

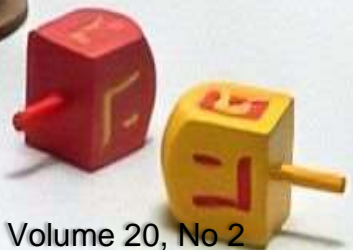
KOL



Forestdale Heights Lodge
B'nai Brith Canada

ECHAD

November/December 2021
Cheshvan/Kislev/Tevet 5782



Volume 20, No 2

COVER ART



It's less than a month away until we light the Chanukiah, peel the potatoes, and make some holiday treats!

The first candle is lit on Sunday, November 28. The holiday ends on Monday, December 6.

Remember, don't leave your home when the candles are burning.

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KOL ECHAD

Kol Echad is the official publication of Forestdale Heights Lodge, B'nai Brith Canada.

It is published five times a year.

We welcome all articles and letters from members of the Lodge and their spouses.

All material submitted is subject to editing.

The editor may consult with members of the bulletin committee regarding suitability and editorial decisions.

All opinions expressed in Kol Echad are those of the individual writers and do not reflect the views of either Forestdale Heights Lodge or B'nai Brith Canada.

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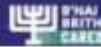


CORRESPONDENCE



B'NAI BRITH NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF CANADA

National Office/Bureau National



October 8, 2021

Dear Mr. Jeff Rosen,

Mazel Tov on the 20th anniversary of your Lodge's publication, Kol Echad!

During these turbulent times, staying connected to one another remains vitally important. For the past two decades, a dedicated team of contributors and community members have served the Forestdale Heights Lodge.

It is my hope that in the year ahead, you continue to be filled with a resilient spirit that propels your work forward.

We are a people united in our love of knowledge. Continue to write, as you have for the past two decades, as a means to not only share important information with one another, but also to embody the Jewish life we seek to foster.

Mazel Tov again, and I look forward to seeing many more editions of Kol Echad.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Mostyn,
Chief Executive Officer
B'nai Brith Canada

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PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE



PRESIDENT'S PEN

Ruth Pupko

Last night (October 5) was our first virtual meeting, and it was terrific to welcome my fellow Lodge members. Where did the summer go? It disappeared so quickly once Rosh Hashanah came. Our outdoor exercise classes were so much fun, and it didn't hurt us to learn a few Latin dance moves since our instructor is Brazilian! A lot of amenities are now opening up in both condos, and the classes are now indoors. Restrictions and rules are in place, and we all have to show proof of vaccine and sign a waiver. Let's hope that we can continue on this path of riding with caution and with following all the safety rules. It was great to be outdoors with friends and family and finally celebrate our good fortune.

It was great for Aaron and me to be with my niece Elisha and her family, Albert and his family, Allen and his family and dining in the sukkah with Michael and his family. It was beautiful to be together once again. What a difference between last year and this year. Did I mention the election? That certainly didn't make any difference except for spending a lot of money that could have helped our fellow Canadians.

Rosalie will be mailing holiday cards/greetings to the EMS stations on behalf of Forestdale Heights Lodge. Rosalie, thank you for stepping up. Our annual winter CVS project of providing gloves, hats, mitts etc., is already in the works, and this year we voted on two well-deserved charities.

As a result of this pandemic, we have not raised a lot of money. Still, a special thank you goes to Harvey and Debbi for raising money through the pushka cans fundraising campaign.

Our regular programs, such as the Chanukah party, our dinner meetings, etc., will one day be back, and we will be READY.

We are staying connected through our meetings, e-mails and, of course, from Kol Echad with Jeff as the editor.

Wishing you and your families Happy Chanukah and a very festive season for all our fellow Canadians as we celebrate the holiday season together with peace and harmony.





EDITOR'S DESK

Jeff Rosen

A year ago, I wrote about how the High Holiday season differed from anything we had previously experienced. I never imagined that 2021 would be a repeat performance. At the time, I wondered what our new normal would be in a year. Well, as an old song goes, "Second verse, same as the first...."

Like last year, Lisa, Jordana, and I stayed home for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Somehow though, it didn't seem so bad, didn't seem so strange. Perhaps last year's experience helped me accept this new normal. Honestly, though, this is one "normal" I don't want to repeat. All being well, I hope to find a new spiritual home in a year's time (assuming we are not in the seventh wave by then).

I guess that won't be entirely up to me, though. After all, this new COVID wave – the fourth – results from some individuals thinking their freedoms are more important than society's collective good. I guess they never saw *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, where we learned that, "the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the one."

