as part of Israel thereby “erasing” the Green Line. At the same time, we made clear that we do reject the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement, which advocates a blanket boycott against Israel and seeks to de-legitimize Israel.

## **Emil Grunzweig Fellowship Award (EGFA) – Building the next generation of the peace camp**

CFPN's flagship program in Israel is the Emil Grunzweig Fellowship Award, which helps boost the peace and democracy work of a new generation of young leaders in Israel.

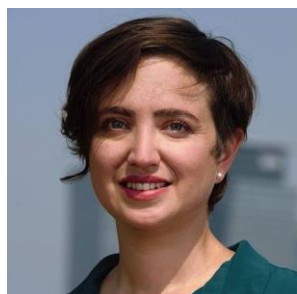
Emil Grunzweig was a Shalom Achshav activist who, on 10 February 1983, suffered fatal injury when a Kahanist ultra-nationalist threw a bomb into a crowd of peaceful demonstrators in central Jerusalem.

The EGFA program provides cash awards to student leaders who undertake peace and democracy work on university campuses in Israel.

As part of the program, recipients receive guidance from Shalom Achshav and conduct activities on university campuses and elsewhere to increase support for a two-state solution among their peers. Since its inception in 2018, the EGFA has awarded six fellowships, thereby nurturing peace and democracy student engagement on four Israeli university campuses.

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, Shalom Achshav had to suspend its Emil Grunzweig Fellowship Award activities during the past 12 months. The suspension will continue through at least the rest of 2021.

We look forward to resuming the program once the pandemic no longer imposes restrictions on student activities.



**Message from שקד מורג (Shaqued Morag),  
Executive Director of Shalom Achshav**

The past 12 months were busy and challenging ones for our organization as we exposed and protested settlement expansion, fought against home evictions and promoted the vision of a two-state solution to the Israeli public. Our work was made more complicated

by the pandemic and the upheaval of the election campaigns. Nevertheless, we continued to make our voice heard, loud and clear, as Israel's premier peace movement.

Shalom Achshav deeply appreciates the increased support, both financial and moral, that we received from Canadian Friends of Peace Now in 2020 and 2021.

We are especially grateful for CFPN's funding of key elements of our awareness-raising campaign against home evictions in East Jerusalem. Our campaign was a success on many fronts: the high numbers of audience members reached, the energizing of our activist base and the invaluable experience we gained through staging a hybrid (in-person plus online) event, which was also fully translated into English. We continue to be very active with the East Jerusalem issue. Our activism includes an Amicus brief to a hearing in one of the Silwan cases. (Editor's note: See below for report on the campaign.)



COVID restrictions have forced us to rely more on virtual events and tools to reach our target audiences. The plus side is that we have been able to maintain a closer contact with our CFPN partners than ever before. Since the spring of 2020, Shalom Achshav staff (including me) have participated in six webinars organized by CFPN. This allowed us to make our perspective better known among Canadians, to connect more directly with Canadian supporters and to amplify our message.

The support of allies abroad strengthens Israel's peace movement and can play a role in shifting Israeli public opinion on issues affecting peace prospects. We are grateful to those in Canada who stand with us in our work for a better future for both Israelis and Palestinians. We look forward to even greater collaboration with CFPN in the year ahead.





### **Message From: National Chairperson, Gabriella Goliger**

Despite the ongoing COVID crisis, the past 12 months have been busy and productive ones for Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

A highlight of the year was our welcoming of **three new board members** to the CFPN team. They included two youth activists, Daniela Veisman, an intern architect living in Ottawa and Bradley Wiseman\*, a young lawyer based in Montreal. We were also joined by Jonathan Gendler, an Israeli expat who has made Toronto his home. The three brought a wealth of experience, talent and fresh ideas to the organization. Sadly, Joshua Cox had to step down for personal reasons; happily, the contributions he made during his time with us have been lasting ones.

Another highlight was our **funding of a Shalom Achshav conference and video** on the explosive issue of home evictions in East Jerusalem. The conference, which took place on July 30, just days before a key Supreme Court hearing on a Sheikh Jarrah eviction case, raised awareness on why the settler eviction movement is so unjust and dangerous to peace. (Read more about the conference and video project below.)

Since September 2020 we produced **13 informative and well-attended webinars** on a wide range of subjects related to Israeli-Palestinian peace building. The online platform allowed us to bring in speakers from afar, including experts from Israel and Palestine. Some events drew more than 200 registrants, enabling us to widen our reach beyond our regular supporters. We also experimented with webinars targeted to specific groups: youth and Israeli expats. These two smaller events were very well received by the participants.

