

Canadian Friends
of Peace Now



Les Amis canadiens de
La Paix maintenant

Annual Report – 2022

Canadian Friends of Peace Now (CFPN) is a sister organization of Peace Now (שָׁלוֹם עַכְשָׁיו / Shalom Achshav), Israel's preëminent peace movement. We support Shalom Achshav's agenda 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.

CFPN has branches in Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto, an 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.

CFPN is a registered Canadian charity that raises funds to support 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 demand an immediate end to the unwarranted destruction of Palestinian homes.



- 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 join the hundreds of thousands of progressive Israelis who are staunchly opposed to the governing coalition's proposed sweeping judicial reforms, which would undermine the Supreme Court and weaken Israel's system of checks and balances.
- We abhor the construction of "illegal settlements" and worse still, legislation that retroactively approves them.
- We believe that the only alternative to the two-state solution is prolonged violence and bloodshed.



LA PAIX MAINTENANT



Canadian Activities

Canadian Friends of Peace Now promotes understanding of Israeli-Palestinian peace issues among Canada's Jewish communities and all Canadians. 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 meet with MPs and Cabinet Ministers and conduct briefings for Canada's Department of Global Affairs and MPs to acquaint them with the Israeli peace camp. We also voice our views to government leaders, Members of Parliament and relevant, government officials.

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

As Zionists, 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.



We reject the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement, which advocates a blanket boycott against Israel and seeks to de-legitimize state itself.

CFPN at the University of Toronto



In the summer of 2021, Canadian Friends of Peace Now launched a chapter at the University of Toronto. Since its inception, the U of T chapter has brought together young Jewish students on campus who are passionate about opening up the conversation surrounding Israel, especially within the school's Jewish community. They have hosted a webinar with the founders of the Palestinian and Israeli group Combatants for Peace, attended protests with other members of the local Jewish community, and forged a strong working relationship with Hillel at the University of Toronto.



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

One of the highlights of 2022 was our production of a three-episode video series with Dana Mills, Interim Executive Director of Peace Now, speaking on key topics of the day. The series, entitled “Peace Now Making a Difference,” explained the movement’s concerns, positions and activism on several issues, including home demolitions and the legalization of an illegal outpost. The series is posted to the home page of our website.

Another highlight was an in-person talk by Israeli security analyst Yossi Alpher at Temple Emanu-El in Toronto on June 15. This was the first live, post-COVID event CFPN had held in more than two-and-a-half years. The talk was entitled “The Slippery Slope: Israel-Palestine's Descent Towards a Dangerous One-state Reality.” The audience was deeply engaged by Alpher’s tell-it-like-it-is approach and his great breadth of expertise. The event included reference to Alpher’s latest book: *Death Tango: Ariel Sharon, Yasser Arafat and Three Fateful Days in March*. The Alpher event was recorded and is on our website. The next day we held a smaller session for Toronto donors, enabling them to meet with Alpher over a light lunch and engage him in discussion.

During 2022, we hosted or co-hosted 11 informative and well-attended webinars. These included an election aftermath analysis with Ha’aretz journalist Noa Landau, a discussion on anti-Zionism and antisemitism with historian Prof. Derek Penslar, a presentation on Jewish-Arab coexistence (shared society) with Mohammad Darawshe, and a talk on the ramifications for Israel of the war on Ukraine with Yossi Alpher. The videos of all these webinars are on our website under the tab: Past Webinars.

We are proud to have continued collaborating with the New Israel Fund of Canada, JSpaceCanada and other allies. In December, we joined with seven other progressive Zionist organizations in a letter that urged Canadian Jewry to oppose the extremist tendencies of the newly elected Israeli government, the most far-right in Israel’s history. The government had not yet taken action, but its occupation-deepening, civil-rights-suppressing proclivities were clear.

