



Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canadien

# Lifeline

CHANUKAH | WINTER 2023 / 5784 | NATIONAL EDITION

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*Happy  
Chanukah*

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## Holiday greetings from **Arlène Madar Abitan**, National President



It is my honour to accept the national presidency of Canadian Magen David Adom. I could not be more proud to serve Israel, especially at this

crucial time. Magen David Adom has been in my heart for as long as I can recall. My connection to my community and to the State of Israel is profound and ongoing.

As Israel's first leader in national emergency health services, MDA plays a vital role in the lives of all Israelis. MDA proudly possesses the only shielded underground national blood bank in the world; a facility that secures Israel's blood supply and the safety of the entire nation.

Magen David Adom and the IDF are Israel's two most vital entities, with MDA serving as an auxiliary service to the IDF in times of war, but it also does so much more!

The paramedics' philosophy and collective efforts make the strength of MDA's unrivaled first-response capabilities.

Since October 7<sup>th</sup>, we have all been shaken, woken up again to revisited horrific moments of our past history. I admire each and every person involved in this organisation whose mandate is purely to save lives. Canadian Magen David Adom has taken an active role in raising and securing funds to support MDA in Israel. We desperately need your help at this moment!

Raising funds is an ongoing effort I am committed to. While taking the lead, my wish during my mandate is to create more awareness, bring strategy and support to our Canadian office, and along the way, engage the next generation.

*"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is joy."*

## Vœux de bonnes fêtes **Arlène Madar Abitan**, Présidente nationale

Je suis très honorée d'accepter la présidence nationale de Magen David Adom Canadien. Je ne pourrais être plus fière de servir Israël, tout particulièrement en cette période cruciale. D'aussi loin que je me souviens, Magen David Adom m'a toujours tenu à cœur. Mon lien à ma communauté et à l'État d'Israël est profond et permanent.

En tant que premier leader d'Israël en services nationaux de santé d'urgence, MDA joue un rôle essentiel dans la vie de tous les Israéliens. MDA détient fièrement la seule banque de sang nationale en abri souterrain au monde, une installation qui protège l'approvisionnement sanguin d'Israël et la sécurité de toute la nation.

Magen David Adom et Tsahal sont les deux entités les plus vitales d'Israël. MDA sert de service auxiliaire à Tsahal en temps de guerre, mais il fait bien plus! La philosophie et les efforts collectifs des paramédics font la force des capacités de première intervention inégalées de MDA.

Depuis le 7 octobre, nous avons tous été secoués, éveillés une fois de plus aux moments d'horreurs revisités de notre

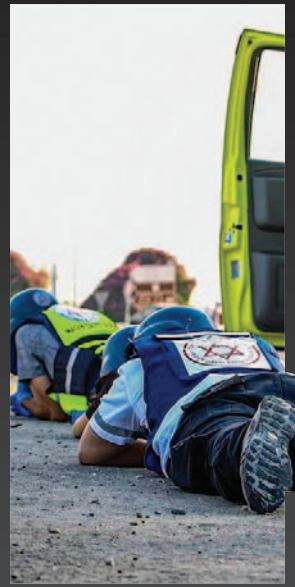
passé. J'admire toutes les personnes qui participent à cette organisation dont le mandat consiste purement et simplement à sauver des vies. Magen David Adom Canadien a pris un rôle actif en vue de recueillir et de garantir des fonds pour soutenir MDA en Israël. Nous avons désespérément besoin de votre aide en ce moment!

Recueillir des fonds est un effort constant envers lequel je me suis engagée. Tout en prenant l'initiative, mon souhait durant mon mandat est de susciter davantage de mobilisation, d'apporter une stratégie et du soutien à notre bureau canadien, et en cours de route, d'inciter la prochaine génération à participer.

« Je dormais et je rêvais que la vie n'était que joie. Je m'éveillais et je vis que la vie n'est que service. Je servis et je vis que le service est joie. »

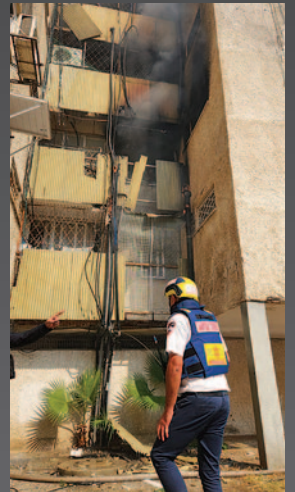
**Arlène Madar Abitan**,  
National President / Présidente nationale





# ISRAEL AT WAR

MDA's men and women put their lives on the line to save others



BRING THEM HOME **NOW!**

HOSTAGES AND MISSING FAMILIES FORUM

#BringThemHome**Now**





## MDA's new National Blood Centre makes international news with a visit from CNN's Wolf Blitzer



Since October 7, MDA's Blood Services Division has collected over 70,000 units of blood through community blood drives across the country. This is nearly triple the amount of blood MDA normally collects in this amount of time. MDA supplies blood to all hospitals in Israel and supplies all the blood to the IDF.