One of our webinars included the **CFPN-funded virtual tour of the Northern West Bank**, featuring Shabtay Bennet of Shalom Achshav's Settlement Watch program. This 40-minute video was developed as educational outreach targeting Israeli youth. The subtitled version

allowed English-speaking viewers to learn how Israeli infrastructure projects are “erasing” the Green Line and undermining prospects for a two-state solution.

May 2021 brought a deadly flareup of violence between Israelis and Palestinians, with provocations in Jerusalem, another mini-war in Gaza and ugly confrontations in several mixed cities. On 10 May, hours before the onset, Shalom Achshav was at the Israeli Knesset, raising awareness about the unjust dispossession of Palestinian residents in East Jerusalem and warning that this issue was a powder keg (as it indeed turned out to be). We **applaud Shalom Achshav** for its brave campaign under the slogan “Jerusalem for All,” which, we described as being in marked contrast to the provocative, hate-filled flag-day march by right-wing extremists. Our **balanced analysis of the events** called out parties on both sides, urged de-escalation, and argued that military action is no substitute to addressing the underlying causes of the unrest. CFPN joined with like-minded progressive Zionist organizations, JSpace Canada and the New Israel Fund of Canada, to hold a **virtual vigil** mourning the loss of life on both sides and expressing our yearning for peace. Hundreds of people took part in this moving event.

The vigil was one example of how we **worked more closely with like-minded organizations**. Other examples included joint statements and regular “checking in” meetings with our colleagues in the progressive Jewish community.

This past year we continued to **urge our Canadian government to speak out** against settlement expansion and home evictions and on behalf on a two-state solution. We communicated this message through letters to Canadian leaders and during a virtual round table meeting with Minister of Global Affairs, Marc Garneau. (See Recent Events and Activities below.)

During the past 12 months, we significantly improved our website, through better graphics and layout and much more content. We also **translated our website content into French**. We greatly **boosted our social media presence**, thanks to the efforts of board member Daniela Veisman. On Facebook we currently have more than 4,000 followers. Daniela set up a CFPN Instagram site, which is connecting with a younger demographic. It has beautiful graphics and by July had attracted about 200 followers. And we moved to a modern, cloud-based contact and donor management system to allow us to automate our e-mailings and receipt generation and identify potential donors. Thanks to these efforts, and particularly, through the webinars, we have increased our reach during the past year and a half from 2,000 to 2,600 contacts.



Peace-building continues to be very much an uphill road. But we can take pride in our achievements: bolstering the crucial work of Shalom Achshav in Israel while strengthening the voice of progressive Zionism in Canada. Our balanced message offers an alternative to the uncritical Israel cheerleaders as well as to the extreme anti-Israel detractors.

*\*Bradley Wiseman stepped down from the board in Sept. 2021 to avoid the perception of conflict of interest due to a legal position for which he had been hired. He plans to return when this term position ends.*

## **Justice Must Be Done: Stop the Evictions in Sheikh Jarrah and Silwan 2021 Hybrid Education Campaign**



In late July 2021, the world was focused on an upcoming Supreme Court hearing on Palestinian residents facing eviction from their homes in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood of East Jerusalem. Shalom Achshav seized the moment with a multi-faceted campaign to raise awareness of this mass displacement. The campaign included a hybrid conference at the Ambassador Hotel, right in the heart of Sheikh Jarrah, an educational video and a street rally. **Canadian Friends of Peace Now funded the educational components – the hybrid conference and the video.** The conference is termed “hybrid” because it was attended by an in-person audience while being live-streamed within Israel and abroad.

The Stop the Evictions campaign demonstrated that the conflict in East Jerusalem is far from a mere “landlord-tenant property dispute.” It is an assault on human rights with far-reaching ramifications for the ultimate resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

This campaign was the latest and most intense of Shalom Achshav 's efforts in the struggle against a settler-driven agenda to 'Judea-ize' East Jerusalem that puts more than 1,000 Palestinians at risk of losing their homes. These evictions not only hurt individual Palestinians, but also jeopardize the potential for Jerusalem to become a shared capital, and thus imperils the two-state solution.

