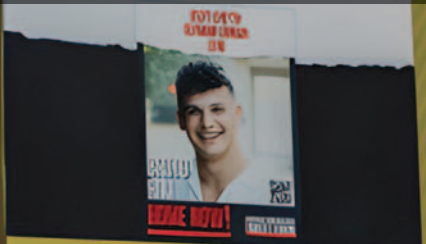




Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canadien

# Lifeline

**ROSH HASHANAH | FALL 2024 / 5785 | NATIONAL EDITION**



MAGEN  
DAVID  
ADOM  
לרצו ISRAEL



מסן דוד  
אדום  
בישראל

## Risking their lives to save the lives of others



**The situation in Israel**

Page 2

**Exemplary Magen David Adom paramedics**

Page 3

*Shana Tova 5785*

wishing you a year of health, peace and prosperity



Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canadien

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## Rosh Hashana Message from **Arlène Madar Abitan**, CMDA National President



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we approach the one-year mark of October 7<sup>th</sup>, we are reminded of the challenges and trials Israel faces.

We must stand tall and united, recognizing that our safety and security in the diaspora are intertwined with the existence and strength of the Jewish state of Israel.

Canadian Magen David Adom, stands proudly as one of the many friends Societies worldwide dedicated to ensuring that Magen David Adom in Israel operates with utmost efficiency and effectiveness.

On behalf of Canadian Magen David Adom, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for your unwavering generosity and steadfast support. Your contributions have played a pivotal role in enabling us to continue our mission of providing life-saving medical care and humanitarian aid in Israel, the country's National Emergency Services. A vital part of the lifesaving work includes the upkeep of the state-of-the-art National Underground Blood Center.

This facility has been instrumental in the past months particularly, supplementing blood to the injured.

Israel became the first nation to provide field blood transfusions to wounded combat soldiers, significantly reducing battlefield fatalities by 50%.

It is both our duty and privilege to support their life-saving work, ensuring that they have the resources and capabilities needed to always respond swiftly and effectively to the people of Israel.

As we reunite with our loved ones to celebrate Rosh Hashana, let us all pray for a peaceful and sweet year to come for Israel and Jews around the world.

May the sound of the shofar recall the vision of the prophets of the day when all people live in peace!

Am Israel Chai

Shana Tova Umetuka !

## Message de Rosh Hashana de la part d'**Arlène Madar Abitan**, Présidente nationale CMDA

Chers amis, chères amies et partenaires,

Alors que nous approchons du cap d'une année après le 7 octobre, nous avons en mémoire les défis et les épreuves auxquels Israël fait face.

Nous devons garder la tête haute et rester unis, en reconnaissant que notre sécurité dans la diaspora est imbriquée à l'existence et à la force de l'État juif d'Israël.

Magen David Adom Canadien se dresse fièrement comme l'une des nombreuses sociétés amies partout au monde, vouées à assurer que Magen David Adom en Israël fonctionne avec le maximum d'efficacité et d'efficacé.

Au nom de Magen David Adom Canadien, je tiens à exprimer à chacun de vous ma profonde gratitude pour votre inébranlable générosité et votre soutien indéfectible. Vos contributions ont joué un rôle crucial pour nous permettre de poursuivre notre mission visant à fournir de l'aide pour des soins médicaux indispensables et humanitaires en Israël pour les services nationaux d'urgence du pays. Une part vitale du travail de sauvetage comprend le maintien du Centre national souterrain de transfusion sanguine. Cette installation a été déterminante au cours des derniers mois, tout particulièrement en procurant du sang aux personnes blessées.

Israël est devenu la première nation à fournir des transfusions sanguines sur le terrain à des soldats blessés au combat, en réduisant notablement de 50 % les décès sur le champ de bataille. C'est à la fois notre devoir et un privilège de soutenir son travail de sauvetage, en assurant que ses membres ont les ressources et les capacités de toujours répondre très rapidement et efficacement au peuple d'Israël.

Alors que nous nous réunissons avec ceux que nous aimons pour célébrer Rosh Hashana, prions tous ensemble pour que vienne une année de douceur et de paix pour Israël et les Juifs partout au monde.

Que le son du shofar rappelle la vision des prophètes du jour où tous les hommes et toutes les femmes vivront en paix!

Am Israël Chai

Shana Tova Umetuka!

**Arlène Madar Abitan**,  
National President / Présidente nationale



# NEW global president of Magen David Adom (MDA)

for

D A D O M



Israel's outgoing Ambassador to the United Nations Gilad Erdan has been named global president of Magen David Adom (MDA), Israel's emergency services system. In this role, he will promote the emergency medical and blood services activities of the organization and represent it on the international stage, as well as advocate on behalf of MDA at international forums and other global events.

Erdan assumed his new role shortly after completing his four-year tenure as Israel's ambassador to the UN, where he was recognized as an impassioned defender of Israel. He previously served as Israel's home front defense minister and as a member of Israel's Security Cabinet, leading many important reforms in both roles. After the Hamas attacks of October 7, Erdan emerged as one of the strongest voices for the victims of terror and the right of Israel to defend itself.

Canadian Magen David was honored to have hosted Gilad Erdan as our Guest Speaker at the Montreal Gala in 2023 and we are looking forward to him returning!



