



# HeaderHeadingText



## INTERNATIONAL JEWISH CORRESPONDENCE.

<https://www.cjhn.ca/en/permalink/cjhn86>

Collection: INTERNATIONAL JEWISH CORRESPONDENCE.

Description Level: Fonds

Physical Description: 1 metres of textual records.

Scope and Content:

Letters and administrative files. The majority of the letters are in English while others are written in French, Hebrew, Spanish and Yiddish. Close to 20 countries have participated in IJC, including some with dwindling Jewish populations. In addition, IJC has in its files the addresses of Jewish organizations and the Jewish press in over 50 countries from Burma to Monaco.

Date: 1978-2002.

Fonds No.: I0084

History Biographical:

International Jewish Correspondence (IJC) was founded in 1978 in Montreal by Barry Simon and was sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress. The objective of IJC was to link Jews in Canada with pen pals in every part of the world. Since its inception, IJC received hundreds of letters from individuals and families while others sent IJC the names and addresses of their students, their friends or members of their class or youth group. Once in a while, a friend or family member of someone living in an Arab or Soviet bloc country sent an address so that IJC could let them know that the Jews of the world were interested in their plight. At times, Jewish prisoners were given the IJC address so that they could write to others while behind bars. Among those who wrote over the years were children as young as age seven as well as retired persons. Many of the letters IJC received came from professional and business persons. The group which sent the largest number of letters were students of university and secondary school age. IJC became less active as the Internet gained in popularity. IJC ceased operations in 2002.

Custodial History: The collection was donated by Barry Simon (a high school teacher in Montreal), the founder and director of International Jewish Correspondence.

Notes:

P03/02. The collection is in English, but there is some correspondence in French, Hebrew, Spanish and Yiddish. There are some restrictions on personal information.

Archival / Archival Descriptions

Genealogical:

Repository: Canadian Jewish Archives