Shalom Achshav has been in the forefront of the anti-eviction struggle since its early days through education and grassroots activism. It took the lead again with this new campaign. The July 30 conference couldn't have been more timely since it occurred just three days before the above-mentioned hearing on the Sheikh Jarrah case, as the eyes of the world were watching. (The hearing had been postponed from May 10 due to extreme tensions in the city.) The conference included the premiere of a powerful, awareness-raising video telling the home eviction story.

Multiple challenges confronted the event organizers: the tight "deadline" due to the upcoming court hearing, the need to shift to a hybrid communication model, the uncertainty and changing restrictions due to COVID-19, and concerns about possible police intervention. Sheikh Jarrah is a volatile area, subject to over-policing and police violence.

Impressively, Shalom Achshav staged an inspiring, hybrid conference that reached a wide audience. The lineup included:

- presentations by Palestinian resident activists Zuhair Rajabi and Saleh Deab, who were able to describe the eviction crisis and struggle from personal experience;
- speeches by Members of Knesset Mossi Raz and Aida Touman-Sliman;
- a panel discussion with a number of key Israeli and Palestinian activists, including Hagit Ofra of Shalom Achshav's Settlement Watch;
- the premiere of the 12.5 min. video "We only have a small question," which features the voices and faces of the people directly affected by the home eviction saga.

The live-stream included simultaneous translation into English. The Hebrew recording of the conference was posted online, as were both the Hebrew and English [subtitled] versions of the video. Prominent posters thanked Canadian Friends of Peace Now for its funding.



## Impacts

Impressively, by mid-September, the Hebrew version of the educational video, “We only have a small question” had received over 103,000 views on Facebook, and the subtitled English version had been viewed 80,000 times. (We do not have a count of the YouTube viewers.) The in-person conference saw 110 people attend; 50 participated in the livestream via Zoom. And the conference recording in Hebrew garnered 5,800 views.

At a highly critical time, Shalom Achshav played an important role in drawing attention to the dangers implicit in the home eviction crisis. The movement showed leadership in working with Palestinian activists on these important issues. The hybrid format allowed Shalom Achshav to communicate its messages to a much wider audience than would be possible through an in-person event alone or a regular webinar. This wider audience included people from the international community. As well, the conference strengthened activist commitment to the struggle for justice in East Jerusalem. All the in-person attendees of the event participated in the post-conference solidarity protest at the Supreme Court. Finally, through the hybrid campaign, Shalom Achshav expanded its digital literacy, learned new techniques for communication, and created educational tools that will be invaluable for future campaigns.

Canadian Friends of Peace Now is very proud to have funded this important project.

## Recent Webinars 2020 - 2021

(Webinars are available on-line through the CFPN Website)

### 2021

**October**      *Fighting de facto Annexation through Israel's Legal System: Challenges and Prospects*; Michael Sfard, Israeli human rights lawyer; David Cohen, Interviewer; Gabriella Goliger, Moderator.

**June**            *Get acquainted with Shalom Achshav* (in Hebrew): Shaqued Morag, Executive Director of Shalom Achshav; Jonathan Gendler, Moderator

**June**            *Beyond Birthright – Expanding the Experience for Youth Travelling to Israel*: Sam Sussman, co-founder & director, of Extend (an NGO); Abby Kirschbaum, Assistant Director of Public Engagement & Educational Resources, JStreet; Dana Mills, Director of Development and External Relations, Shalom Achshav, Israel; Daniela Veisman, Moderator

**May**            *Jerusalem Crisis: What's Happening, What's Being Done, What's Needed*: Huda Abuarquob, Regional Director, Alliance for Middle East Peace; Hagit Ofran, Shalom Achshav, co-Director Settlement Watch; Daniel Seidemann, Israeli Attorney and Director of Terrestrial Jerusalem (prepared by an international consortium)

**May**            *Moving the Two-State Agenda Forward*: Prof. Yair Hirschfeld, legendary architect and negotiator of the Oslo Process, historian, and Director General of the Economic Cooperation Foundation.



**May**            *Activism, Art, and Hope - The Power of Art in Social Change*: Ellyott Ben Ezer, musician, singer, DJ, teacher, composer and broadcaster; Ramzi (Ram Mizrahi), D.J., artistic director, writer and actor; Oren Ziv, photojournalist and writer. (New Israel Fund, Canada; with CFPN co-sponsorship)

**April**      *Virtual Tour of City of David/Silwan*: Yonathan Mizrachi, archaeologist, founder of Emek Shaveh (an Israeli NGO).