# The situation in Israel



## ISRAEL

Following the brutal terror attacks of October 7<sup>th</sup>, Hamas has continued to bombard Israelis with rockets, with Hezbollah and Iran also joining in on the deadly attacks. Aside from aerial attacks, Israel has seen a dramatic increase in terror attacks, including stabbings, shootings, and vehicular assaults.

In the immediate aftermath of the October 7<sup>th</sup> attacks, Magen David Adom activated all 1,550 of its existing ambulances, as well as its medicycles, helicopters, blood mobiles and all other vehicles.

Since then, Magen David Adom EMTs and paramedics have been treating the wounded, often while under rocket attack and gunfire themselves. As always, the men and women of MDA are risking their lives to save the lives of others.

### How Magen David Adom is helping:

MDA is operating 24 hours a day, responding to all reported incidents and emergency calls across the entire country. Since October 7<sup>th</sup>, MDA has been on its highest alert level. EMTs and paramedics are treating the injured on the scene,

providing lifesaving treatment often in the midst of constant rocket attacks and gunfire. They are also transporting patients to hospitals via ambulances and helicopter to receive further treatment when necessary.

MDA's blood services division is supplying **100% of the blood needed by the IDF** and is distributing blood units to all of Israel's hospitals, where injured civilians are being treated. In addition to using blood already in the blood bank, MDA is **operating multiple blood drives** across the country to ensure

they have the consistent supply they will undoubtedly continue to require. Thousands of Israelis have donated blood and hundreds are waiting in line – sometimes for hours – in order to donate.

**Help is desperately needed at the moment to replenish supplies for EMTs and paramedics and for MDA's blood services division.**

## MDA's State-of-the-Art Blood Center: A New Era in Blood Donation and Safety

## ISRAEL

Magen David Adom's State-of-the-Art Blood Center: A New Era in Blood Donation and Safety

Magen David Adom (MDA), Israel's leading emergency medical service organization, has recently inaugurated a ground-breaking blood center that sets a new standard in blood donation and transfusion services. This cutting-edge facility integrates the latest advancements in medical technology, significantly enhancing the safety and efficiency of blood collection and processing.

Following October 7<sup>th</sup>, before it was slated to open, the brand new blood bank opened earlier

than expected, speeding up the timeline after understanding the magnitude of the attack.

"It became very clear we needed to move with the war plans because this was exactly the moment, the event it was built for," said Dr. Eilat Shinar, director of the national blood services division of Magen David Adom — Israel's medical emergency, disaster, ambulance and blood service.

**This state-of-the-art center, the world's first underground anti-missile blood facility, is designed to withstand earthquakes and natural disasters, ensuring the continuity of blood supply to the IDF and all Israeli's even in the most challenging conditions.**



### Ground-breaking Contributions and Services

MDA plays a critical role in supplying blood to hospitals and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), responding to both civilian and military emergencies. As part of its collaboration with the IDF, MDA's Blood Services Division has introduced a vital program that provides whole blood units to combat soldiers on the frontlines, reducing battlefield fatal-

ities by 50%. Israel is among three countries globally using whole blood in this manner and is the only nation to deploy it directly on the battlefield.

Magen David Adom's new blood center not only increases the efficiency and safety of blood services but also underscores the organization's unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation in healthcare.



# Exemplary Magen David Adom paramedics who embody selflessness and dedication



## ISRAEL

### Menachem's Story:

On the evening before October 7<sup>th</sup>, Menachem began his shift as a paramedic at Tzohar station. At 6:30am on October 7<sup>th</sup>, MDA Israel Paramedic Menachem Blumenthal heard the rocket barrage that began targeting the Western Negev communities. The first call came in at 6:40am about someone with critical injuries, followed by information that Hamas terrorists had infiltrated Kibbutzim in the surrounding the Gaza envelop in Israel. Menachem understood that this would hinder

the evacuations of the wounded to hospitals as the terrorists were on the roads all around them. With a wounded person, Menachem decided that since they could not make it to the hospital, the community synagogue was close by so they drove the ambulance to the synagogue, quickly converting it into a field hospital, ready to take on additional casualties.

Understanding the magnitude, Menachem reached out to residents in the area who had medical training to come to the synagogue turned field hospital and bring any medical equipment they had, including the moshav's stretchers. He also contacted the MDA dispatch center asking that all ambulances be directed to the synagogue. Over the next many hours, Menachem and his team were taking in casualty after casualty, coordinating with the MDA dispatch center to bring in a

helicopter and the IDF to rescue victims. Menachem and his team treated and saved many people on October 7<sup>th</sup>, risking their lives while under constant threats and attacks from terrorists.

### Oshrit's Story:

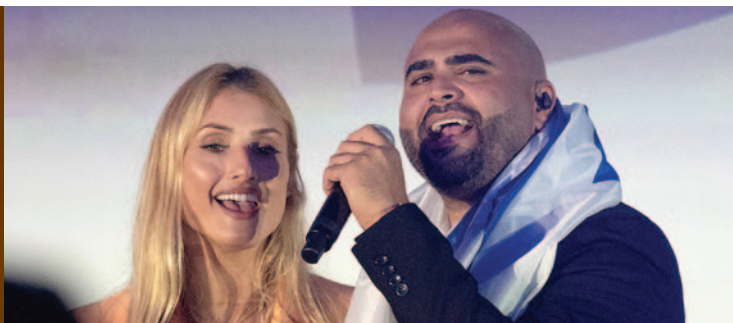
Oshrit, a 22 year old woman from Netivot, is an MDA paramedic in Ashdod. On October 7<sup>th</sup>, she immediately headed out to treat casualties at the Shuva Junction where MDA had already set up a field hospital. Over the next many hours, Oshrit put her life on the line with terrorists in the area in order to save the lives of many people. One man was seriously injured and grabbed her hand and asked her to say the "Shema Israel" prayer with him, knowing he would not make it.