## Magen David Adom Volunteer Program

*Are you ready for the experience of a lifetime?*

Here's your chance to learn how to be an MDA first-responder and volunteer on an ambulance in Israel

**SUMMER 2024**



Photo by Tomer Neuberg/FLASH90

For more info, please email us at [info@cmdai.org](mailto:info@cmdai.org) | [www.cmdai.org](http://www.cmdai.org)



## The Heroes of October 7<sup>th</sup> are Revealed

# The story of Anas Owuda – an EMT and ambulance driver in the Gilboa Region

### ISRAEL

On Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, while I was on vacation from work, I was woken by a sudden phone call from my supervisor. In a confused voice, he tells me, "I need you. We don't know what is happening in the south, but something is definitely going on."

I didn't think twice. I got my uniform on and got to the station in order to collect my protective equipment and make it for an important briefing. I left for Ofakim. All the way to the south, I was hearing on the radio reports and news, but I refused to believe. We weren't yet aware of the magnitude of the attacks.

My thoughts are cut off immediately when a military vehicle in front of me signals me to stop. The commander comes out to me clearly agitated and tells me he has three wounded soldiers in the vehicle. Despite the shock, I check them and I see one is in critical condition and two more in serious condition. I don't think twice. I take them into my ambulance, give them life-saving treatment and drive as fast as I can to Soroka Hospital.

During the drive, I realize that one of the soldier's conditions is deterio-



rating and I will have to get aerial support for a faster and more efficient evacuation to hospital. After receiving assistance from MDA's emergency call center, I was able to get to Sde Teiman helipad and rendezvous with the MDA medevac helicopter. I transferred the casualties, and for the first time since the morning, I took a breath. I felt that the soldiers are receiving the best treatment right now. From there, not stopping even for a moment, I continue from one casualty to another; from the field to the hospital.

While I was providing treatment to one of the wounded, I noticed from afar people speaking Arabic, and realized that it is a group of Hamas terrorists. I immediately understood that all of us in the area are in great



danger. I got everyone I could see into the first apartment I saw and we hid there. I must mention I was not armed. We waited there for help.

A few minutes later, multiple forces arrived and heavy gunfire began. Together with the Special Forces, they evacuated the remaining citizens under heavy barrages of rockets and nonstop gunfire. Eventually we managed to get out of there and straight away I continued to drive to more scenes and deliver treatment to the wounded.

In one of the evacuations, while I was on my way back from Soroka Hospital to the field, I met a soldier from a special unit with an arm injury. I provided him with initial treatment that included stopping the bleeding. I asked him to come with

me to the hospital where he would receive the treatment he needs, but he insisted that there are still many terrorists around and that taking care of them is his first priority. I wished for him to keep himself safe and prayed to meet him once again, healthy and well.

Countless reports on the communications system. Countless casualties. Teams broken up at the entrance to Soroka Hospital, and yet united as I have never seen them before. I drove without thinking. I saw things without feeling. The only thought that went through my head was that I have to save as many lives as I can, and I hope I succeeded. This is a day I will never forget.

**Canadian Magen David Adom mourns the tragic loss of the MDA paramedics, EMTs, and first-responders who were murdered in the horrific attacks on October 7<sup>th</sup> and of those who have been killed in the line of duty since.**

- Aharon Chaminov z'l
- Amit Mann z'l
- Avia Hezroni z'l
- Lior Levy z'l
- Saar Margolis z'l
- Yarin Peled z'l
- Shir Bitton z'l
- Uriel Bibi z'l
- Dr. Eitan Neeman z'l
- Lior Arazi z'l
- Amir Tzur z'l

***May their memories forever be a blessing***





## The Tragic Story of Amit Mann z'l

# One of the MDA paramedics and EMTs murdered by Hamas on October 7<sup>th</sup>

### ISRAEL

Testimonies taken from the YNET article by Eitan Glickman | 10.10.23 | 23:14

Ambassador Gilad Erdan, Israel's Permanent Representative to the UN, exposed the Hamas brutalities to world leaders and highlighted the horrific murder of MDA paramedic Amit Mann z'l.