**April**      *The Climate Crisis and Peace Building in the Israeli-Palestinian Context*: Gidon Bromberg, co-founder Eco-Peace Middle East (an NGO); Prof. David B. Brooks, Moderator.

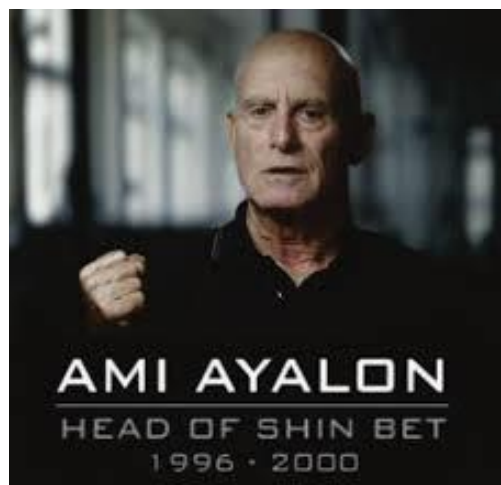
**March**      *Travel and learn without leaving home; Land of Outposts in Samaria — a guided virtual tour*: Shabtay Bendet, Shalom Achshav Settlement Watch; Q&A with Brian Reeves (at the time) Shalom Achshav's Director of Development and External Relations [Virtual tour video in Hebrew and English funded by CFPN].

**February**      *The Threat of Mass Palestinian Displacement in East Jerusalem*: Hagit Ofra, Shalom Achshav, Settlement Watch.

**January**      *Taking Action for Peace: Palestinian Perspectives*: Nidal Foqaha, Director General of Palestinian Peace Coalition; Mohammad Asideh, Projects Director of Zimam Palestine

## 2020

**December**      *How Israel Became Its Own Worst Enemy and Its Hope for the Future: A Personal Perspective*: Admiral (res.) Ami Ayalon, Director of the Shin Bet (ret.), commander of the Israeli Navy (ret.), MKK, Minister without Portfolio, recipient of Medal of Valour.



**November**    *What happens now? The U.S. election results and their implications:*

Jodi Rudoren, Editor-in-chief, The Forward, host, Rabbi Steven Garten

**October**        *Hope, Trepidation and the Upcoming U.S. Election: What's at Stake for the*

*Peace Camp:* Lara Friedman, President, Foundation for Middle East Peace; previously, Director of Policy and Government Relations, Americans for Peace Now.

**September**    *Israel's Gulf State deals: Can Israel bypass the Palestinians in its search for peace?* Professor Elie Podeh, historian, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and host Jon Allen, Canada's former ambassador to Israel.

**September**    *Bridging the Arab-Jewish Divide:* Dr. Amal Elsana Alh'jooj, Social Worker extraordinaire & founder of Bedouin women's empowerment organization.

**August**         *Shalom Achshav briefing for Canadian youth; resisting Annexation and Occupation, the Role of Youth:* Brian Reeves, (at the time) Shalom Achshav's Director of Development and External Relations, and Jacob Kates Rose, student activist.

**June**            *Israel's Annexation Agenda and Canada's Response:* Jon Allen, former Canadian Ambassador to Israel.

**June**            *Looming Annexation and the Israel-U.S. Relationship:* Professor Guy Ziv, Foreign Policy, School of International Service, American University of Washington.

**May**             *Jerusalem: Eye of the Coming Storm?* Daniel Seidemann, Israeli Attorney and Director of Terrestrial Jerusalem.

**April**            *From Settlements to Annexation:* Shaqued Morag, Shalom Achshav Executive Director, and Brian Reeves, Shalom Achshav's former Director of Development and External Relations.

**April**            *Perilous times: Israel, Politics and the Coronavirus:* Amir Tibon, Ha'aretz correspondent.

## Recent Events and Consultations 2020 - 2021

### 2021

**July** CFPN Chair, Gabriela Goliger and the leaders of other progressive, Jewish organizations participated in a virtual meeting with Global Affairs Minister, the Honourable Marc Garneau. The Minister described his recent visit to Israel and the West Bank and listened to concerns from community leaders. Ms Goliger's brief recognized the importance of the Minister's support for a two-state solution, expressed concerns about the Sheikh Jarrah evictions, warned that expanding settlements in the West Bank would be detrimental to the two-state solution, and emphasized the need for moderation and compromise – on both sides.