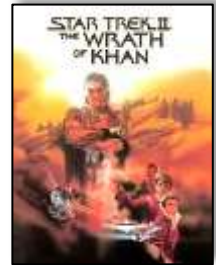
Back to the present, though. As I mentioned, the High Holiday period this year was quite enjoyable. On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, I managed to listen to two shofar services, one at the Park Avenue Synagogue in New York and the other at Temple Har Zion in Thornhill. If it's a mitzvah to hear the shofar being blown, then I guess I performed a double mitzvah!

This year's new normal also allowed us to enjoy some much-needed family time, enjoying great meals together, sitting back afterwards to discuss life and catch up on, well, everything. All in all, we won't forget this High Holiday period.

How often have we heard that the two topics we should never talk about are politics and religion? I've never been too good at following rules. Since I've already discussed religion, I might as well talk about the second taboo subject.

In the end, it was an election about nothing and an election about everything. An election about whether to continue along a path charted over a year ago when COVID-19 reached Canada, or perhaps it was time to put the business community first.

Continued on next page



Ultimately, Canadians chose and chose wisely. The result is that we are roughly back to where we were before Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called an election to secure a majority. You would have thought the Liberals would have known better. There was already much discontent among opposition ranks before the Prime Minister asked the Governor-General to dissolve the last parliament. I'm sure that more astute politicians knew that the full force of the opposition would be fully unleashed once the writ was dropped. Still, after securing two mandates, Trudeau thought himself invincible; he felt invulnerable to political defeat. To that end, he was aided by weaker opponents and a split in the right-wing vote.



Even though he managed to secure a third mandate, it is clear that it is time for this Trudeau – the second in our country's history – to begin to think about his next step. However, given his third electoral victory, he should be allowed to go out on his own terms when he is good and ready.

Since coming to power in 2015, Trudeau has hardly been perfect. But, then again, none of our political leaders – past or present – can make that claim.

Still, I think that this time out, Trudeau's Liberals (and it really is his party now) offered the best platform to keep the country on an even keel during the pandemic and in a post-COVID world. In the end, I guess enough Canadians agreed that Trudeau's Liberals were the best of all possible options.

What comes next? My hope is that before we next go to the polls, our PM follows his father's example and takes a walk in the snow, triggering a Liberal Party leadership convention and that by our next federal vote, we have a new crop of national leaders.

Another year almost in the history books. Where did it all go? When I started this piece, I realized that this is the final issue of 2021. I am proud that our Lodge has remained strong throughout this hectic year.

Approaching the end of 2021 also reminds me that our family is about to mark another milestone, namely our daughter Jordana's 30th birthday. It's strange, I did feel the passage of time when I turned 60, three years ago, but this is different. I really think it makes one acknowledge their age when your children hit an age-related marker. It certainly makes me think, not just about the present, but also back to the beginning and my start with this Lodge. It was in one of my first columns with Horizon (our Lodge bulletin at the time) that I wrote about the birth of our daughter.

So many memories since then. The best and only way to wrap this up is to wish our daughter a very healthy and happy birthday. May you continue to strive for the best as you move into your fourth decade.

From my family to yours, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Chanukah.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Ruth Pupko, president of Forestdale Heights Lodge, was forced to cancel the first 2021-22 season meeting on Tuesday, September 14, after we failed to secure a quorum. The reason is that several members could not log into the Zoom meeting.

Among those who did manage to log on was the moderator, Stewart Indig, Ruth Pupko, Debbi & Harvey Silver, Marilyn & Eddie Arkin, Carl Zeliger and Lisa & Jeff Rosen.

Before signing off, we wished our fellow Lodge Brothers and Sisters an easy fast, as Kol Nidre was the following evening.

Jeff Rosen

***Special thanks to B'nai B'rith International & B'nai Brith Canada
for promoting Kol Echad on their social media.***

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OCTOBER MEETING

The second try was a charm as Forestdale Heights Lodge launched its new season, a month late on Tuesday, October 5. All the technical bugs, which plagued us in September, were gone, and all active members were present and accounted for as they logged into our first Zoom meeting of 2021-22.

Zooming in for the October meeting were 13 of the Lodge's 22 members, including FHL president Ruth Pupko, the meeting's moderator, Stewart Indig, Albert Ohana, Ray & Rosalie Moscoe, Harvey & Debbi Silver, Elizabeth Bloom, Eddie & Marilyn Arkin, Carl Zeligler, and Jeff & Lisa Rosen.

The Lodge's annual Chanukah party was on the agenda, and for the second year, it was agreed to put the annual get-together on hold. Members decided that they did not feel comfortable enough to gather in person for a party.

