



**April 11, 2025** 

### A Note From Our Chair

Happy Spring and Chag Sameach to everyone. With the extra snow and ice from this past winter there has been an increase in the incidences of flooding in and around the Southern Georgian Bay area. Some of us more than others, can appreciate how stressing, time consuming and possibly costly dealing with this can be.

With that being said, might I invite you to consider a deeper meaning behind these challenging circumstances? Did you know that water in Judaism symbolizes purification, renewal and spiritual connection?

We as individuals and as a community might consider taking this opportunity for renewal and to recommit ourselves to a greater purpose. We can choose to not only celebrate the freedoms afforded to us by our ancestors who escaped Egypt this Passover but we can also choose to do our part today, here and now to fight for our ongoing freedoms, rights and safety. Here are some examples of ways to get more involved in helping to support our local jewish community:

**Volunteer** - Reach out the SGBJC to find an opportunity that speaks to you.

**Donate** - To our local community who is planning events, fighting antisemitism and building connections and partnerships with our larger communities.

SGBJC Newsletter Highlights

A NOTE FROM OUR CHAIR

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**UPCOMING EVENTS** 

**GET INVOLVED** 

**STAY IN TOUCH!** 

**Advocate**- Get involved with the SGBJC to help educate our local boards/councils with respect to representing our needs as a community. Contact our local candidates and lobby for the needs of our Jewish communities. Click here to send a message directly to your local candidates.

**Join** - If you haven't already join our community at <u>sgbjc.ca</u> and participate in our events and programming whenever possible to help support the initiatives and other members.

**Share** - Spread the word of our community to any and all Jewish people in our area because numbers matter. We are capable of so much more together. The larger and more united we are the more capable we will be to educate, defend and bring about positive change.

**Teach** - Take the opportunity to learn and understand how to best advocate for us and speak up. You can always reach out to us if you need more information or supports.

**Report** - Let us know when and if something happens that requires the support and involvement of the SGBJC. Report all incidences of antisemitism to our local police, Sergeant David Brown is our liaison at 1-888-310-1122 collingwood OPP

Last week some of the women from our community got together for lunch at Katherine's Chateau in Collingwood. Thanks to Ellen Oelbaum for helping to organize this for everyone! Such a lovely opportunity to meet new people and share collective wisdom while enjoying tasty food.

Passover starts this weekend, and for the holidays this year, we have created a Facebook chat link for our community members to connect and socialize. Perhaps some of you are willing to add another seat at your seder table for a member(s) to join, or you might want to share recipes, or simply chat about all things Passover (Click Here to Join)

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May is fast approaching which is **Jewish Heritage Month**. In honour of the occasion we have partnered with Wasaga Beach Public Library to show case **Alan Stein's Postcards Art Exhibit from May 1st-May 19th**. Please join us in celebrating an accomplished local Jewish Artist.

May 19th-24th: We welcome the MS St Louis Exhibit from The Abraham Global Peace Initiative and created by Dr. Neil Orlowsky

May 24th-May 31st: We close out our month with the Power of One Exhibit from Dr. Neil Orlowsky from the AGPI

We are also hosting showings of the documentary "Tragic Awakening" on Wednesday May 7th, 2025 at 3pm and 7:30pm at the Simcoe Theatre in Collingwood. Please reserve your tickets now. (Click Here to Purchase Tickets)

Last but not least we have the honour of hosting an informative and critical talk with renowned **Human Rights and Muslim Activist Raheel Raza**. Please buy your tickets now. (Click Here to Reserve your Spot!

May you all enjoy this holiday together while also praying for the safe release of our last hostages. We are not free until we are all free.

Wishing you a meaningful and transformative Passover!

Rashell Feldman
Chair of the SGBJC

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# Highlights & Memories from our March & April Events:



# Celebrating Passover with our Kids Jewish Learning at The Blue Mountains Library

Towards the end of March, we had an amazing time at The Blue Mountains Public Library for our Kids Jewish Learning about Passover event! In collaboration with the Library @bmplibrary, Rashell and Monique led an engaging Passover program where children enjoyed a storybook reading of More Than Enough, crafted ten plagues hand puppets, spread chocolate on matzah with sprinkles, played Passover Bingo, and danced to Dayenu with musical cushions. It was wonderful to see families come together to connect, learn, and celebrate. Thank you to everyone who joined us and to those who shared kind words about SGBJC. We're already looking forward to our next event on Sunday, May 25th at Wasaga Beach Library!