MDA paramedic and paramedic instructor in the Negev, Amit Mann z'l, was murdered, shot by Hamas terrorists as they entered the clinic in Kibbutz Be'eri while she was treating the wounded on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. She was besieged for six hours in the Be'eri clinic, treating the wounded and begging for security forces to come. She recorded the terrorists' shots and wrote to her sister: "I don't think I'll get out of this, I love you."

Two days after the chilling message she recorded for and sent to her sister, Lior, as she was besieged with dead and injured in the clinic in Kibbutz Be'eri, the body of Magen David Adom paramedic Amit Mann, 22, was found Monday night - along with over 100 other bodies. Before communication was cut off, Amit



wrote a WhatsApp message to her sister, Haviva, reading: "They're here. They're in the clinic. I don't think I'll make it out of here. I love you."

Lior had been searching for her sister ever since receiving the final message from Amit on Saturday afternoon, in which gunfire can be heard as terrorists took over the clinic. Throughout Saturday, sobbing, she scoured the beds in the wards of Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon. She pounced on incoming ambulances trying to learn of her sister's fate. "I don't know what's happened to her" she said at

the time. "I'm just so worried waiting for her."

Throughout the nerve-wracking, long hours, Amit and Lior were conversing over WhatsApp – until the communication was cut off. "Do you have more medical personnel with the injured?" asked Lior. Amit responded: "There's a nurse and a dentist here. We're doing what we can."

Lior later asks if there's more shooting. Amit answers: "Yes. It's never ending. It looks like there are more terrorists. They're in people's houses. Army forces have been hit." The conversation ended with Amit writing: "It's not good". Her sister tried to raise her spirits: "Don't lose hope. It's a war and we'll win – we're stronger. Focus on taking care of yourself. It'll be over soon. The army are already operating there." "I love you. Thank you." wrote Amit and didn't write anymore.

Today, after her sister's body was found, in tears, Lior told Ynet: "My heart is broken and bleeding. I just can't take in the bad news. We'll say goodbye to our Amit. She was

the princess of our home, the light of our lives who lost her life in the battle for Be'eri, and as an experienced paramedic, tried saving lives until the last moment when she was murdered by evil terrorists. We love you so much. You'll always be the heroine love of our lives."

In addition to Amit's body, a further 107 bodies were found on Kibbutz Be'eri. Amit was buried in the cemetery in Netivot accompanied by family members and hundreds of her friends. Amit dreamed of studying medicine and continuing to save lives.

MDA Director General Eli Bin on Amit Mann: "Amit was a heroic paramedic who continued to treat the wounded even while terrorists tried to break into the clinic in Kibbutz Be'eri. She sacrificed herself while trying to protect the lives of the patients – her priority was only what was best for them. Her untimely passing left us shocked and in pain. Magen David Adom cherishes all that Amit has done, and our employees and volunteers bow their heads and hug her family. May her memory be blessed."

## CMDA holds its 2023 Annual General Meeting



We thank Joseph Amzallag for his outstanding work as National President over the last three years and we are proud to welcome CMDA's new National President, Arlene Madar Abitan.

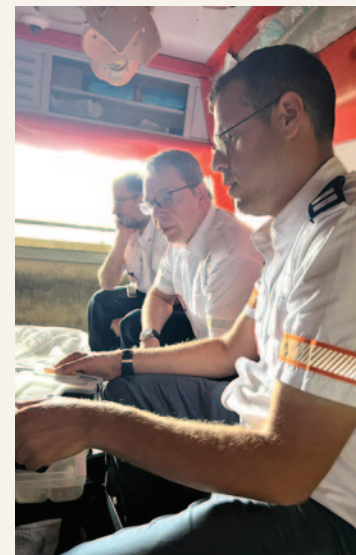


# Canadian doctors drop everything to go save lives in Israel

## ISRAEL

Each year, CMDA sends a delegation of Canadian physicians to Israel to take part in training seminars, drills, and ambulance shifts with Magen David Adom. Once the physicians complete their training, they become part of MDA's International Physician Unit. The purpose of this unit is to provide additional support to MDA's paramedics and EMTs in times of great need.

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, no one was prepared for the attacks that were carried out and the war that ensued. The need for emergency medical services rose drastically and MDA was in need of additional support in order to re-



spond effectively. CMDA began gathering names of physicians interested in volunteering in Israel during the crisis, and to our amazement, the list exceeded 130 names. Physicians are sent based on the specific demands of MDA, and so far, fifteen Canadian doctors have travelled to Israel to assist with the relief efforts.