Following the successful High Holiday Greetings campaign, I/Jeff explained that Kol Echad has launched its first Chanukah Greetings campaign, which is expected to bring in over \$200.

All invoices from advertisers have come back, with only two deciding not to renew for another year.

Harvey said our pushka fundraising is back on track, with over \$300 raised since June.

All members present debated about the future of our Winter CVS program, which proved to be a huge success last year.

It was agreed that Forestdale Heights would donate \$300 to Ve'ahavta and send an equal sum in merchandise to the All Saints Church to be distributed as they see fit to the homeless.

For the second year, members agreed to modify the annual EMS gift program. Like last year, Rosalie will be in charge of sending out holiday cards to EMS stations, as well as to police and firefighters.

Everyone agreed it was a very productive meeting.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 9.

Jeff Rosen



CORRESPONDENCE



Debbi Silver
Forestdale Heights Lodge

Dear Debbi,

On behalf of the Neshama Board of Directors, I want to thank you, Ruth and Forestdale Heights Lodge for your kind gift of \$100 toward our Capital Campaign. Your donation helps us move closer to achieving our vision of building Canada's first hospice residence based on Jewish values and open to all. As I don't have Ruth's email address, it would be great if you could pass on our appreciation to her as well.

We are all facing unprecedented and challenging times given the pandemic and as such, we are especially grateful for your support of our beautiful initiative. Neshama will make a positive impact on the lives of thousands of individuals and their families for many years to come.

We are very eager to spread awareness about our initiative and I was so pleased to hear that you learned about Neshama through the insert we placed in the Canadian Jewish News. We want and need to spread the word and are confident that when the community learns more about residential hospice and the need for access to compassionate and dignified end of life care, the support will grow even further.

Thank you again for your commitment to our mission. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if you require any additional information or would like an update on our progress.

With much appreciation,

Mindy Herman
Chair, Board of Directors
Neshama Hospice
www.neshamahospice.com



GOOD & WELFARE

Birthdays

Debbi Silver
Albert Ohana

November 17
December 9



Anniversaries

Mark & Marla Spergel
Eddie & Marilyn Arkin

December 7
December 28



If you have any memorable moments in your life (or the lives of your children and grandchildren) you wish to share with the Lodge, please send announcements to jelijo@sympatico.ca.

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HARMONY

Rosalie Moscoe

How time flies. Here it is, another Chanukah, and I'm turning 76. I think back to the Chanukahs of times past. In 1948, my brother (then six) was scheduled to sing a Chanukah song at the shul's Chanukah party. Hundreds of people poured into Bais Yehuda on Dovercourt Street in Toronto.

The curtain was soon to be lifted, and at three years of age, I thought, "I know

the songs my brother will be singing. I practised with him for weeks." At that moment, I took flight from my mother and father sitting in the audience and ran backstage and up the steps to the performing stage. As the curtain went up, the audience saw not one child who was listed in the program, but two. Meanwhile, my parents had been frantically looking for me until they saw the curtain go up – with relief. (Actually, the audience went wild with applause.)

I remember when my children were small, and a group of Christmas carolers came around our neighbourhood to sing songs. I opened up my window, thanked them for their lovely song, and then, with my kids, sang back to them a Chanukah song – loudly and clearly.

Every year our family attended great parties at our shul, Beth Torah Congregation. One Chanukah, there was a feature on the front page of *The CJN*, with a huge picture of my son Darren with Rabbi Domb, z'l, as Darren lit the candles. I also remember the Chanukah parties I hosted for my family, all sides – they were joyful times that brought the family together. Once I gave a large party in my condo party room, with tables of relatives (including my granddaughter, then four), and even a magician for the kids! That morning, Ray had woken up with a bad cold, and he could not attend the party. On that occasion, I felt like a balloon had been busted. But most parties were fun, with decorations, presents, music and food for all – a happy, freilech feeling. The lit menorah was positioned in the window each Chanukah so all could see it. I was proud to be Jewish and will always be.

Continued on next page



Jews have been persecuted too long, and here in Canada (for the most part), we have freedom. Still, we must always be vigilant to maintain that freedom. The story of Chanukah is about light, hope, and freedom and that YES, we have the drive to survive no matter what. We've lost too many of our people.

Our Lodge had fun parties, with latkes, and other great food, lit the menorah, and we kept our Lodge together to this day. We continue our good work of CVS, giving to the community – an essential tenant of Judaism. Sure, the pandemic has kept people apart, but thankfully, we can see our families and friends virtually, which is second best. But still, we can keep up our traditions the best way possible.