# Highlights & Memories from our March & April Events:



## **First Shabbat Potluck with our Community**

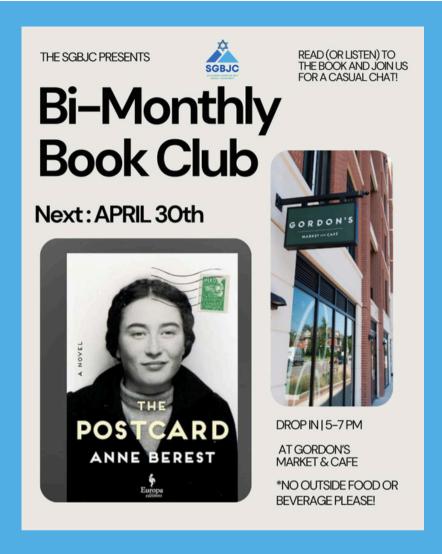
We had an amazing first Shabbat Potluck Dinner with our Wasaga Beach community, hosted by Cindy & Becky, two of our executive board members. The spread of delicious food everyone brought made the meal unforgettable, and Cindy's homemade challah bread was both beautiful and delicious. Thank you to all who came to connect, socialize, and make our first Shabbat so special!

# Highlights & Memories from our March & April Events:



### Women's Luncheon

Last week some of the women from our community got together for lunch at Katherine's Chateau in Collingwood. Thanks to Ellen Oelbaum for helping to organize this for everyone! Such a lovely opportunity to meet new people and share collective wisdom while enjoying tasty food.



Introducing the **SGBJC Book Club!** Join us every other month for an evening of meaningful conversation as we explore books that highlight Jewish history, resilience, and storytelling.

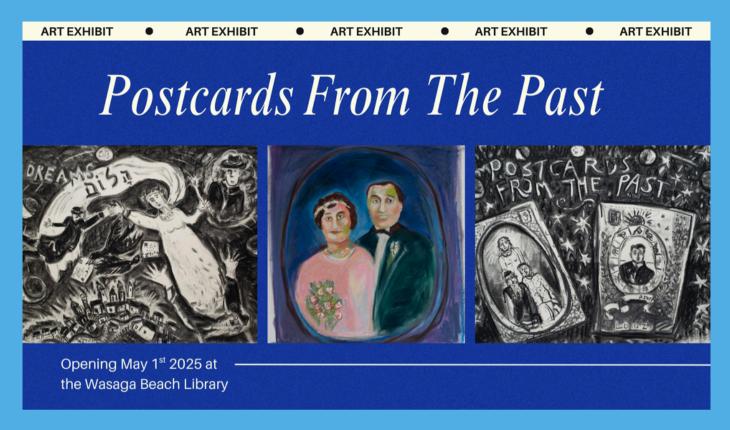
WHEN: Wednesday April 30, 2025

**TIME:** 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM (Drop-In)

LOCATION: Gordon's Market & Cafe- 1 Hume St Unit 107, Collingwood

For our first gathering we will be discussing the book "The Postcard" by Anne Barest- a gripping family mystery that uncovers the impact of the Holocaust across generations.

This is a casual drop-in format- whether you read the book or listen to it, you're welcome to join the discussion. No outside food or drink allowed, but Gordon's has great options available for purchase.



**WHEN:** May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

LOCATION: Wasaga Beach Library- 544 River Road West, Wasaga Beach

#### On exhibit at the Wasaga Beach Public Library for the month of May, Opening May 1.

Alan Stein has created a series of original charcoal drawings and paintings highlighting real and imagined events from his grandparent's lives. Inspired by messages found in old family postcards, the exhibit is enhanced by reproductions of a selection of old photographs and the postcards themselves.

The images in this exhibit take us on a trip through time, with a young woman in St. Petersburg, Russia during the Russian revolution, and a young man in Lodz, Poland. From the invasion of Poland, inside the Lodz ghetto, immigration to Toronto and New York City, and a joyful marriage. How did they meet? What secrets were never told? What happened to the families left behind? We will never know but perhaps we can imagine. There were dreams of youth, tragedy, war, and finally love.

Last year the images were projected during live performances of classical music at the Collingwood Music Festival, and at the Festival of the Sound in Parry Sound.

The music featured renowned Canadian musicians performing an array of works to complement the narrative thread. Including heart-warming Yiddish songs, profoundly moving children's poems set to music, stirring works by a variety of Jewish composers, and Yiddish narration of the postcards. A short video of highlights from the performances will be on display.