Ira Price, from outside of Hamilton, is one of three Canadian physicians who arrived in Israel in the early stages of the war.

"We worked on the individual for such a long period of time and eventually, we are so thankful that we were able to save a life."

The girl's parents came to thank him and the other paramedics and EMTs from the team he joined.

"I must say how grateful I am for you, for all of you, for fighting," the father said as his wife cried beside him. "You didn't give up. Because of you, my child is still breathing today."

CMDA continues to send physicians from the International Unit as needed. Should the need grow, we will send more physicians to assist with MDA's vital efforts in this time of war.

If you are interested in joining MDA's International Unit, please send us an email at [info@cmdai.org](mailto:info@cmdai.org)





# Peer to Peer (P2P) Campaigns

## Unprecedented Support for Magen David Adom



Since the horrific attacks of October 7<sup>th</sup>, communities and individuals across Canada have mobilized in support of Magen David Adom. CMDA has never seen such a strong show of support in the form of Peer to Peer (P2P) campaigns and community fundraisers.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of inspiring individuals, both young and old, CMDA has and continues to fund urgently needed-medical equipment and supplies for Magen David Adom in Israel.



In addition, these campaigns have funded dozens of new emergency vehicles, including ambulances, mobile intensive care units, and medi-cycles.

As the war continues, so does the need for vehicles and medical equipment. If you are eager to start a campaign of your own, there is no better time than now. Just send us an email at [info@cmdai.org](mailto:info@cmdai.org) and we will make it happen!



## Shira Choir Collects Funds for Magen David Adom

**MONTREAL** – Singers from the Montreal Shira Choir were inspired when they sang at the “Music for Israel” benefit concert supporting Magen David Adom. When they got home, they emptied their piggybanks and joined forces to make a meaningful donation to MDA Israel. We thank them for their hard work and dedication! A special thank you goes out to Anne-Marie St-Laurent of Shira Choir and her group home for this initiative.



# Montreal musicians organize benefit concert for Magen David Adom

## MONTREAL

In a matter of a couple of weeks, a group of Montreal musicians joined forces in organizing a widely successful benefit concert with 100% of the proceeds going to Magen David Adom in Israel. The concert was an emotional one, putting an emphasis on the more than 1,400 Israeli lives lost to the brutal massacres of October 7<sup>th</sup> and the estimated 240 men, women, and children being held hostage by Hamas.

As guests walked up to the Shaare Zion Beth-El congregation, they were welcomed by the sight of a Magen David Adom ambulance. Upon entering the synagogue, it was impossible to miss the powerful display of solidarity - a wall covered with posters of all the hostages known to be held by Hamas.

It was a beautiful, emotional and uplifting night. All in all, the concert generated more than \$38,000 for the purchase of medical equipment and supplies for Magen David Adom's paramedics and EMTs in the field.

A big thank you to the musicians, the organizers Stephanie Finkelstein, Miléna Kartowski-Aïach, and David Peterman, to Congregation Shaare Zion Beth-El for hosting, and all the volunteers for the amazing vision and dedication. You are our partners in saving lives!



## Solomon Schechter Academy Students proudly pose in front of MDA ambulance



**MONTREAL** – The morning after a very successful benefit concert for MDA at Shaare Zion Beth-El congregation, Solomon Schechter Academy students were happy to find an MDA ambulance parked in front of their school.



# Montreal synagogues launch emergency campaigns for Magen David Adom



## CONGREGATION SHAAR SHALOM LAVAL

[L.-R.] Samuel Moyal, CMDA Eastern Region Director, Hirsh Schnayer, Treasurer, Mike Andradi, President, and Sidney Benizri, CMDA National Executive Director.



## CONGREGATION OR HAHAYIM MONTREAL

[L.-R.] Sidney Benizri, CMDA National Executive Director, Marco Moyal, President, Ariel Sabbah, Treasurer and Samuel Moyal, CMDA Eastern Region Director.



## Canadian ambulance manufacturer Demers donates ambulance to Magen David Adom

Samuel Moyal, CMDA Eastern Region Director, Rick Leckner, CMDA Board member, Gill Obadia, CMDA Treasurer, Joseph Amzallag, CMDA Immediate Past National President, Alain Brunelle, CEO of Demers Ambulances, Arlene Madar Abitan, CMDA National President, Arieh Rossdeutsch, CMDA National Vice-President, Reverend Cantor Daniel Benlolo, CMDA Board member, Mayer Diamond, CMDA Executive member, Sidney Benizri, CMDA National Executive Director.