Ray and I wish a happy Chanukah to all. May we all have good health (and do our very best to maintain it). Together, I look forward to celebrating many more lively and happy Chanukahs as the years roll on.

AT A GLANCE

Zoom meetings are to be held on the following dates during 2021.
Start time: 7:00 p.m.

November 9, December 14

All Dates Subject to Change

Kol Echad schedule for the 2021-22 season

January / February – Winter Issue:

Deadline: December 10

March / April – Purim/Pesach Issue:

Deadline: February 10

May / June – Spring Issue:


Deadline: April 10



Life is not
always a matter
of holding good
cards, but
sometimes,
playing a poor
hand well.

Jack London

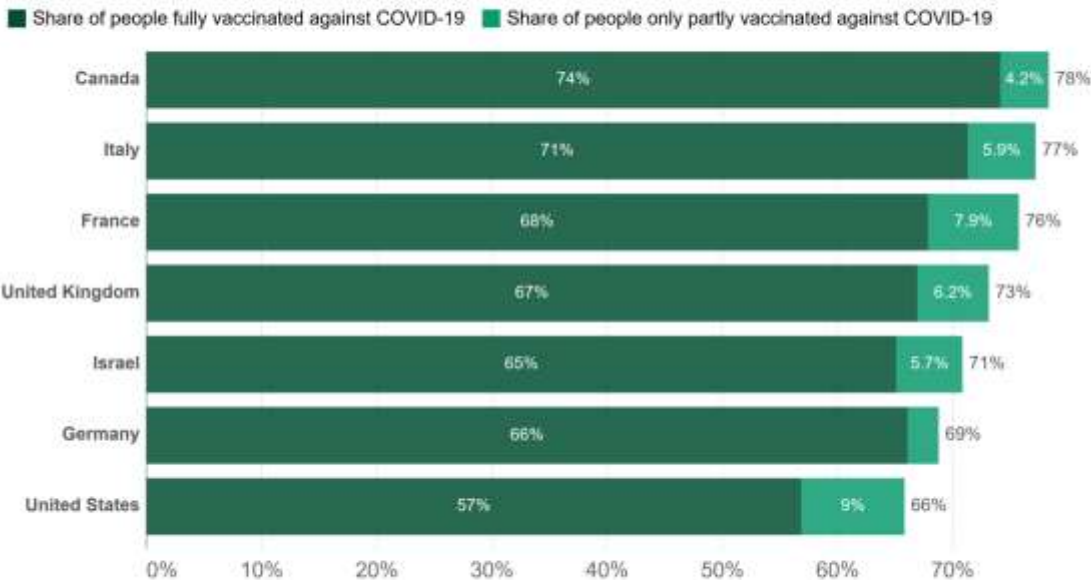
Jack London



HEALTH

Share of people vaccinated against COVID-19, Oct 29, 2021

Alternative definitions of a full vaccination, e.g. having been infected with SARS-CoV-2 and having 1 dose of a 2-dose protocol, are ignored to maximize comparability between countries.



Source: Official data collated by Our World in Data. This data is only available for countries which report the breakdown of doses administered by first and second doses in absolute numbers.
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for daily updates

Ontario  **COVID-19 vaccination**

To download your vaccination receipts, go to
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COLOUR

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lining and here I am
feeling good about
myself because I
got my leg through
my underwear
without losing my
balance.**

**IF YOU COULD BE
ANY AGE AGAIN
WHAT AGE
WOULD IT BE?**

ELECTION 2021

The votes are all tallied, and a new government has been sworn in. To the surprise of many, the Liberals managed to secure their third electoral victory under Justin Trudeau. To some, he is this country's saviour; to others, an egotist who called an unnecessary election. Was it unnecessary, though? We offer some articles of interest. The first, looking at another "unnecessary" election held 10 years ago, the second, which recently appeared in Washington Monthly.

We hope you enjoy both.

Jeff Rosen

<http://kolechad.ca/nov/jeff2011.pdf>

Justin Trudeau May Be the World's Most Successful Progressive Leader

<https://bit.ly/39XAPIN>

KOL ECHAD.CA

If you haven't visited our website, kolechad.ca for a while, remember that not only does it include most material in our print/pdf editions, but a number of unique features including:

- **Back Issues from September 2010 to the present;**
- **Great recipes as part of Food Sensations;**
- **Features by former CJN columnist Sheldon Kirshner;**
- **Features by international correspondent, Masada Siegel;**
- **Contacts for all our advertisers;**
- **Links to a variety of Jewish organizations.**

Remember, Kol Echad is the only Lodge website in B'nai Brith Canada.