**May            The Power of Coming Together Thursday – Virtual Vigil Against Violence Between Jews and Palestinians** On 20 May, at the height of the Gaza conflagration, CFPN co-sponsored a web forum, to express support for peace and co-existence rather than the continuance of Operation Guardian of the Walls. Participants included a gamut of national and international pro-peace Jewish organizations, including Shalom Achshav's Dana Mills.



Shalom Achshav's Dana Mills

### 2020

**June** Israel's Toronto Consul General, Galit Baram; Zoom meeting to discuss annexation, in participation with JLink. Toronto

**June** Israel's Montreal Consul General, David Levy; Zoom meeting to discuss annexation, in participation with JLink. Montreal



**March**            Live public event; *Understanding the Israeli Election Results*, with Simon Rosenblum, founding member of CFPN    Toronto

**January**           Live public event; *Palestinian couple speaks: Leaving Jerusalem under Duress*  
Ottawa



## **PeaceMatters 2020 - 2021**

Thanks to dedicated contributors, most notably the late Simon Rosenblum and Gabriella Goliger, our regular newsletter, PeaceMatters, provides insights and analysis on developments related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. All issues are available on our website: <https://www.peacenowcanada.org/category/newsletter/> Recent articles include:

- In Memoriam: Simon Rosenblum (z'l), August 2021
- New legal opinion could be game changer in home eviction cases, July 2021
- Beyond Birthright, webinar highlights, June 2021
- About the new government some useful viewing; Four Peace Now "alumni" in new Israeli government, from Americans for Peace Now, June 2021
- CFPN mourns the passing of Beverley Stern, June 2021
- Israel-Palestine Confederation: Pie in the Sky, by David Cohen, June 2021
- Peace Now promotes change in wake of recent violence, May 2021
- Big deal, but small change, by Simon Rosenblum, June 2021
- Peace Now promotes change in wake of recent violence, May 2021
- Mordechai Bar-On, z'l, was a champion of peace, April 2021
- Peace Now decries new Jewish enclave in Silwan, April 2021
- Ready for Israeli election number five? by Simon Rosenblum, March 2021
- Israeli election outcome? Fifty-fifty and bad news either way, by Simon Rosenblum, March 2021

- Peace Now leads joint action to protest eviction of Palestinians from Silwan, February 2021
- The Lie of the “Young Settlement” that is Annexing Israel, by Shaqued Morag, January 2021
- Fourth Time Not a Charm for Israeli Elections, by Simon Rosenblum, December 2020
- Why I Support Peace Now, by Daniela Veisman, December 2020
- Virtual West Bank tour soon to be available to Canadian audience, by Daniela Veisman, November 2020
- Israel in the time of Biden, by Simon Rosenblum, November 2020
- Canada-Israel free trade agreement: A gift to settlers? October 2020
- Amid Pandemic and Economic Crisis, Israel to Advance at Least 4,430 Settlement Units. October 2020
- Peace Now and partners fight dangerous new West Bank settlement plan. August 2020
- Two states is the one and only solution. August 2020
- Your donor dollars at work: Peace Now's youth program continues despite the pandemic. August 2020
- Jewish/Palestinian Equality, Yes! A Joint Jewish/Palestinian state, Impossible! (by Bob Katz, published in Canadian Jewish Record).
- Annex and Dispossess: Possible real-life consequences of annexation – July 2020
- Annexation Delayed; Annexation Denied – July 2020
- Annexation Watch #3 – Retired Canadian diplomats call on Trudeau to speak out against annexation – June 2020
- Daniel Seidemann – Jerusalem Eye of the Coming Storm? – June 2020
- Annexation Watch #2 – World reaction against annexation building – May 2020
- Annexation Watch #1 – No to Annexation; Yes to Peace – April 2020
- Bibi Wins – April 2020
- Israeli Election Aftermath: Part 2 – March 2020
- Fellowship winners advocate for peace – March 2020
- Bye bye Bibi – March 2020
- Peace Now protests alarming new settlement project – March 2020
- No art in the deal: The sad state of Israel-Palestine affairs - Feb 2020
- Where we stand on two key issues, BDS & Labelling - Jan 2020

## Press Releases

Canadian Friends of Peace Now issues an average of two press releases a month, ensuring that friends, the media, and the general public have regular access to our pro-Israel, pro-peace perspective. All are available in the 'News Release' section of our website:

<https://www.peacenowcanada.org/category/news-releases/>



**Rachel Katz: Administrator Extraordinaire**

Our sole paid staff member, Rachel Katz has served as administrator of Canadian Friends of Peace Now since 1990. Working on part-time, for a modest fee, she handles every aspect of what it takes to run our NGO.