During the morning, Oshrit's best friend Amit Man 22 years old, also a paramedic for MDA, was at Kibbutz



Beeri when the attacks began. Amit was offered the opportunity to leave and take cover and refused. Instead she chose to go to the clinic in the Kibbutz knowing that they were infiltrated by terrorists and understanding that the community would need her. Oshrit and Amit kept in touch throughout the morning until Oshrit stopped receiving communications. Amit was killed by terrorists wearing her medical gloves, her last moments putting others before herself. Oshrit now dedicates her heroic work with Magen David Adom to Amit.

*Oshrit and Menachem are two exemplary Magen David Adom paramedics who embody selflessness and dedication, risking their own lives daily to save others. Their unwavering commitment, even in the face of a terrorist infiltration on October 7<sup>th</sup>, truly represents the essence of Magen David Adom—an organization founded on the principle of prioritizing the safety and well-being of Israel and its citizens. This extraordinary work is made possible through the generosity of our donors, whose support ensures that paramedics like Oshrit and Menachem have the essential equipment and training needed to perform their life-saving duties. Without your contributions, the vital mission of Magen David Adom would not be achievable.*



## MONTREAL GALA 2024

## MONTREAL

Canadian Magen David Adom (CMDA) in Montreal hosted a Gala evening on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, with an astounding turnout of over 400 attendees. The event served as a tribute to the courageous heroes in Israel who selflessly put their lives on the line every day.

The Gala, held at The Windsor Ballrooms, was an inspiring testament to the dedication and bravery exhibited by the men and women of Magen David Adom. Dancer, singer and powerful influencer, Montana Tucker graced the evening as the MC, guiding attendees through a program filled with heartfelt moments and powerful accounts.

Israeli Singer Dor Shimon lent his voice to the event, closing the evening with a moving rendition of Hebrew songs that resonated deeply with the audience.

The highlight of the evening was the firsthand accounts shared by Magen David Adom's Chief of Staff, Uri Shacham, along with Paramedics Menachem Blumenthal and Oshrit Hadad. Their chilling recollections of the events of October 7<sup>th</sup> left attendees in awe of their courage and determination. Their stories shed light on the incredible efforts undertaken by Magen David Adom personnel to save numerous lives in the face of horror, deep rooted anti-Semitism and terrorism.



In a display of solidarity and collaboration, representatives from Magen David Adom in Israel were also present at the Gala. Raphael Herbst, MDA's senior Paramedic and Canada Help Desk Representative, along with Sharron Bransburg-Zabary, Director of Magen David Adom's National Human Milk Bank and Yifat Glassman, Paramedic, graced the event with their attendance.

The Gala evening served as a poignant reminder of the unwavering commitment of Magen David Adom to saving lives and providing essential medical services, both in Israel and around the world.





## Annual Summer Camp Program

TORONTO

Summer 2024 would not be complete without a visit from our Ambulance to some of our local and long distance Jewish summer camps. Canadian Magen David Adom was at it again with its annual Summer Camp Program visiting a few Camps including a few independent camps and Moshava B'air Toronto. At MBT, all of the children were treated to a Paramedic demonstration, some life-saving guidance and an opportunity to walk through the Ambulance. All of the campers went away with a Magen David Adom souvenir. If your Camp is interested in us visiting next summer please contact our office at : 416-780-0034 or e-mail us at: toronto@cmdai.org.



## UJA Walk for Israel

TORONTO

On Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>, CMDA was at it again, supporting our Community.

We express our sincere appreciation for allowing our paramedics to keep all the record-breaking 50,000 people safe. We would like to thank UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and Toronto Hatzolah for working with Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel to get it done.

15 CMDA Emergency Paramedic Volunteers marched throughout the Walk and followed our ambulance from Lawrence Avenue up the JCC North of Sheppard.



## Jewish Motorcyclists Unite

TORONTO

The mission of the Jewish Motorcyclists Alliance (JMA) is to create a global environment whereby members of the Jewish faith who ride motorcycles can congregate in person and/or electronically to share and exchange ideas and opinions about matters of concern to the Jewish community at large as well as issues specifically concerning motorcycles and motorcycle riding.

On June 6<sup>th</sup>, American and Canadian members of the Club gathered for their annual convention in Toronto at the Novotel Hotel. They spent the weekend visiting the Toronto Holocaust Museum and also participating in the Walk for Israel. CMDA and AFMDA were invited to the event and represented by Hershel Recht, Iris Ehrent and Samuel Koenig respectively. A special award and plaque were presented to recognize a special effort. A joint initiative was launched by the Club after the events of October 7<sup>th</sup> to raise the funds necessary to purchase 2 Medi-Cycles. An incredible cross-border initiative that will go a long way to save lives.