TALKING POINTS

Debbi Silver

The leaves have been turning beautiful colours; fall/winter is upon us. It really is a lovely time of year.

The Canadian election is thankfully behind us. Our grandchildren are back in school, activities have started to proceed, as usual. Our grandson is back playing hockey. We are looking forward to going out to watch the games. Our lives are almost back to normal. Getting together with friends and going out to eat has been fun. Of course, we had to show our “validation of vaccination.”

We can now move on with more prominent issues, namely Forestdale Heights Lodge.

The Lodge meeting in October was quite informative.

Forestdale Heights has decided to initiate some projects that we have done in the past as a Lodge. The pandemic may have cancelled some of them, but it is now time to concentrate

and decide which ones we would like to continue doing. Rosalie has agreed, once again, to write letters to the EMS workers, firefighters and the police. The Lodge will be donating some hats, gloves, etc., to a homeless shelter at a church in downtown Toronto and giving a cheque to Ve’ahavta for their organization to purchase clothes for the homeless.

As this is the November/December issue of Kol Echad, Harvey and I would like to wish everyone a healthy and happy Chanukah and Happy New Year.



PERSPECTIVES



A LIGHT AMONG THE DARKNESS

Despite the horrors of the Nazi concentration camps during World War II, some Jews managed to keep the Chanukah festival alive on their own terms by creating their own unique chanukiahs.

Read Natasha Frost's fascinating account of how Jews refused to give up hope at

Amid the Holocaust's Horrors, Many Jews Found Ways to Mark Hanukkah

<https://bit.ly/39ZUIPE>



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A message to Forestdale
Heights Lodge Members

Wishing you and your family a
Happy Chanukah





Keith Irish

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kirish@markham.ca

 [@KeithIrish1](https://twitter.com/KeithIrish1)  [Keith.Irish](https://www.instagram.com/Keith.Irish)



CHANUKAH GREETINGS



Jeff, Lisa & Jordana Rosen would like to wish everyone in Forestdale Heights Lodge a Happy Chanukah. May the lights on your Chanukiahs shine bright.

We wish all our brothers and sisters of Forestdale Heights Lodge a happy, healthy Chanukah to you and your families. May we continue all the good CVS work we do every year to those in need.

Love, Raymond & Rosalie Moscoe and family

Eddie and Marilyn Arkin wish all their family and friends a healthy and Happy Chanukah.



Wishing you
the happiest
of Chanukahs

Love the Indig and Levy families

CHANUKAH GREETINGS

Wishing you and yours a happy Chanukah, and may all of your dreidels land on gimel.

Marc Kates, Rachel Spitzer, Seth, Eve, and Joelle





Happy Chanukah
To all our valued advertisers
From Forestdale Heights Lodge
*THANKS FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!*



Harvey and Debbi Silver
and family wish everyone
a healthy and happy Chanukah

James ✦ Pasternak
Councillor | York Centre - Downsview

Wishing you

Happy Chanukah!

חג חנוכה שמח



A look back at the year...



Above: Speaking at an anti-hate rally in Mel Lastman Square. Incredible turnout and show of support from members of the community!



Top right: Bringing greetings on behalf of the Mayor at the North York Civic Centre's Menorah Lighting



Bottom Right: Last year's menorah lighting for residents at Bernard Betel Centre.

If you need help with municipal services, please contact me:

councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca 416-392-1371 www.jamespasternak.ca

CHANUKAH 2021

For years, members of FHL have gathered every Chanukah to celebrate the festive holiday, schmooze and enjoy great food. Unfortunately, COVID is still with us, and we are unable to meet in one place. All being well, we will be able to gather, Chanukah 2022, for another fantastic party. In the meantime, we present a collection of “golden oldies” from years past. For the complete slideshow, go to kolechad.ca/chanukah21.htm.



COMMUNITY



Jewish Influence on American Popular Music

from 1880 - 2000

Join **Allan Cheskes** this fall
for a continuation of his music series on
The Brill Building Writing Teams

The Brill Building in New York is famous for housing music industry offices and studios where some of the most popular American songs were written.

September 30	November 11
October 14	November 25
October 28	

Program starts at 8:00 pm*

**A musical prelude will begin at 7:40 pm, followed by the program, beginning at approximately 8:00 pm.*

[CLICK HERE](#)
To register and receive the Zoom details for this program series.

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COMMUNITY



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

B'nai Brith Canada requires volunteers for two-hour shifts to work as greeters and B'nai Brith Ambassadors at bingo halls.