# Canadian Donors Secure Replacement Medevac Helicopter for MDA

## TORONTO

On Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, three days after the onset of the current war, Canadian Magen David Adom received a frantic phone call from their Israeli counterparts. As one of MDA's three helicopters from its fleet had just taken off near the Gaza Strip carrying three wounded and three crew members set to head north to Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon, a rocket hit and destroyed two of the three rotors. The crew miraculously managed to land the helicopter, but the damage to the rotors was irreversible.

The MDA head staff had advised that an emergency helicopter was needed immediately to replace this one, as purchasing and shipping a new set of rotors to Israel in a timely fashion was impossible. CMDA staff immediately took it upon themselves to find the donors that would be able to support this extremely important initiative of purchasing a multimillion-dollar replacement helicopter to restore this essential part of the fleet.

The helicopter in question is the S-76 Sikorsky Medevac Helicopter and is outfitted with advanced life-saving equipment, including oxygen and medical suction systems. With this vehicle, medics can load and unload patients conveniently and easily, directly communicate with hospitals or other emergency service facilities on the ground, and fit specific air medical missions. The S-76 emergency medical service helicopter exceeds those demands with extra margins of safety, reliability, and medical mission effectiveness.

The first phone call occurred at 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time and by 4:15 p.m., the replacement helicopter was in the works. The incredible generosity of the Roadburg Family Foundation and its board ensured this project was ready to take flight with their donation of two million dollars. At this point in time, we



were ready to order the helicopter and were approximately halfway to the monetary target to fully fund a replacement. This is when we reached out to the benevolent Wynn Family Foundation who were able to put us significantly closer to the full purchase. By the following day, the Fisher Family Foundation generously offered the remaining amount necessary to fully reach the goal of purchasing a replacement S-76 Sikorsky helicopter.

We are eternally grateful for the benevolence of our Canadian donors in funding this vital helicopter, essential for saving thousands of lives. The helicopter is now in the process of shipment and is expected to be making life-saving flights before the first night of Hanukkah. This is truly a miracle.







## MDA heroes attend JNF's iconic Negev Dinner

### TORONTO

On Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup>, Canadian Magen David Adom was fortunate to have MDA dispatch agent Ronit Glaser and first-responder Zvi Tibber from Israel visit Toronto. Both

Glaser and Tibber were operating in their respective roles on October 7<sup>th</sup>, the day of the horrific Hamas attacks. CMDA and the special guests attended the Jewish National Fund 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Negev

Dinner and had the opportunity to meet many individuals from the community who asked about their experiences. In addition, CMDA National Executive Director Sidney Benizri, Central Regional Director

Hershel Recht and Administrative Coordinator Iris Ehrent also had the opportunity to meet and have a discussion with former Israeli Ambassador to the United States Dr. Michael Oren.

## A most memorable breakfast for Israel

### TORONTO

On Monday November 13<sup>th</sup>, CMDA was proud to present a phenomenal buffet breakfast at Bistro Grande Restaurant in Toronto. A sold-out crowd of friends and supporters had the opportunity to hear from our first-responder and paramedic as well as Israel's Consul General for Ontario and Western Canada, Idit Shamir, and Israel's new Ambassador to Canada, Iddo Moed. The en-

gaged crowd asked the speakers many thought-provoking and important questions about Magen David Adom's role in the current War and also many regional questions about anti-Semitism in the midst of Canada's Jewish Community. National Executive Director Sidney Benizri presented the Ambassador with a beautiful ambulance model plaque welcoming him and wishing him the best in his new position.





# The Winnipeg Community Unites in a Heartfelt Concert to Honour Yoram Hamizrachi East z'l and Support Ambulance Campaign for Israel

## WINNIPEG

By Ron East

In a heartwarming gathering, the Winnipeg Jewish community and its allies came together at Faith Temple on October 21<sup>st</sup> to pay tribute to the late Yoram Hamizrachi East and to officially launch the CMDA Winnipeg campaign. The goal: to raise funds for the purchase of an ambulance dedicated to the memory of Yoram, and to station it in Kiryat Shmona in northern Israel. This ambulance will serve the citizens of a region where Yoram was once affectionately known as "The King of the North".