## Strengthening Israel and Supporting our Newborns

State of Israel Bonds Canada and Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel were happy to announce the beginning of a phenomenal partnership to help strengthen Israel's economy and Israel's National Human Milk Bank at Magen David Adom.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup> CMDA was honoured to co-host the Head of MDA's Milk Bank, Dr. Sharron Bransburg-Zabary with Israel Bonds Women's Division for a special event to kick off the project.

Israel Bonds and Canadian Magen David Adom have partnered on this most crucial DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT campaign. Through purchasing an Israel Bond for the National Human Milk Bank, two amazing things happen:

1. Israel benefits, by using the borrowed funds to strengthen its economy at this critical time.
2. Israel's National Human Milk Bank at Magen David Adom benefits as well. At the end of the 1-year term, your gift, plus interest, can be used to support this important, life-saving initiative.

Together, we can make a real impact by directly supporting the health and well-being of newborns across Israel.

For more information, please contact Israel Bonds at: **1.866.543.3351** or at: [Toronto@IsraelBonds.ca](mailto:Toronto@IsraelBonds.ca)

## Annual Charity Golf Tournament

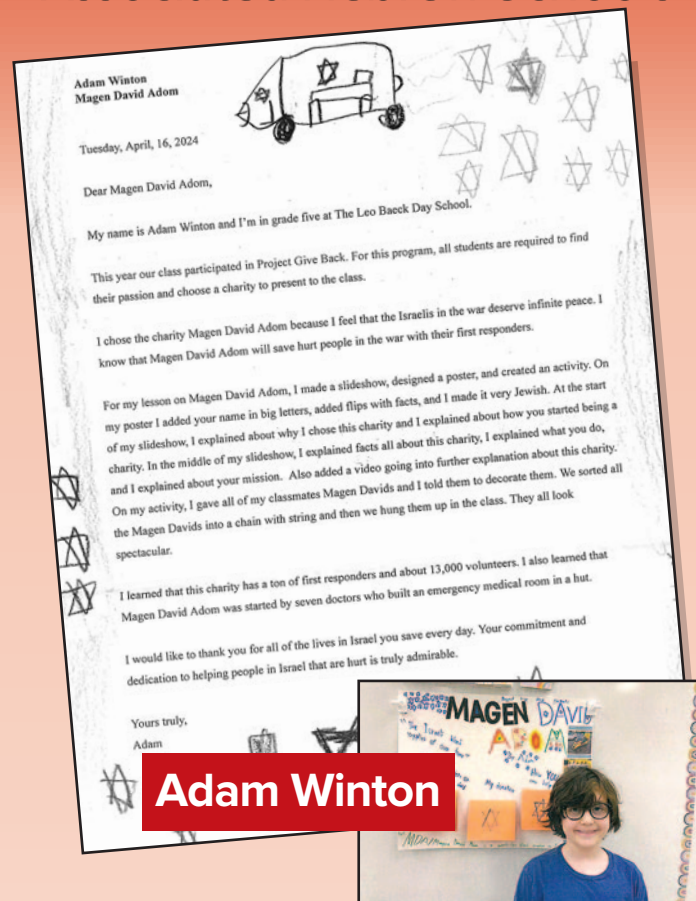


Thank you to our friends at KSV Advisory Inc. for inviting and fundraising for Canadian Magen David Adom at their Annual Charity Golf Tournament in Uxbridge, Ontario.

KSV has a longstanding tradition of hosting an annual charity golf tournament. Funds raised from our annual golf events now exceed \$4 million. The June 3, 2024 Tournament raised the funds necessary to purchase a Mercedes Sprinter Bloodmobile that will collect blood donations and serve all citizens and visitors to the State of Israel.

CMDA thanks all of the sponsors, donors, participants and volunteers. CMDA and KSV are extremely grateful for everyone who made this event so memorable and successful

# Project Giveback Associated Hebrew Schools







Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canadien

*We will continue  
to celebrate*

**THE GIFT OF LIFE  
IS IN YOUR HANDS**

**Thursday,  
November 21<sup>st</sup>**

**T O R O N T O**

You are invited to an  
evening of enjoyable inspiration  
and gratitude honoring our  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM HEROES**

**LOCATION: TBD**

**FULL COCKTAIL-BUFFET RECEPTION: 6:00 p.m.**

**PROGRAM & ENTERTAINMENT: 7:30 p.m.**

**Buffet Dinner, Open Bar and Dessert Reception**

**Free Parking on-site | Kosher dietary laws observed**



**F E A T U R I N G**



Recognizing the  
Mayor of Vaughan,  
**STEVEN DEL DUCA**  
and the twin city partnership  
with Ramla, Israel



Master of Ceremonies  
**DAVID KEYSTONE**  
Award winning host and  
producer, co-creator of the  
CBC series 'Small Talk'



A Special Performance  
by Comedian  
**ELON GOLD**

AS SEEN ON



Musical Performance  
**DOR SHIMON**  
Finalist on Israel's  
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# CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM – LONDON CHAPTER

## Annual Bagel Breakfast – May 5, 2024 – London JCC

### LONDON

Once again, the London Chapter of Canadian Magen David Adom served up a delicious bagel breakfast to our dedicated supporters. Our resident chef extraordinaire, Judy Weinstein, oversaw the buffet, loaded with all kinds of amazing food!