ALL COVID-19 PROTOCOLS WILL BE FOLLOWED

The bingo revenue allows us to provide services such as emergency food boxes to hundreds of seniors who are food insecure, housing to many Holocaust survivors and clothing and other necessities to the most vulnerable in our community.

We need your assistance and ask anyone who can volunteer to contact Cheryl Landy at (416) 633-6224, ext. 134 or e-mail volunteer@bnaibrith.ca for more information.



CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING

ANTI-HATE HOTLINE

B'nai Brith Canada operates the country's only Anti-Hate Hotline combating antisemitism and racism. If you have been the victim of an antisemitic incident, we encourage you to fill out the form at <https://bit.ly/3irmAAz> or call our Toll Free Anti-Hate Hotline at 1-800-892-BNAI (2624)



FOOD SENSATIONS

SFENJ (MOROCCAN DOUGHNUTS)

Ingredients

3 cups flour

2 teaspoons yeast

1 teaspoon salt

1 1/4 cup warm water

Dissolve yeast into 1/4 cup warm water.

Mix together flour and salt.



Preparation

Mix together 1 cup warm water, yeast mixture and flour mixture by hand until well blended. (Dough will be extremely wet and sticky.)

Cover with plastic and a kitchen towel.

Let sit for two hours.

Prepare a bowl of water to dip your hands in. When oil is hot, dip your hands in the water and very quickly grab a golf-ball-size piece of dough, poke a hole in it, and drop it into the oil. (If you take too long, the dough will stick to your hands.) Be careful not to drip any water from your hands into the oil, as it could splatter and burn you.

Tip: Sfenj are freeform and not very pretty, so you will get odd shapes with all kinds of ridges and bubbles on them.

* * *

Both recipes from Jewish Journal,

<https://jewishjournal.com/community/243171/sumptuous-taste-sephardic-hanukkah/>



FOOD SENSATIONS

BURMUELOS

Adapted from "The Sephardic Cooks (Come Con Gana)" by the Sisterhood of Congregation Or Ve Shalom in Atlanta.

Ingredients

1/2 cup water
1 teaspoon instant yeast
3 cups flour
1 egg
Pinch of salt



Preparation

Mix 1/2 cup of water with 1 teaspoon of instant yeast. Let sit till it is foamy. Then mix with 3 cups flour, 1 egg, 1 1/2 cups of warm water and a pinch of salt.

Mix to form a sticky, wet dough.

Cover and let rise for two hours. With a spoon or small ice cream scoop, drop dough into the hot oil. They will puff up and rise to the top quickly. If they don't, the oil is not hot enough.

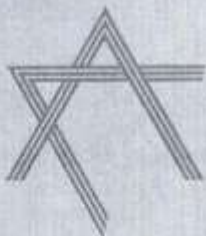
For the syrup, mix 1 cup sugar, 3 tablespoons of honey and 1 /2 cup water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil until thick.

Pour over burmuelos.

Serve hot.

Tip: If you need to make ahead, make only the day of, and warm up in the oven and then pour hot syrup over warm burmuelos. Don't make them the day before because they get oily quickly. The best result is to serve right after frying.





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COMMENT

On September 20, the Canadian government held its 44th Federal Election. I hope that most of you went out and executed your democratic right as a Canadian to vote for the party that you wish to lead the government. I worked both the four days of advance polls and Election Day. I was supervising at the community centre at Earl Bales Park. I could tell you that the advance polls were busy with long lines on the Sunday and Monday. It was pretty quiet on Saturday, that is, until Shabbat was over. Then it got very busy.

One of the issues with this election was that Election Day (September 20) was also Erev Sukkot. We also had to deal with COVID-19 protocols and make sure social distancing was taking



place. Because of COVID-19, Elections Canada lost a few venues that they have used for polling places. School gyms without an exterior entrance or exit could not be used. We could not have electors walking in the halls where there were students.

On top of that, being Erev Sukkot, we also lost the synagogues we have used in the past. So, basically, we used community centres but had to cram more polling places into them. The community centre had a total of 17 polling stations. I was in a room with seven stations. Except for the first half-hour on Election Day, we never really had more than three to four people waiting in a line. We kept people six feet apart, and the day progressed very well.

All and all, the polling days were uneventful. That is a good thing. To liven things up a bit, the other supervisors and I would applaud first-time voters when they cast their ballot. All enjoyed it, some were embarrassed by it, but they did have big smiles.

This was my third election, and it was a great experience. The hours are long, fourteen and a half hours during the advance polls, and on Election Day, I worked from 7:30 a.m. to 1:45 a.m. I would definitely do it again next election, but please, Justin Trudeau, do not call another election in 18 months!

