



Press Release, for immediate publication

Part of the Museum collection of the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre is now available online on the Canadian Jewish Heritage Network website (cjhn.ca/en)

Montreal, August 14th, 2012 - The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) is proud to announce that it is the latest new contributor to the website of the Canadian Jewish Heritage Network. This network aims to facilitate access to collections from Canadian Jewish heritage institutions and the MHMC will contribute new records from its collection in the upcoming months and years. Thus, anyone wishing to learn more about the history of the Holocaust through objects that have often belonged to the victims will have at their disposal a new tool on www.cjhn.ca/en

"We are responding to increasing demands from people who are researching historical documents on the Jewish community in Montreal and the Montreal community of survivors, welcomes Julie Guinard, Museum Coordinator responsible for the collection of the MHMC. This is yet another way to help these people in their research and also a new way to value the priceless Jewish heritage that we have in Montreal." Indeed, the MHMC, with nearly 10,000 different items including 3,000 photographs, holds the largest collection in Canada of artefacts dealing with the history of the Holocaust. Items are donated by survivors or their families, but also by people who were involved with victims of Nazism and immigrated to Canada, especially to Montreal after the war.

Since 1979, the MHMC collects objects, photographs and documents in order to transmit the memory of the events that led to the genocide of European Jews during World War II. Most objects in the collection are directly related to personal stories and are therefore unique. To date, 60% of this collection is digitized to be used in the exhibition or for educational, commemorative or research purposes.

The Canadian Jewish Heritage Network is a web presence linking and showcasing the resources of the major organizations involved in Canadian Jewish archival preservation, beginning with two Montreal partners, Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives (CJCCNA) and the Jewish Public Library Archives (JPL-A). More than 28,000 database records from the participating repositories are currently online, including over 3,500 digitized historic photographs and archival documents. Many complete multi-page documents are available in PDF format. Users of the site can also delve into the CJHN's genealogical research database, which already contains close to 62,000 genealogical records and over 5,000 associated images.

The Memorial Centre Montreal Holocaust informs and educates people of all ages and all backgrounds about the Holocaust and on anti-Semitism, racism, hatred and indifference.

-30-

You will find attached an example of an MHMC record uploaded online on www.cjhn.ca

Media contact: Audrey Licop 514-345-2605 ext. 3026 514-892-2605 (cell.) audrey.licop@mhmc.ca

For more information about the Canadian Jewish Heritage Network : **Janice Rosen** jrosen@cjccc.ca, Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives and **Shannon Hodge** shannon.hodge@jplmontreal.org, Jewish Public Library Archives