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Annette Richard, made an informative presentation on the history of the stethoscope, leading up to portable ultrasound machines. She demonstrated the use of ultrasound in making a diagnosis of serious medical conditions, which otherwise might go undetected. Dr. Richard plans to travel to Israel in November 2024 for



instruction in procedures used in disaster situations.

Hershel Recht, Director of CMDA's Central Region, provided some humour before he introduced Doctors Joby Eisen and Sharla Lichtman, who went to Israel

shortly after the Hamas attack on Israel in October 2023. Joby and Sharla made an engrossing presentation about MDA saving lives under fire, and described how CMDA volunteers are assisting MDA personnel during the current situation.

The surprise of the morning came when co-chair, Hazel Friedman, called up the founders of the London Chapter, Lorna Brooke and Naomi Sheinbaum, to receive Certificates of Appreciation for their 20 years of commitment and inspiration. Naomi had an extra surprise with the attendance of her son Roy, daughter-in-law Lisa, and granddaughter Alex!

Thanks to our generous supporters, we are able to purchase three portable ultrasound machines for MDA ambulances, and hope to raise enough to purchase an additional machine. A very special thank you to Wally Zimmerman for taking photos of our event!



## CMDA attends the Calgary Stampede

### CALGARY

It was pleasure meeting all CMDA supporters.

It was so great seeing people socializing, talking about humanitarian issues and helping humanity. All of us are trying to create hope in the world and make it a better place.

Many thanks to: Danielle Smith, the Premier of Alberta, the amazing Consul General - Toronto

Ms. Idit Shamir is carrying the torch for our beloved country. Idit Shamir, Jason Kenney, Rebecca Schulz Minister of Environment and Protected Areas of Alberta, Shuvaloy Majumdar Member of the House of Commons of Canada, Jasraj Singh Hallan MP for Calgary Forest Lawn, Eric Bouchard, represents the people of Calgary-Lougheed in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.



Dan McLean-Councillor Dan McLean represents Ward 13 on Calgary City Council. The beautiful Melissa Lantsman, Kim Levenson and my good friend Robin Shapiro.

Magen David Adom is Israel's national emergency response and Red Cross service. A leader in mass-casualty response and EMS technology, MDA treats and transports almost one million people to hospitals every year; collects, safety tests, and distributes nearly all the blood to Israel's hospitals; and, through its affiliation with the Red Cross movement, responds to disasters around the world.



# CMDA gala evening celebrates donors, supporters, and good friends

## An Incredible Night of Mediterranean Delights in Calgary

CALGARY

### What a night!

This year's annual CMDA spring gala was not only a sensation for the senses, but a heartfelt celebration of community support and Am Israel Chai. More than 400 guests packed the Carriage House Conference Centre for a fabulous sold-out Israeli themed evening. That included a one-of-a-kind Israeli and Mediterranean Kosher food menu and fabulous live entertainment and artistic demonstrations. But it was not all celebration, as guests heard firsthand-accounts and saw videos from the October 7<sup>th</sup> massacre. They also heard stories of MDA heroism which brought home why it was important to celebrated and say thank-you to the Calgary and Western Canadian CMDA Major Donors and supporters.

"We wanted to do something that celebrated Israeli culture and say thank you to our supporters," says Sharon Fraiman, the tireless and inspirational CMDA Western Region



tion favorites. There was also a surprise performance by live sand show artist, Andrii Pesochnyi

During the evening, Fraiman told stories from first-hand accounts and played videos of the horrors of October 7<sup>th</sup>, and how MDA paramedics, their ambulances and facilities were targeted by Hamas. She led a moment of silence in honour of Israeli medics killed in the war. "In less than a week, nearly 30 MDA paramedics and EMTs were killed by Hamas just for doing their jobs. 16 ambulances have been destroyed and supplies are being used up at alarming rates. MDA is incurring costs in excess of \$350,000 per day to keep up with the emergency needs of Israel," said Fraiman

A CMDA trophy was handed to Bobby Libin who is a great CMDA supporter.

The Katz family donated a Medical Scooter and were honoured on the stage for Benny Katz 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

It was a great honor to have Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Environment and Protected Areas of Alberta, as our main speaker.

We had the pleasure to host Councillor Dan McLean who represents Ward 13 on Calgary City Council, Dan continues to be a great CMDA supporter for the last 4 years.

A special Ambulance donation was received by Lenny Shapiro to honor his wife Faigel for her 90th birthday.

Lenny, our former CMDA chairman is a long time supporter and he thinks that there is nothing more important than saving lives in Israel.

Lenny also decided to take the life saving boat project upon himself to help save lives in the sea of Galilee.

Lenny is a role model to us all.

Director, "But at the same time, it was really important to remind ourselves of the reality that MDA responders faced on October 7<sup>th</sup> and continue to face today."

Fraiman, whose dedicated team of volunteers including family planned and executed the entire event, was the evening's Emcee. There was a host of elected officials, sponsors, supporters, and special guests attending including Sidney Benizri the National Executive Director of CMDA.