Stewart Indig





AS I SEE IT

Marc Kates

I remember the audience rising to its feet, clapping along as it gave the performers a standing ovation. It was a swelling sense of Canadian patriotism of the sheer goodness exhibited by those Canadians who, in the shadow of unfathomable horror, opened their hearts and homes to the world. On September 11, 2001, 38 jets landed in the small community of Gander, Newfoundland. Long before *Come From Away* became a

smashing success on Broadway, I had always wanted to go and visit “The Rock.”

I attribute my affinity for Canada to my mother, who instilled in us a love for this country. Even though she didn’t travel much of it, that desire to explore our own backyard was instilled in me from a very young age. Last year, long before we knew the havoc that COVID would have on all plans, we chose Newfoundland as our destination for our summer travels. Thankfully, we were simply able to postpone our trip until summer 2021. Staying in Canada eliminated the need for COVID tests, quarantine, and the travel bureaucracy. The government of Newfoundland and Labrador made reasonable requests of those entering the province. For our two daughters who are under the age of 12 and who are not vaccinated, the province wanted the kids to do what their adults had to do. Since we are fully vaccinated, there were no restrictions other than proving our vaccination status.

Continued on next page



Our trip started in Deer Lake and ended in St. John's two weeks later. We're not really the "relaxing on the beach" type of people, so our itinerary was filled with activities and daily adventures. Our first adrenaline rush came in the form of zip lining. It was the first time that the kids had ever tried it, and we were not surprised that our adventurous kids loved every moment of it, jumping off the platform and sailing through the air. We then made our way up the western coast of Newfoundland, visiting lighthouses, national parks, sea kayaking, and hiking. A few days into the trip, we boarded the ferry and took it across to Labrador. Although I'm not a fan of any boat, spotting whales breaching the water was a highlight. We didn't venture very far in Labrador, but learned about the whaling industry in Red Bay, and took in the rugged beauty. We spent only one night in Labrador, but it is certainly a place worth returning to and exploring further. Back in Newfoundland, we travelled to L'anse aux Meadows and learned about the Vikings who beat Columbus to the new world centuries before. We went spelunking in caves, and the kids swam in an underground natural pool of water. We visited Twillingate, where icebergs have not been seen for the past few years and learned about the cod industry. We rode bikes and had a picnic by the lighthouse in Bonavista. Everywhere we turned, behind every bend in the path, was a spectacular view.

Discovering the bounty of the land was a lovely surprise. At times, hikes that should have taken an hour took an hour and a half because we stopped to pick the wild blueberries and raspberries that are everywhere. We used coffee cups and hotel ice buckets to pick the berries and learned about new berries that I had never tried before: bakeapples (which have nothing to do with apples) and partridgeberries (which are best harvested in the winter).

Each day in Newfoundland was far from boring, and it was bittersweet arriving in St. John's, knowing that our first vacation in nearly two years would soon be ending. The only thing that surpasses the natural beauty of Newfoundland and Labrador is the beauty of its people. We felt welcomed and were so proud to have the chance to further explore Canada. In the play *Come From Away*, the following joke is shared demonstrating why Newfoundlanders are really terrible at knock-knock jokes:

Person 1: Knock-knock!

Newfoundlander: Come on in, the door's open!

It's a cute anecdote, but true to the nature of its people. This country is magnificent, and it is a privilege to call it home. Newfoundland offers so much to any visitor. It is a remarkable and unforgettable place, shaped by geography but embraced by the heart.



FORESTDALE FUNNIES

It's time to say goodbye to 2021, the first full year living and dealing with COVID-19, with some lockdown jokes to keep you smiling through the winter:

Yeah, I have plans tonight. I'll probably hit the living room around 8 or 9!



So many coronavirus jokes out there; it's a pundemic!

I'll tell you a coronavirus joke now, but you'll have to wait two weeks to see if you got it!

Did you hear the coronavirus joke? Never mind, I don't want to spread it around!

My mum always told me I wouldn't accomplish anything by lying in bed all day. But look at me now! I'm saving the world!

Nothing like relaxing on the couch after a long day of being tense on the couch!

What's the difference between COVID-19 and Romeo and Juliet?
One's the coronavirus, and the other is a Verona crisis!

Why do they call it the novel coronavirus? It's a long story...

What's the best way to avoid touching your face? A glass of wine in each hand!

Whose idea was it to sing "Happy Birthday" while washing your hands? Now every time I go to the bathroom, my kids expect me to walk out with a cake!

What should you do if you don't understand a coronavirus joke? Be patient!

You know what they say: feed a cold, starve a fever, drink a corona!