#### Please join us for The Tragic Awakening Film and Forum.

WHEN: Wednesday May 7th, 2025

TIME: 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm (Two Showings)

LOCATION: Simcoe Street Theatre- 65 Simcoe Street, Collingwood

COST: \$10 per ticket

An inspirational post-October 7th experience rethinking antisemitism's roots, exposing the Jewish mission, and turning hatred into strength.

Featuring Rawan Osman. Born in Damascus to a Syrian father and Lebanese mother, Rawan grew up in a Hezbollah stronghold and became a pro-Israel activist overnight following the Hamas onslaught on Israel on October 7th, 2023. Since then, she has devoted herself to creating content for the Arab world, explaining the reality in Israel and challenging widespread Arab narratives. Register online to secure your seat!

#### **CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS**



## Welcoming Raheel Raza: Standing United for Peace



Join the Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community as we welcome Raheel Raza, a prominent Muslim activist, for an insightful evening on the power of collaboration in combating antisemitism and hate. Together, let's bring truth to power and stand united for peace.

Scan the QR Code to Purchase Tickets & Secure Your Spot!



**Thursday May 15th** 

7:30 to 9:00 PM Alpine Ski Club

17-242 Arrowhead Road, The Blue Mountains

General Admission \$18 per person

WHEN: Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**TIME:** 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Alpine Ski Club - 17-242 Arrowhead Road, The Blue Mountains

COST:

General Admission \$18 per person

Join the Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community as we welcome Raheel Raza, a prominent Muslim activist, for an insightful evening on the power of collaboration in combating antisemitism and hate. Together, let's bring Truth to Power and stand united for peace.

Scan the QR Code to Purchase Tickets & Secure your Spot through Eventbrite OR

**CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS** 





In honour and celebration of Jewish Heritage Month, we are excited to host, for the first time in collaboration with the **Wasaga Beach Library**, a children's program to celebrate Jewish heritage and culture. The program will feature storybook readings of Jewish children's books, crafting, and decorating edible mezuzahs.

WHEN: Sunday May 25th, 2025

TIME: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

LOCATION: Wasaga Beach Library- 544 River Road West, Wasaga Beach

This free event is open to children in our Jewish community as well as the public. Intended for children ages 3-12, parents are asked to accompany their children. We look forward to celebrating with you!

**RSVP** by emailing **shalom@sgbjc.ca** and let us know if you are attending. We can't wait to see you there!



# Bi-Monthly Games Night

Drop in 5-7 PM

@ Gordon's Market and Cafe

Next: May 28th

\*All experience levels welcome!
\*No outside food or beverage

By popular demand, we're introducing **SGBJC Games Night**—a fun, relaxed space to gather, play, and connect over Mahjong and more! Bring your own Mahj set or games and join us every other month at Gordon's Market & Café for an evening of friendly competition and great company. Whether you're a Mahjong maven, Euchre expert, or just love a good game night, there's a seat at the table for you! We're kicking things off on the last Wednesday in May.

WHEN: Wednesday May 28th, 2025

**TIME:** 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM (Drop-In)

LOCATION: Gordon's Market & Cafe- 1 Hume St Unit 107, Collingwood

This is a casual drop-in format, and all are welcome—whether you're a Mahjong maven, Euchre expert, or just love a good game night, there's a seat at the table for you! All experience levels are welcome. No outside food or drink allowed, but Gordon's offers great options available for purchase.

# **Get Involved & Stay Connected**

### How to become a member and support our community

To become a member of the Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community, simply sign up on our website and submit your yearly membership dues of \$180. You can send your payment via e-transfer to shalom@sgbjc.ca, or if you prefer, mail a cheque made out to "Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community" to 307 Pine Street, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 2P4. Your membership helps support our ongoing efforts to provide Jewish education, programming, and community events. We thank you for your support and look forward to welcoming you as a member of our community!

## Are you a member of our members-only Facebook group yet?

There are lots of ways to stay in touch. We will continue to send out our regular newsletters. Don't forget to check out our members-only private Facebook group "Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community" and our public Instagram account @sgb\_ic





### Have any ideas for future events?

Our executive team meets regularly to plan events and liaise with outside organizations. If you have any suggestions for future activities, keep them coming by emailing shalom@sgbjc.ca.

Join our mailing list by filling out a form at www.sgbjc.ca