As well as the fabulous dinner, guests were entertained by the song stylings of Israeli musical sensation, Dor Shimon, a real showman, and a runner-up on the TV series Rising Star to Eurovision. The ever-versatile Calgary violinist Steven Klevisky played a terrific variety of upbeat tunes and tradi-



# CMDA Night of Appreciation

## WINNIPEG

By John Plantz

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 the Winnipeg Chapter of CMDA held its first sold out celebration at the Winnipeg Centro Caboto Centre. It was "A Night of Appreciation" bringing the Jewish & Christian communities together to express special appreciation to Ida and Saul z'l Alpern and other faithful, dedicated donors. Proceeds from the event went for the ambulance in honor of Yoram East z'l.

The "Night of Appreciation" was more than just a fundraising gala; it was an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of individuals and organizations that have significantly supported CMDA's work. The evening had a blend of entertainment, inspiration, and heartfelt gratitude. Attendees had a chance to hear from prominent speakers, including CMDA leaders and beneficiaries of their services. These stories of bravery and compassion highlight the profound impact of the organization's work.

Acknowledgment was given of the October 7<sup>th</sup> tragedy that took place in Israel, the loss of so many lives and the horrific hostage taking. Many soldiers were forced into action, Jewish people all over the world were put on alert. In these times of trouble it sheds light to the critical role CMDA plays and how each one of us can be apart of this cause for good.

A wonderful kosher meal was served in the Caboto Centre's with a beautifully decorated ballroom. Thanks to Barb and Pam Reiss for the extensive planning and preparation for the event.

Entertainment for the evening included live music and performances that added a touch of glamour and excitement to the event. Special music by Irene & John Plantz, testimonials including a heartfelt one by Ron East on



behalf of his father, and Talia Reese provided some comical relief to the evening. The gala also featured a silent auction with a variety of exciting items, from unique experiences to luxury goods. The funds raised from the auction will go directly to supporting Winnipeg chapter's ambulance initiative.

Special thanks to Master of Ceremonies, Kinse Posen and to Rabbi Kliel Rose of Etz Chayim Synagogue for blessing the meal and the evening.

Thanks to all who attended the event and special thanks to Wayne Ewasko elected MLA for Lac du Bonne & Sidney Benizri National Executive Director & Sharon Fraiman Western Region Director who both traveled far to make this wonderful evening, one to be remembered.

This evening could not have happened without the local committee and the Winnipeg board members of CMDA. The significance of the evening extends beyond the event itself. It serves as a reminder of the powerful impact that a community can have when coming together for a common cause. All attendees not only contribute to a vital humanitarian effort but are also participating in a global mission to ensure that medical help and support are always available when needed most, thanks and blessings to you all.



## Remarkable individuals

### CALGARY

During the last CMDA Calgary chapter Event on June 2, 2024 A special ambulance donation was made from Lenny Shapiro to honor his wife Faigel for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Lenny and Faigel Shapiro are remarkable individuals who have made a profound impact on the health and well-being of the citizens of Israel through their selfless donations towards purchasing life-saving vehicles and equipment including life saving boat at the sea of Galilee.

We appreciate your support more than words can express.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your generous contribution, Thank you for believing in our mission to save lives in Israel, and helping us make a positive impact on our brothers and sisters.

Lenny taught me that no one has ever become poor from giving.

This man is a role model to us all and to humanity.

Lenny, you are one of a kind and CMDA is thankful and grateful to you for helping us saving lives.

None of our success would be possible without generous donors like you. Thank you again for your commitment and kindness.



## ANNUAL 'PIE DAY'

### CALGARY

At the end of June, Calgary Jewish Academy held our annual "Pie Day for MDA" fundraiser. This school-wide event for Magen David Adom was a resounding success. Students enthusiastically participated in an event where they had the chance to throw pies at fellow students and even some daring teachers. This fun-filled activity raised an impressive \$700. The event underscored the importance of community involvement and support for the vital work of Magen David Adom.

We believe that there is nothing more important than saving lives in Israel.



# The Vital Role of Fundraising for Magen David Adom: A Personal Perspective

## CALGARY



### Article by Dave Verkh

In a world often overshadowed by conflict and adversity, organizations like Magen David Adom (MDA) serve as a beacon of hope and compassion. Dr. Dave Verkh, a physician and healthcare executive, has witnessed this firsthand. As a member of the MDA Board of Directors and Chair of the Medical Committee, he cannot overstate the importance of raising funds for this noble cause. Alongside Sharon Fraiman, Director of the Western Region & Major Gifts for MDA, Dr. Verkh is committed to sharing their mission and the profound impact their collective efforts can have on humanity.

In the summer of 2014, during Operation Protective Edge, Dr. Verkh served as a senior medic with Magen David Adom. Those days were a true test of spirit and strength, as his team treated over 500 patients, each burdened by trauma that words could not fully capture. The emotional scars left

by these events were profound and lasting.

“One night, under a sky torn by conflict, our team received a call about a site hit by a Qassam rocket,” recalls Dr. Verkh. “As we raced there, the thunder of our pounding hearts drowned out the blare of the sirens. We arrived to chaos, pain, and fear, yet amidst that turmoil, an unspoken bond of humanity emerged. We worked tirelessly, moving from one wounded soul to another, guided by training but driven by a deeper calling of compassion.”

### Touching lives

These experiences were not just about treating physical injuries; they were about touching lives and being there for people in their darkest hours. Healing extends beyond conventional medicine. It’s about nurturing hope and building a community that stands together in both tranquility and tumult.