Why did the chicken cross the road? Because the chicken behind it didn't know how to socially distance properly!

I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch them with a six-foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!

If I keep stress-eating at this level, the buttons on my shirt will start socially distancing from each other!

Ran out of toilet paper and started using lettuce leaves. Today was just the tip of the iceberg, tomorrow remains to be seen!

Why didn't the sick guy get the joke?
It flu over his head!

I ran out of toilet paper and had to start using old newspapers. The Times are rough!

If coronavirus isn't about beer, why do I keep seeing cases of it?

If there's a baby boom nine months from now, what will happen in 2033? There will be a whole bunch of quaranteens!

As you get older, you'll realize that a \$300 watch and a \$30 watch both tell the same time.

A Michael Kors wallet and a Forever 21 wallet hold the same amount of money.

A \$300,000 house and a \$100,000 house host the same loneliness.

A Ford will also drive you as far as a Bentley.

True happiness is not found in materialistic things. It comes from the love and laughter found with each other.

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FORESTDALE FUNNIES

SERIOUS LOCK DOWN ADVICE

Everyone PLEASE be careful because people are going crazy from being locked down at home!


I was just talking about this with the microwave and the toaster while drinking my Pepsi, and we all agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention any of this to the washing machine, because she puts a different spin on EVERYTHING!! Certainly couldn't share with the fridge, cause he's been acting cold and distant! In the end, the iron straightened me out! She said the situation isn't all that pressing and all the wrinkles will soon get ironed out!

The vacuum, however, was very unsympathetic... told me to just suck it up! But the fan was VERY optimistic and gave me hope that it will all blow over soon!

The toilet looked a bit flushed but didn't say anything when I asked its opinion, but the front door said I was becoming unhinged and the doorknob told me to get a grip!! You can just about guess what the curtains told me: they told me to "pull myself together!"

We will survive!!



REMEMBRANCE DAY



OBSERVANCE IN THE COMMONWEALTH

The common British, Canadian, South African, and ANZAC tradition includes a one- or two-minute silence at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month (11:00 a.m., November 11), as that marks the time (in the United Kingdom) when the armistice became effective. The Service of Remembrance in many Commonwealth countries generally includes the sounding of the “Last Post,” followed by the period of silence, followed by the sounding of “Reveille.” Services also include wreaths laid to honour the fallen, a blessing, and national anthems.

Australia

In Australia, Remembrance Day is always observed on November 11, regardless of the day of the week. It is not a public holiday; it is a time when people can pay their respects to the substantial number of soldiers who died in battle.

Bermuda

In Bermuda, which sent the first colonial volunteer unit to the Western Front in 1915, and which had more people per capita in uniform during the Second World War than any other part of the Empire, Remembrance Day is still an important holiday.

Canada

In Canada, Remembrance Day (Jour du Souvenir) is a statutory holiday in all three territories and six provinces. Nova Scotia recognizes the day separately under their provincial Remembrance Day act, but Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec do not treat the day as an official holiday in any capacity.

India

In India, the day is usually marked by tributes and ceremonies in army cantonments. There are memorial services in some churches, such as St. Mark’s Cathedral and St. John’s Church in Bangalore.

Continued on next page



New Zealand

New Zealand's national day of Remembrance is Anzac Day, April 25. "Poppy Day" usually occurs on the Friday before Anzac Day. The reason for New Zealand having their Remembrance on Anzac Day happened in 1921. The paper Poppies for Armistice that year arrived by ship too late for November 11, 1921, so an RSA branch distributed them at the next commemoration date (April 25, 1922, which happened to be Anzac Day), and that date stuck as the new Poppy Day in New Zealand.



South Africa

In South Africa, Remembrance Day is not a public holiday. Commemoration ceremonies are usually held on the nearest Sunday, at which the "Last Post" is played by a bugler, followed by the observation of a two-minute silence.


United Kingdom

Wreath-laying ceremonies, usually organized by local branches of the Royal British Legion, are observed on Remembrance Day at most war memorials across the U.K. at 11 a.m. on November 11, with two minutes of silence followed.




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LOOKING BACK



City of Toronto Archives | Fonds 1524, File 3, Item 23

LEFT:

Sam the Record Man storefront,
347 Yonge Street
Photographer: Harvey Naylor,
1975

BELOW:

South-east corner Dundas Square,
Yonge Street
Photographer: City of Toronto
Planning and Development
Department, 1979

<https://dailyhive.com/toronto/vintage-photos-toronto-1960s-1970s>



City of Toronto Archives | Fonds 1493 | File Name: s1493_01104_0006

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