Earlier in the year we engaged in a different kind of partnership – this one with the Toronto Jewish Film Festival (TJFF). We co-sponsored two documentaries: “Blue Box,” about the

history of the Jewish National Fund and “Tantura,” about an alleged massacre in 1948 in a Palestinian village.

During the past two years, CFPN participated in meetings with Canada’s Minister of Global Affairs. In 2021, I joined with a delegation of Jewish organizations that met with (then) Minister Marc Garneau. In 2022, Toronto Chair Bob Katz joined a delegation of progressive Zionist groups that met with Minister Mélanie Joly and Member of Parliament Ya'ara Saks.

In 2022, we once again produced numerous newsletters, news releases and other communications that gave concise, informative analyses of events, promoted our positions and served as our rallying cries to the Canadian Jewish community.

Transition year for Peace Now

The year 2022 saw some high-level staff changes at Peace Now, which affected our funding of projects with them. Their Executive Director, Shaqued Morag, went on maternity leave in late 2021, with Dana Mills serving both as Interim Executive Director and as Director of Development and Community Relations. However, in August, Dana Mills announced her departure from the organization. Shaqued stepped back in during the fall, but only on a temporary basis because she intended to retire from Peace Now after a new leader could be found. Due to these changes, Peace Now was not able to present us with a full project proposal before the year’s end. However, in the late fall, they and we began planning a project that was to be realized in February 2023, a multi-faceted educational event to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the murder of Peace Now activist Emil Grunzweig. This project will be featured in our 2023 Annual Report. Early in 2023, Lior Amihai was hired as the new Executive Director of Peace Now.

Changes to our own team

Canadian Friends of Peace Now also experienced changes. Our long serving administrator, Rachel Katz, retired at the end of the year. She did not leave us before taking time to train our new, very capable administrator, Lisa Black, who has ensured that all the vital, behind-the-scenes work of running this organization continues without hiccups or glitches.*

Two board members, Ilana Albaze and Adam Roberts left us in 2022, but we gained a new member with Tamara Salpeter, who joined the Toronto chapter in April. Early in 2023, another new member – Alex Rose – joined the board.

**Lisa Black works for us parttime and is our only staff person. All other work is done by our volunteer board.*

Recent Webinars – November 2021 - 2022

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

2022

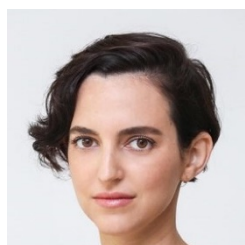
December



Does building shared society within Israel help promote a two-state solution? Mohammad Darawshe, a leading Palestinian peace activist and the Director of Strategy at the Center for Shared Society at Givat Haviva, proposed constructive actions to diminish the divide between Israelis and their Palestinian neighbours.

Jonathan Gendler, host; Gabriella Gollger, moderator.

November



Election Aftermath; What Happens Now: Two weeks after Israel's 1 November 2022 election, Noa Landau, deputy editor-in-chief of Haaretz discussed the prospects of Prime Minister Netanyahu forming the most right wing, expansionist government in Israel's history.

Webinar – Reuven Shultz, host and moderator.

October

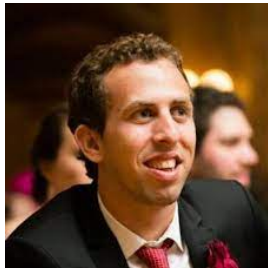


When Criticism Becomes Hateful; Defining

Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism: Harvard history Professor, Dr. Derek Penslar presented a cogent assessment of the issues surrounding definitions of antisemitism, conflation of opposition to Israel with antisemitism, and paths forward.

Webinar – Jaqueline Swartz host; Bob Katz, moderator.