The recent crisis in Israel, marked by the harrowing news of Israeli hostages and the loss of thousands on October 7<sup>th</sup>, brings MDA’s mission into sharp focus. These events are not distant; they

resonate deeply with many, including those in Canada. Each story of loss and bravery reflects a global family’s shared humanity and collective strength.

“In this difficult time for Jewish people around the world, when antisemitism is at an all-time high, it is crucial that we stand together,” says Dr. Verkh. “People are getting hurt. People are dying. It’s even more crucial to take a stance—a stance against antisemitism, against hate, for unity, and for peace.”

### Beacon of hope

The challenges Magen David Adom faces today are overwhelming—shortages of medical supplies, ambulances under siege, and medical personnel working in perilous conditions. Yet, every action, no matter how small, can be a beacon of hope in these dark times. Contributions can provide life-saving medical supplies, protection for ambulances, and a symbol of solidarity with those risking their lives daily.

“Your donations are not just contributions; they are statements that, across oceans, our hearts,

and support are with them,” Dr. Verkh emphasizes. “Each statistic represents a life—a person with dreams, a family, a story. I have looked into the eyes of these individuals, held their hands, heard their whispers of pain and their sighs of relief. These are not just patients; they embody the resilience and strength of our people.”

### Human stories

As the community reflects on the human stories behind the crisis, the call to action becomes clear. Standing together in moments of peace is important, but standing together in times of turmoil is crucial. The spirit of unity and support must be kept alive for ourselves, those who have fallen, and future generations.

Dr. Verkh’s heartfelt message underscores the vital role of fundraising for Magen David Adom. Alongside Sharon Fraiman, he invites the community to join in this mission. Together, through empathy, action, and compassion, we can make a significant difference and bring light into the darkest of times.

## CMDA and Rotary are spreading the magic over the world



## CALGARY

Please welcome the new Board Members of Calgary Chinook Rotary Club. It was a great pleasure meeting all my fellow Rotarians. Calgary Chinook Rotary Club is Making a difference in Calgary and around the World. It is our job to create hope in this world.

I’m so excited to work with our new president Robert Wolfson, he is definitely a brilliant leader and a great person. Stay tuned for special projects, and events that are coming soon.

Rotarians are very supportive of CMDA and the Jewish people.

They believe that there is nothing more important than saving lives

in Israel and around the world.

Our club knows everything about CMDA and MDA in Israel.

Sharon Fraiman the Western Region Director & Major Gifts of CMDA is also the Director for Membership at Rotary.

Rotary Club is a Community service club that focuses on Volunteer work, organizing community service projects and raising funds to support local and international charities.

We are sociable people who work together to make our community better.

It is extremely important to have Rotarians on board with CMDA.



# VISITS TO ISRAEL

We thank all our donors and friends who recently visited MDA facilities in Israel

CHAIKOF FAMILY



DR. IAN COHEN



DR. RON LEVINE AND DR. SYBIL JUDAH & FAMILY



GLINA AND TESSLER FAMILIES



BREINER AND COHEN FAMILIES



RABBI SHOSTAK AND KATZMAN FAMILIES



SOSNOVITCH FAMILY





# DEDICATIONS

## CHAIKOF MEDICYCLE DEDICATION



Dr. Kagal, is a proud supporter of MDA. He first participated in a medical mission to Israel in 2018, and since then has participated in two other medical mission and volunteers for MDA whenever he visits Israel.

## BASCH AMBULANCE DEDICATION



# VOLUNTEERING



Every year Magen David Adom offers hundreds of students aged 18 to 30, from across the globe, the chance to participate in its Israel volunteer program and experience firsthand, why MDA is such a unique organization.

The program runs for six weeks at a time and begins with 10 days of an intensive first aid training. After completing the course, volunteers then go out and gain on the field experience in the ambulances, dealing with real life situations.

This photo shows some of the Montreal delegation from this summer, including Shirel Dahan, Gabrielle Cohen-Scali and Miriam Nezri

**For more information and to register to volunteer, please visit: [mdais.org/en/volunteers](https://mdais.org/en/volunteers)**

## PRINCE MICU DEDICATION





# TODA RABA



CMDA's National Board of Directors extends grateful appreciation to all the donors who have supported CMDA through the purchase of Mobile Intensive Care Units, Ambulances, Emergency Medi-Cycles, Emergency Vehicles, AED Defibrillators and vital medical equipment.



*Presented to the People of Israel*  
by  
**G.M.D. BENCHETRIT FAMILY**  
Montréal, Canada 2024

*Presented to the People of Israel*  
by  
**J. BOHBOT FAMILY**  
Montréal, Canada 2024



*Presented to the People of Israel*  
BY  
**THE DUBROFSKY FAMILY**  
IN MEMORY OF  
**REUBEN AND FRANCES DUBROFSKY**  
MONTREAL, CANADA 2023



**PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL BY SAVTAS, MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS AND FRIENDS**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023

**PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL BY BUBBIES, MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023



*Presented to the People of Israel*  
In loving memory of  
**Sigal Bar Weizmann Z"L**  
From her Friends and Family  
Montreal, Canada 2024



**Presented to the People of Israel**  
By  
**Beverly and Joseph Sasson & Family**  
in honour of  
Their Parents, Children and Grandchildren  
Montreal, Canada 2024  
Am Yisrael Chai