Pastor Rudy Fidel of Faith Temple, a close friend of Yoram z'l, kicked off the evening by sharing touching memories of his friendship with Yoram and the profound impact Yoram had on his life. Sharon Fraiman, CMDA Western Region Director, took the stage to address the tragic losses that Magen David Adom (MDA) experienced on October 7<sup>th</sup>. MDA lost ten paramedics and EMTs who were courageously trying to reach victims of Hamas' violence on that dark Saturday. Ambulances were lost and equipment was damaged. Sharon made a heartfelt plea to those in attendance, urging them to do whatever they could to support Israel and CMDA.

The evening was filled with beautiful music and heartfelt performances. Jane Enkin & Friends entertained the crowd with klezmer music and wonderful renditions of Yiddish songs that had everyone singing along. John and Irene Plantz brought their unique blend of Jewgrass & Bluegrass to entertain the audience. John shared his deep connection with Israel, his love for the Jewish people, and his commitment to the Winnipeg chapter of CMDA. Shoshana & Friends delivered stunning Israeli songs that had Hebrew speakers in the crowd singing and clapping along.

The legacy of Yoram Hamizrachi East z'l was poignantly shared by his son, Ron East. Yoram's heroic actions during the Six-Day War, his leadership in the security zone of Southern Lebanon, and his role in rescuing Ethiopian Jews exemplified his unwavering dedication to Zionism. In Winnipeg, Yoram was a prominent figure in the local Jewish community, sought after for his expertise on the Middle East, the Arab world, and counter-terrorism.

Chief Jim Bear emotionally spoke of his dear friend Yoram z'l who had served as the economic development director in Little Grand Rapids for eight years. He highlighted Yoram's pivotal role in securing over \$16 million from Ottawa for a water filtration



system that continues to provide fresh drinking water to the remote community.

Pastor Hilda Leveque shared her fond memories of Yoram and the lasting impact he had, not only on her and her family, but also on the entire community of Little Grand Rapids.

By the end of the night, over \$10,000 were raised towards the purchase of the ambulance, bringing the campaign to over \$17,000. If you wish to contribute to Yoram's ambulance fund, please reach out to Sharon Fraiman for more information and donation details. Your support is greatly appreciated.



# Annual Gala Event in Winnipeg

## WINNIPEG

By Sharon Fraiman

CMDA is in preparation for our Annual Gala Event in Winnipeg. I had the pleasure of meeting Larry Vickar and the beautiful Ida Alpern, wonderful people who are sharing great love with our country, Israel.

This year, CMDA will present the Annual Kol Hakavod Award to these magnificent people. I appreciate their support and kindness and thank them from the bottom of my heart. There is nothing more important than saving lives – in Israel and around the world.

Their support has been instrumental in strengthening the vital work MDA is accomplishing in such trying times. Without their generous contributions, MDA would not have the required vehicles and equipment to continue saving lives on a daily basis. Ida Alpern generously donated a Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU), a 4x4 Ambulance and a Medi-cycle.



Ida is an amazing woman with such a golden heart and an amazing soul. She shares her unique unconditional love with Israel through her donations to CMDA because she believes wholeheartedly in the Talmudic principle "When you save one life, you save an entire world."

It was my absolute pleasure working with Ida this year. A special mention goes out to Larry Vickar who is also a great supporter of CMDA.

On behalf of Magen David Adom and the people of Israel, we thank



you from the bottom of our hearts. Over the years, Larry has supported all the events and projects in Winnipeg. Larry always opens his heart to the people of Israel. Larry is a wonderful philanthropist and a good friend to all of the people. When I call Larry with special requests, he immediately assists me.

Ida and Larry are living proof that with the support of great people, one can accomplish anything. CMDA cannot express enough



gratitude to you both. Lives are being saved each and every day thanks to you.

As top donors of Canadian Magen David Adom, you have been instrumental in helping MDA save lives, both in times of peace and in times of war. Whether you have donated emergency vehicles or major medical equipment, each donation has enabled MDA to continue responding to medical emergencies, providing blood to hospitals, and keeping Israelis safe.

# An Emotional Night in Honour of Israel

## CALGARY

By Jeff Shaw & Sharon Fraiman

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, over 250 people came together for an incredible evening in solidarity with Israel and the Jewish people. Jeff Shaw, a representative of Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry Canada, and Sharon Fraiman, Western Region Director of CMDA collaborated again for an Honour Israel Night at the Carriage House Hotel & Conference Centre in Calgary, Alberta, in support of CMDA's efforts to save lives in Israel.