August



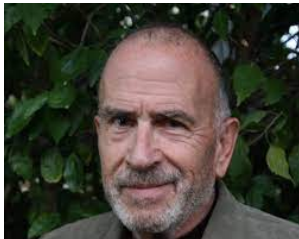
Reflecting on Tisha B'Av and Present-Day

Jerusalem: The Use and Abuse of Jewish Heritage: Alon Arad, Executive Director of Emek Shaveh [עמק שווה], is an archaeologist as well as a human rights, and heritage Policy activist. He has a special interest in Jerusalem and is strongly opposed to its historical and architectural importance being coopted for political gain.

Webinar – Introduced by Devon Spier;

Presented by New Israel Fund of Canada; co-sponsored by Canadian Friends of Peace Now and ARZA Canada

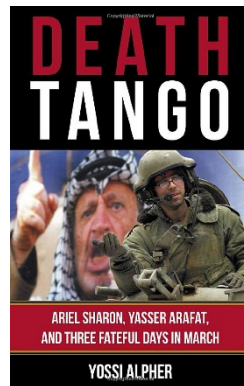
June



The Slippery Slope: Israel-Palestine's

Descent Towards a Dangerous One-state Reality; Yossi Alpher, a distinguished, security analyst and former, senior official with Mossad returns to open our first post-

COVID live event. His talk moved from the brief window for peace that opened in early 2002 and closed in March of that year to present day realities.



Temple Emanu-El; Live event & Webinar

Welcome, Rabbi Debra Landsberg; Introduction, Bob Katz; Moderator, Jacqueline Swartz, host.

May



The Problem with Israel's Historic Land

Purchase Entity; A. Daniel Roth & Maya Rosen are social activists and researchers, working for a peaceful end to the occupation. Their recent, investigative report, "A Progressive Jewish Response to the Discriminatory Policies of KKL JNF," explains how the money that has been put into Jewish National Fund Blue Boxes helped to expand settlements and evict Palestinians.

Webinar – Bob Katz, host; Saul Ship moderator

March

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be likely to



Putin's War on Ukraine: Ramifications for Israel
Middle East; Security analyst Yossi Alpher discussed the ramifications Israel and other Middle East states would face following Russia's war against the Ukraine.

Webinar – Gabriella Gollger, host and moderator

February



Combatants for Peace:

Palestinians and Israelis Fighting for Peace Together

Combatants for Peace; Palestinians and Israelis Fighting for Peace Together: Chen Alon [left] and Sulaiman Khatib [right], described their backgrounds and told us how and why they created Combatants for Peace, the only organization worldwide that was founded by former fighters from both sides of an active conflict



Peace Now University of Toronto, host. Alex Rose, moderator

February



The Alarming Rise

in Settler Violence; Avner Gvaryahu, co-director of Breaking the Silence, and Dana Mills, Acting CEO of Peace Now explain how illegal outposts and settlements have

spawned the “Price Tag” youth and their increasing use of violence to remove indigenous Palestinian people from West Bank villages.

Co-Sponsored with the New Israel Fund of Canada

Moderator, Jacqueline Swartz; Host Gabriella Goliger

January



Sari Bashi's Unique Lens on the Occupation; Sari Bashi is a human rights activist and a special advisor to Human Rights Watch. She is a Jewish woman whose life partner is a Palestinian. Her very personal webinar described her experiences being stopped at checkpoints, dealing with her daughter's school and other everyday differences that are unique to her mixed family. It continued with a discussion of what could be done to improve the lives of all Israelis .

Co-Hosts, Brian Rothberg and Daniela Veisman

2021

November



How we got to where we are in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: And how things could move forward; Dr. Shaul Arieli served in the

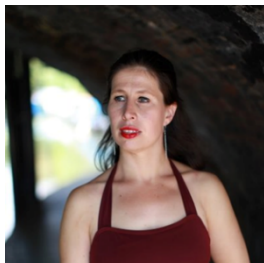
IDF, initially a Paratrooper, he progressed to duties that included the demarcation of a future Israeli-Palestinian border, the route of the Separation Barrier, and the preparation of official negotiations with the Palestinians under the Rabin government. He is presently a teaching fellow at the Herzliya Interdisciplinary Center and at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dr. Ariel's webinar provided a concise history of the Israel/Palestine illustrated by an Atlas which he prepared. The Truman Institute Atlas of the Jewish–Arab Conflict can be downloaded [HERE](#)