**Presented to the People of Israel**  
In honour of  
**Lionel Dubrofsky and Tami Dubrofsky**  
**Ron and Marla Wolf and**  
**The Bernard & Norton Wolf Foundation**  
Canada 2024



**זכרה של סון לידר פרוץ**  
**קצינת לוגיסטיקה וחילוי גדות 77**  
**שנפלו במלחמת חרבות ברזל**  
**נתרם בשם משפחת פרוץ-ר"ג**



**Dedicated to the People of Israel**  
in memory of  
our dear cousin  
**Alan Eintoss ז"ל**  
**A special Father, Son, Uncle and Friend**  
**A true Zionist and Defender of Israel**  
from  
**Paul, Jeff and Les Wynn**  
Toronto, Canada December 2021



# TODA RABA



CMDA's National Board of Directors extends grateful appreciation to all the donors who have supported CMDA through the purchase of Mobile Intensive Care Units, Ambulances, Emergency Medi-Cycles, Emergency Vehicles, AED Defibrillators and vital medical equipment.





# TODA RABA



CMDA's National Board of Directors extends grateful appreciation to all the donors who have supported CMDA through the purchase of Mobile Intensive Care Units, Ambulances, Emergency Medi-Cycles, Emergency Vehicles, AED Defibrillators and vital medical equipment.



Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canada

**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
IN MEMORY OF  
**MORRIS & MARILYN LIVERGANT  
AND REUBEN & HELEN SHILLING**  
FROM THE SHILLING / LIVERGANT FAMILY  
CALGARY, CANADA 2023

MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



Donated to People of Israel  
in loving memory of my Parents  
**Isaac & Rosa Alpern and Siblings**  
who perished in the Holocaust  
by  
**Saul (Joil) & Ida Alpern**  
Winnipeg, Canada 2022

Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canada

**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**OUR HUSBAND, FATHER AND ZEIDI  
HARVEY RACHMAN**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2024

MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canada

**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
BY  
**LEN AND RENA GILL & FAMILY**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2023

MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



**מד"א**  
Presented to the People of Israel  
With love from  
**Shaarei Beth El Synagogue**  
In Oakville, Canada 2024

Canadian  
**MAGEN DAVID ADOM**  
Canada

**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
A GIFT TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
IN HONOUR OF OUR PARENTS  
**ALICE AND LEO (TOLO) FRIEDMAN ז"ל  
MAGDOLNA (MACA) AND IMRE SMITH (STEINBERGER) ז"ל**  
BY  
**STEVEN AND CATHIE (SMITH) FRIEDMAN & FAMILY**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2024



**מד"א**  
Presented to the People of Israel  
In appreciation of  
**Rabbi Wise and Cheryl Wise**  
of Oakville, Canada 2024



Canadian  
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Canada

**CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM FOR ISRAEL**  
PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL  
DONATED BY  
**TEMPLE HAR ZION**  
TORONTO, CANADA 2024

MAGEN DAVID ADOM IN ISRAEL מגן דוד אדום בישראל



# TODA RABA



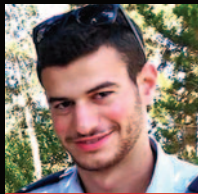
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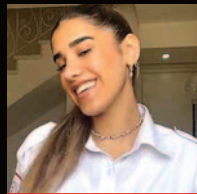


# Mourning MDA heroes we have lost

Since Hamas launched its attack against Israel on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, the brave men and women of Magen David Adom have risked their lives to save the lives of others. We are deeply saddened by those who have been killed in the recent violence and war.



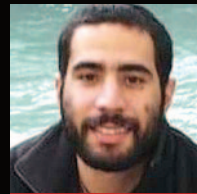
Lior Arzi



Osher Simha Barzilay



Amishar Ben David



Oriel Bibi



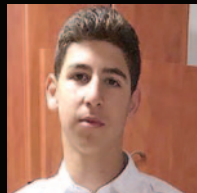
Shir Biton



Neria Moshe Cohen



Yonatan Dean Chaim



Rotem Dushi



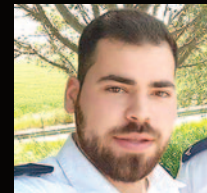
Ronen Engel



Evgeny Galsky



Rachel Glasser



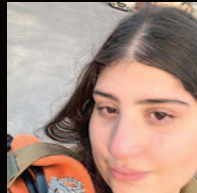
Aharon Haimov



Reef Harush



Aviya Hezroni



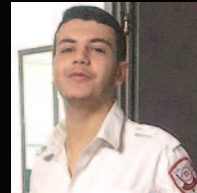
Lior Levy



Yakir Levy



Roi Avraham Maimon



Dolev Malka



Amit Man



Saar Margolis



Nitai Meisels



Eitan Neeman



Elkana Neulander



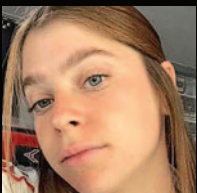
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Moti Raveh



Lior Rudaif



Itamar Shemen



Omer Smadga



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Amir Tzur



Dolev Yehoud



Inon Yitzhak

May their memories  
be a blessing.

MAGEN  
DAVID  
ADOM  
IN ISRAEL



מגן דוד  
אדום  
בישראל

Israel's National EMS  
ארגון ההצלה הלאומי





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ISRAEL'S EMERGENCY SERVICES SYSTEM



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