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# SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY JEWISH COMMUNITY

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January 14th, 2024

What a gorgeous winter wonderland and in our very own backyards. I hope everyone is enjoying the fluffy snow and keeping warm!

Please check out our website at [www.sgbjc.ca](http://www.sgbjc.ca) Over the next month or so we will be working to expand our site.

We are offering one last meet and greet next Saturday January 20th from 4:30-5:30pm for everyone we have met, and for anyone who we have yet to meet, including but not limited to our out-of-town or seasonal members. Please drop in to say hi at the Thornbury Library at 173 Bruce St South. You are welcome to bring your children if this makes it any easier for you after a day of skiing.

On another note, we have been sent notification of an upcoming talk in Barrie at Am Shalom Synagogue on Sunday January 21st at 11am. Shye Weinstein, an Innisfil photographer who now lives in Tel Aviv, is going to share his story of surviving and documenting his escape from the Supernova Festival and Hamas on October 7th. For all those interested please RSVP to Jodie at [amshalomcongregation767@gmail.com](mailto:amshalomcongregation767@gmail.com)

This January 22nd 2024, we plan to present our proposal to the town council of Collingwood to adopt the working definition of antisemitism as prepared by the IHRA as a step towards combatting the issue in our neck of the woods. If anyone is interested in attending or showing community support please let me know so I can provide you with details of when and where to meet.

We have also been working alongside Jasmine Kranat, the Program Coordinator for the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) with the hopes of developing some educational opportunities for teachers and staff at our local high schools with respect to identifying antisemitism and hate

for minority groups in general and practical ways to respond and address this within our schools. We are also planning to provide workshops for students so we can begin to explore and educate our youth so they can better understand this issue.

Please check out [collingwoodpubliclibrary.ca](http://collingwoodpubliclibrary.ca) as they are offering a workshop on January 30th from 2-3pm "Lessons and Legacies of the Holocaust" where they will examine the lessons and impacts of the Holocaust as a human tragedy. (Spots are limited - book online). I plan to be there and look forward to sharing in this along with you. The Collingwood Library will also have a display in honour of Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27th, 2024.

This coming week our Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community will be forming its executive so that we can finally meet and plan next steps for opportunities big and small to bring our community closer together. Once we have held our first official meeting we will reach out and provide any announcements and information to our members so that we are all kept in the loop!

We look forward to meeting more of our community this month.

Am Yisrael Chai,

Rashell Feldman and Peter Seligman

PS. If you know of anyone who might be interested in receiving this newsletter and attending our meetings and events, please feel free to forward this to them or have them sign up on our website.