Host, Bob Katz; moderator Daniela Veisman

October

Peace Now's Two-State Initiatives are Essential; Dana Mills, then Peace Now's Director of Development and External Relations, discussed the options for future Israeli/Palestinian relations and explained that Peace Now doesn't have a "Plan B," because a two-state solution is the only plausible and realistic option.

Introduction, Gabriella Goliger; host Bob Katz; moderator, Jonathan Gendler





PeaceMatters 2022 - 2021

Thanks to dedicated contributors, most notably 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:

2022

December *Peace Now at Work: Important Updates*

Peace Now, along with citizens from many sectors of Israeli society, protest inauguration of new hardline government.

November *Mourn, warn, and stand strong for peace*

It's been a heartbreaking week in the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict and it's a prelude of things to come.

October *Good news, bad news and a critical election*

Israel update: Some good news and some bad news – spoiler alert – the bad news outweighs the good news.

August

Jon Allen makes the case for the two-state solution - Is the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict dead, as some people argue? Or is there hope for eventual progress on this front despite decades of stalemate and deepening animosity between the two sides?

July

Peace Now takes action against powerful new settler movement

On 20 July, thousands of would-be settlers set up illegal encampments in the West Bank in hopes of seizing territory for future settlements. Defense Minister, Benny Ganz emphasized that this was unlawful and that the army might have to remove or demolish these structures. Other MKs, including Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked, describing them as “a real inspiration.”

Peace Now activists went to the sites to resist the settlers. With their leadership the protests grew, and the encroachment became untenable. The Times of Israel reported that, by late the next day, all the encampments had been dismantled and evacuated by Israeli authorities.

Bennett-Lapid government entrenched the occupation, says Peace Now

On taking office, the Bennett-Lapid government promised to maintain the status quo on settlements rather than pursuing a program of expansion. A report by Peace Now's Settlement Watch demonstrated that, Instead of maintaining the status quo, the government continued the expansionist policies of the Netanyahu regimes and deepened the occupation.

June

Don't give up on the two-state vision, Alpher says

With no peace negotiations on the horizon, Israel and Palestine are, by default, sliding towards a bi-national entity that will increasingly become a cauldron of civil strife. This article is a summary of the Canadian Friends of Peace Now talk Yossi Alpher gave at Temple Emanu-el in Toronto.

March

Recent Peace Now actions: Sheikh Jarrah residents win significant victory

In 1988, the heirs of a Jewish family that had owned a house in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood of East Jerusalem prior to the 1948 founding of the State of Israel demanded that the decedents of the Palestinian family that had lived in the house since the 1948 war be evicted. This became a *cause célèbre*, pitting settlers who were seeking the removal of as many East Jerusalem Palestinians as possible against Peace Now, and progressive groups that sought a rapprochement between Jews and Palestinians. Peace Now lobbied for fairness and assisted with a legal battle that went all the way to the Supreme Court.

On 1 March 2022, Israel's Supreme Court ruled that four Palestinian families in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood of East Jerusalem were entitled to continue to stay in their homes pending a final resolution.

February

Amnesty International's Report on Israeli Apartheid; Three Essays

On 1 February 2022, Amnesty International released a report: *Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians; Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity*. Three CFPN Board members responded to this report. Bob Katz wrote: *Name Calling Will Not End the Occupation*. Bernard Bohbot wrote: *The New Amnesty International Report on Israel is Sheer Slander*. Brian Rothberg wrote: *The Label Doesn't Matter, the Ugly Reality Does*.