The highly emotional evening was filled with music and moving words in honour of the victims of the recent horrific attacks by the terrorist organization, Hamas, against Israeli civilians. Robert Gottselig, Canadian Director of Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry (FOI), spoke about the beginnings of FOI in 1938 when



Christian pastors and businessmen in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania banded together to help Jewish people scrambling to escape the surging Nazi threat after the "Night of Broken Glass – Kristallnacht". He also stressed how the atmosphere of antisemitism appears to be building in a very similar fashion. FOI is committed to standing with the Jewish people, wherever and wherever it can.

The evening at the Carriage House was successful in raising \$39,000 for a Medi-cycle in order to help MDA's emergency response teams get to medical emergencies in Israel as quickly as possible. With the current war against Hamas and Hezbollah, the need is great and continues to expand as the terrorists even target those in their EMT uniforms working to save lives.



Please continue to give generously to CMDA, as the need is great.

My name is Jeff Shaw. I am a Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry Canada Representative and I am proud to stand alongside CMDA doing what I can to help save lives in Israel.

Together, united as one, we will help keep Israelis safe.



# Every life is a world



## CALGARY

Every life is a world. They burned ambulances before they brutally slaughtered innocent lives, burned Kibbutzim, and evoked the Holocaust at every turn. Through their terror, their goal was to instill fear inside the hearts of every Jew.

But know this. This isn't 1938. Because the Jewish people have their State. And the Jewish State of Israel will prevail. Israel has the right to exist with Jerusalem as its eternal capital. Israel has the right, the obligation, to defend itself, by itself. The Jewish State will defend the region's only democracy. The Jewish State will be a beacon of hope for humanity. In the face of peril, as mobs gather with hearts that have returned to darkness, know that the Jewish State of Israel is the light for all of us.

Because we know, Anti-Zionism is antisemitism. The masks have fallen in revealing the resurgence of the ancient hatred. On our streets today is the resurgence of an evil enabled by the world's establishments, our academia, and our media.

I want to let you know that while I may not be your Member

of Parliament, I will be your voice. I want to let you know that the Leader of His Majesty's Official Opposition, Pierre Poilievre, will stand with strength, will never relent, and that together, we will stand against terror in every moment – for freedom, for all eternity.

Our cherished Magen David Adom, which our beloved Fanny Wedro helped found here, is working shoulder to shoulder with the IDF. When confronted by the glorification of brutality, she would have wanted us to choose to cherish life. Sharon Fraiman, Western Region Director of CMDA, now carries the torch. My dear friend is a full-time humanitarian and warrior, working 24/7 to raise funds for our brothers and sisters in Israel.

Working to support 32,000 dedicated volunteers on the ground whose ambulance teams are uniquely equipped for mobile intensive care. Please donate generously to Canadian Magen David Adom for medical equipment and for ambulances. For saving lives, and the worlds within them.

Let me close with this. For everything to come, Hamas is responsible. For the chaos and death across the State of Israel, for Gazans made into human shields, for Palestinians living under the yoke of tyranny and corruption – Hamas is responsible.

I thank you for everything you do. Every life is a world. With iron will and unbreakable bonds, we stand with you in this terrible test. We will save worlds. Because, Am Yisrael Chai.

**Shuvaloy Majumdar, MP**  
Calgary Heritage

## SAVE THE DATE



Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canadien

## CALGARIANS FOR ISRAEL

A fundraiser for ALL Calgarians in benefit of Canadian Magen David Adom's Paramedics/Ambulance Fund

**SUNDAY,  
JANUARY 21, 2024**  
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

## REGENCY PALACE RESTAURANT

3rd Floor - Dragon City Mall - 328 Centre Street SE

- Chinese Traditional Instrumentalists
- Violinist Steven Klevsky
- Lion Dance



## TEN COURSE CHINESE BANQUET

KOSHER DINNER UPON REQUEST

### LIVE AND SILENT "ELEVATE" AUCTION

### SPECIAL GUESTS & HOSTS

**Sharon Fraiman & Richard Gotfried (MC)**



## TICKETS/TABLES

**\$88 per ticket**  
**\$1,260 per sponsored table**

## INFORMATION & SPONSORSHIP

**Sharon Fraiman**, Western Region Director  
C: 587-435-5808 | E: [sfraiman@cmdai.org](mailto:sfraiman@cmdai.org)

**WWW.CMDAI.ORG**



# TODA RABA



*A special thank you to our donors*

Dear friends,

For years, we have been recognizing our donors by name in each of our holiday editions and thanking them for their financial support. Since October 7<sup>th</sup>, the show of support for Magen David Adom has been both touching and overwhelming. Given the astounding number of donations that have come in since the outbreak of the war, we are unable to thank everyone by name.