She designs and sends out all communications, keeps track of our finances, manages our contact data, organizes fundraising telethons, organizes events, takes minutes, and the list goes on.

Whenever we've had in-person speaker events, Rachel was the one to book travel, hotels, auditoriums, and to stay on top of all logistics. Since COVID and the pivoting to online events, she has learned the ins and outs of hosting Zoom webinars and meetings. Most recently she has also mastered our new data management system.

In addition to all the routine, and not-so-routine business, Rachel offers advice and reliable, behind-the-scenes engagement. She has remained our "Go-To Expert" for the past 31 years because of her commitment to the cause of Israeli-Palestinian peace.

## Financial Statement – Summary from Accountant, Flax Spitzen's Report

### SHALOM ACHSHAV PEACE FOUNDATION

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 DECEMBER 2020

#### ASSETS and LIABILITIES

##### ASSETS

Cash	158,254
Other	2,771

Total	161,025
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LIABILITIES	nil
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#### REVENUES and EXPENSES

##### REVENUES

Donations	63,489
Other revenues	1,408

Total	64,897
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##### EXPENSES

Charitable and educational <sup>1.</sup>	34,741
Fundraising and general	19,432

Total	54,173
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Excess of revenues over expenses	10,724
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1. In 2020, we sent \$17,500 to Shalom Achshav. \$7,500 for funds committed in 2019 but not yet spent; \$10,000 for our 2020 project.

## CFPN Board of Directors

### Montreal



**Bernard Bohbot** is a Ph.D. student at Université du Québec à Montréal. His dissertation topic: *Phénoménologie de l'esprit juif en Mai 68*, deals with the way Jewish radical activists who took part in the May 1968 student riots in France were influenced by their own Jewish background. This research also surveys their tortuous (sometimes hostile) relations with the state of Israel.



**David Cohen:** Former senior civil servant and consultant. David Cohen holds post-graduate degrees in business administration and economics from the University of Montreal and completed doctoral studies in community and regional planning at UBC. He has worked for many years as an economist, senior government policy and political advisor and executive in the economic, social, intergovernmental and international fields in the federal, provincial and municipal sectors as well as a senior consultant in public program evaluation and strategic analysis.

He has published in scientific and professional journals and lectured across Canada in the fields of regional and municipal development and program evaluation. He has also published numerous articles on Israeli-Palestinian issues in the Quebec francophone media.



**Reuven Shultz** From 1991-2005 Reuven was the Montreal Director of the Labour Zionist Alliance (Farband). He has been active with Canadian Friends of Peace Now for more than fifteen years and is currently the Chair of the Montreal chapter.



**Bradley Wiseman** is a lawyer who practices in the field of public law. He is a graduate of the Université de Montréal Faculty of Law (LL.B. 2019, J.D. 2020), and has previously worked in law firms specializing in constitutional and Aboriginal law. Bradley has also worked as a researcher in various research institutes focused on public law, environmental law and the rights of Indigenous peoples. {Temporarily on leave due to vocational circumstances}

## Ottawa



**Gabriella Goliger** has been involved with Canadian Friends of Peace Now since its inception in the early 1980s. She helped found the Ottawa Chapter and served as its Chair for many years. For the past three years, she has also served as the organization's National Chair. Gabriella is an award-winning fiction author. Before devoting herself full time to fiction writing, she worked for 30 years as a freelance writer and editor. Her latest novel, *Eva Salomon's War* is set in Palestine during the British Mandate era.



**Brian Rothberg** After acquiring undergraduate degrees in business administration and education obtained a graduate degree in political science with a specialty in international relations. He is a retired educator with additional experience in real estate management and sales. He has volunteered in Israel through the Israeli Forum's Yad B'Yad program in the 1990s and has been active in Potlucks for Peace an Arab/Jewish dialogue group in Ottawa. With close family in Israel he has visited on a number of occasions for personal and educational purposes.