January

Two States Still the Best Option Says Israeli Security Institute

The prestigious Institute for National Security Studies [INSS] at Tel Aviv University conducted an in-depth analysis of various one-state models. The conclusion: none of the one-state models would work; the two-state solution is still preferable, despite its shortcomings.

2021

December

Mega-Settlement in Qalandiya Could be Fatal to Two-State Solution

Peace Now sounded the alarm bells on learning that Israel's "Minister of Housing has dropped a political bomb." A new plan calls for a huge, Jewish settlement in Qalandiya (also known as Atarot), which would block territorial contiguity between Ramallah and East Jerusalem. This would greatly impede future negotiations for a future Palestinian state and reduce Israel's ability to negotiate a two-state solution.

October

New Wave of Settler Violence Calculated and Cruel

Gabriella Goliger described how a recent, violent, settler attack on the tiny Palestinian village of Khirbet al-Mufkara is part of a rising trend of violence against Palestinian civilians. Drawing on sources including Peace Now's Settlement Watch, Yesh Din, and newspaper reports, she documents the fact that these attacks are not simply isolated incidents.

Press Releases

Canadian Friends of Peace Now issued more than a dozen press releases in 2022, ensuring that friends, the media, and the general public had 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/>



Resignation of Rachel Katz: Administrator Extraordinaire

Our sole paid staff member, Rachel Katz, who served as administrator of Canadian Friends of Peace Now since 1990 advised CFPN she would be resigning at the end of 2022. While the Board of Directors recognized her desire to move on with her life, all were saddened by the loss of this knowledgeable, loyal and hardworking member of our team.



Meet Our New Administrator – Lisa Black

This fall, Lisa Black became the administrator of Canadian Friends of Peace Now. With a background in marketing & communications, Lisa uses her skills to help the organization run smoothly. A passionate advocate for justice and peace, Lisa is committed to the cause of Israeli-Palestinian peace. When not at her desk Lisa can be found running a busy household and cooking homemade meals for her three lucky children!

Working from her home office in Montreal, Lisa 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.

She has learned the ins and outs of hosting Zoom webinars and meetings and mastered our new data management system. When we're back to having in-person events with guest speakers, Lisa will book travel, hotels, auditoriums, and stay on top of all logistics.

Many thanks to Rachel Katz for agreeing to stay on a few extra months to show Lisa our systems and procedures.

Financial Statement – Summary from Accountant, Flax Spitzen’s Report

SHALOM ACHSHAV PEACE FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 DECEMBER 2021

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

Assets		2021	2020
Cash & short-term investments		172,639	158,254
HST receivable		1,180	2,771
Total		173,819	161,025
Liabilities		nil	nil

REVENUES & EXPENSES

REVENUES		2021	2020
Donations		\$80,732	\$63,489
Investment Income		537	1,000
Gain on Foreign Exchange		113	408
Total		\$81,312	\$64,897
EXPENSES			
Charitable & Educational		46,759	34,741
Fundraising & General		21,829	19,432
Total		\$68,588	\$54,173

Excess Of Revenues Over Expenses		\$12,794	\$10,724
Balance, Beginning of Year		\$161,025	\$150,301
Balance, End of Year		\$173,819	\$161,025

The 2022 Financial Statement will be published in CFPN’s 2023 Annual Report.

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.

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 ten years, she has served as CFPN'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, Brian 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 volunteered in Israel through the Israeli Forum's Yad B'Yad program in the 1990s and was 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.



Ilana Elbaze completed a Bachelor of Environmental Design at the University of Manitoba and a Master of Architecture degree from McGill University. She also studied at the Bezalel Academy of Art & Design of the Hebrew University Jerusalem. She is an Intern Architect with Watson MacEwen Teramura Architects.

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.



Bob Katz spent many years combining his profession as a social worker with his passion for social activism. He is on the National Board of Canadians for Peace Now and Chair of the Toronto chapter. He has also served on the JSpaceCanada 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 JSpaceCanada.



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.