On behalf of the entire CMDA team and Magen David Adom Israel, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your **amazing generosity**. Your ongoing support has enabled MDA to continue responding rapidly, collecting blood units, and saving lives all across Israel.

As the war continues, the need for emergency services is ongoing. Your continued support ensures MDA's ability to save lives.

Sincerely,

Arlene Madar Abitan  
National President

Sidney Benizri  
National Executive Director



# VISITS TO ISRAEL

We thank all our donors and friends who recently visited MDA facilities in Israel

## ALLOUL FAMILY BAR MITZVAH



## ALPERN FAMILY



## HAZEL & MANNY FRIEDMAN



## SAMUEL BAR MITZVAH TOUR





# TODA RABA



CMDA's National Board of Directors extends grateful appreciation to all the donors who have supported CMDA through the purchase of Mobile Intensive Care Units, Ambulances, Emergency Medi-Cycles, Emergency Vehicles, AED Defibrillators and vital medical equipment.



*Presented to the People of Israel*  
IN HONOUR OF OUR ISRAELI HEROES  
BY  
SHAWNA GRANOVSKY AND PAUL MARKS AND FAMILY  
TODDY AND IRVING GRANOVSKY AND FAMILY  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023

*Presented to the People of Israel*  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
ALICE LIEBERMAN  
BY  
DAHRA GRANOVSKY AND RICHARD ALLEN AND FAMILY  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023



*A gift to the People of Israel*  
FROM  
**JACK AND BARBARA PRINCE**  
TORONTO, ONTARIO  
FORMERLY OF HALIFAX  
AM YISRAEL CHAI  
2021



*Presented to the People of Israel*  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**NISON AND SHIRLEY PAKES**  
BY THEIR CHILDREN  
RUTH PAKES, DR. EDDY PAKES,  
AND DOREEN HORWITZ  
EDMONTON, AB, CANADA  
2022



*Donated to the People of Israel*  
BY  
**RAY PINES**  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**HIS BELOVED WIFE MOLLY PINES**  
AND HIS PARENTS MORRIE & BUSIE PINES  
TORONTO, CANADA  
2021



*Presented to the People of Israel*  
in memory of  
**Seymour Saitowitz**  
**Helen & Harry Bentel**  
**Miriam & Nathan Saitowitz**  
**Zonie Saitowitz**  
**Gail Pomerantz**  
Toronto, Canada September 2023



*Donated with great love to the People of Israel*  
IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS  
WHO DIED IN THE HOLOCAUST  
BY  
**FANIA & LEO Z"l WEDRO**  
CALGARY, CANADA  
2022





*A gift to the People of Israel*  
IN MEMORY OF  
**SIMONE HERMAN Z"l**  
FROM HER ADORING  
HUSBAND, CHILDREN, & GRANDCHILDREN  
TORONTO, CANADA  
2021



*Presented to the People of Israel*  
FROM  
**NEIL J. CLOSNER AND DAUGHTER, QUINN CLOSNER**  
IN HONOUR OF  
THE 50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY  
OF DR. ARNOLD AND JOY CLOSNER  
TORONTO, CANADA  
2021



**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
IN MEMORY OF MY LATE BELOVED HUSBAND  
**MARTIN MAXWELL Z"l**  
FROM  
**ELEANOR MAXWELL & FAMILY**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023  
MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
WITH TASHUM TO HASHEM AND TO ALL  
MDA PERSONNEL FOR PROTECTING AND RESTORING  
THE WELLBEING OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
נצח ישראל  
**SHIRLEY AND DAVID SHAPIRO & FAMILY**  
MONTREAL, CANADA 2023  
MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
BY  
**NANI & AUSTIN BEUTEL AND FAMILY**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023  
MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
IN MEMORY OF  
OUR BELOVED PARENTS  
**BETTY & IZZY KIRSHENBAUM Z"l**  
WHO SURVIVED THE HOLOCAUST  
AND FOUGHT IN THE 1948 WAR OF INDEPENDENCE  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023  
MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
FROM  
**PAUL AND BARBARA BERNSTEIN**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023  
MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל





Canadian Magen David Adom

SOLIDARITY MISSION TO

# Israel

May 8 -16

**Memorable celebration for Israel's 76<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**Unforgettable visit at the world's only State-of-the-art underground Blood Centre  
And much much more**



Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canadien

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