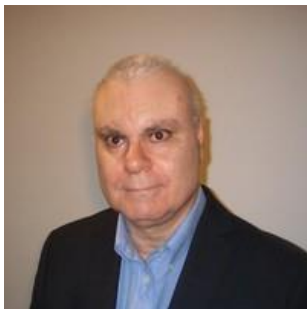
**Daniela Veisman** is an Intern Architect working in the National Capital Region. She completed her master's degree in architecture at Carleton University, and bachelor's in Environmental Design at the University of Manitoba. Daniela has been volunteering in Winnipeg and Ottawa in community initiatives involving newcomer integration and housing affordability. She finds hope in Shalom Achshav's vision and tenacity, and volunteers at CFPN by helping with events and social media.



## Toronto



**Jonathan Gendler** was born in Israel and lived there most of his adult life. He holds a master's degree in materials engineering and spent the majority of his career in the global semiconductor industry, initially in research and development, and later in business and executive positions. Jonathan moved to Toronto with his family in 2015 and has since managed his family's fine art business. Jonathan has been an outspoken supporter of peace and coexistence since his teenage years and has been active in and volunteered for liberal Zionist organizations.



**Sheldon Gordon** was born and raised in Winnipeg, and earned an M.A. at Carleton University's School of International Affairs. He later served as a Southam Fellow at the University of Toronto and as an Asia Pacific Foundation Fellow in India. During a lengthy career in journalism, he worked in Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto in roles with the Toronto Star, Financial Post, Canadian Broadcasting Corp., The Globe and Mail and the Financial Times of Canada. For many years, he was Canadian correspondent for the Jewish Forward. He has been a CFPN Board member since the late 1980s, including a lengthy stint as chair of the Toronto chapter.



**Bob Katz** recently cut back on his private practice as a professional social worker to spend more time as a social activist. Fortuitously, he closed his office a few weeks before the COVID19 lockdown. He is on the National Board of Canadians for Peace Now and Chair of the Toronto chapter. He is also on the JSpace Advisory Board. Prior to this, he spent fifteen years on the Board of Directors of the Urban Alliance on Race Relations including three as Vice President and three as President. Other volunteer activities include twelve years on the Board of Directors of the Social Planning Council of Metro Toronto and many, many years with Hillel Children's Workshop, including three as Chair. He is a longstanding member of Darchei Noam where his main duties are cleaning up and preparing last minute d'var torahs when no one else is available.



**Issie Lyon** was born into an active Labour Zionist household. He was active in the Labour Zionist Youth group, Habonim and its Quebec summer Camp Kvutza. Issie has one of the first Masters of Environmental Studies degrees in Canada and worked for the Ontario provincial government as an economic development policy advisor. He represented Ontario on a number of Federal Provincial committees. He chaired the Canadian Advisory Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility. Issie has been active in Canadian Friends of Peace Now for forty years. He was also one of the founders of JSpace Canada.



**Saul Ship**, originally from Montreal, is a Ph.D. Chemist who has spent most of his career in industry and continues to work as a Consultant to Medical Device companies. After spending a year in Israel doing research at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, he fell in love with the country and has returned many times with his wife, Viviane and family. He has always worried about the effects of the occupation on Israeli society and has tried to fight for inclusion and justice in Israel, and in Canada. He is an active member of Holy Blossom Temple where he sings in the choir and volunteers.



**Jacqueline Swartz** has published articles on travel, health and other topics in most major Canadian publications, as well as in Conde Nast Traveller, the Boston Globe and the Chicago Tribune and Agence France-Presse. She has visited no-go places in India, covered politics in Greece and published a three-part series on popular philosophy in France. A native San Franciscan, she lives in Toronto.

## In Memoriam



**Beverley Stern z”l** Beverley Stern joined the National Board in the 1980s while employed by the Canadian Jewish News. An early advocate of the Two-State solution, she was a voracious reader who could always defend her opinions with facts. Her sharp mind and a gentle countenance made her a valued member of the Toronto chapter until 2017. She organized and participated in numerous events, most recently, a well attended lecture by Major-General (ret.) Amnon Reshef, head of the Commanders for Israel’s Security. She passed away on 17 May 2021.



**Simon Rosenblum z”l** Simon Rosenblum was a founding member of CFPN who subsequently served as Chair of the National Board. A policy analyst by profession he was passionate about social justice, children’s rights, federalism, nuclear disarmament, and a Two-State solution. His varied career included serving as chief of staff to an Ontario Minister of Finance, writing, and numerous volunteer activities. Even after his retirement from the CFPN National Board, he lectured on Israeli politics and policies and remained a prolific writer, both for Peace Matters and TGIF, a weekly commentary on sports. He passed away on 17 August 2021.