



# CUMMINGS JEWISH CENTRE FOR SENIORS FOUNDATION

THE POWER OF INSPIRED GIVING

As the days grow shorter and colder, our Foundation is more dedicated than ever to our seniors in need.

Dedicated to providing more mental health support, dedicated to giving respite to exhausted caregivers, and dedicated to helping isolated seniors connect through technology.

We are dedicated to every senior who needs a lifeline – whether it be crisis intervention, meals on wheels, emergency funding for medical and dental procedures, or groceries and other essentials.

Thanks to your dedication, we can make the coming year a brighter one for all seniors in our community.

We wish you a relaxing and safe winter season.

**Roslyn Wiener**  
Co-President

**Allan Chandler, CPA, CA**  
Co-President

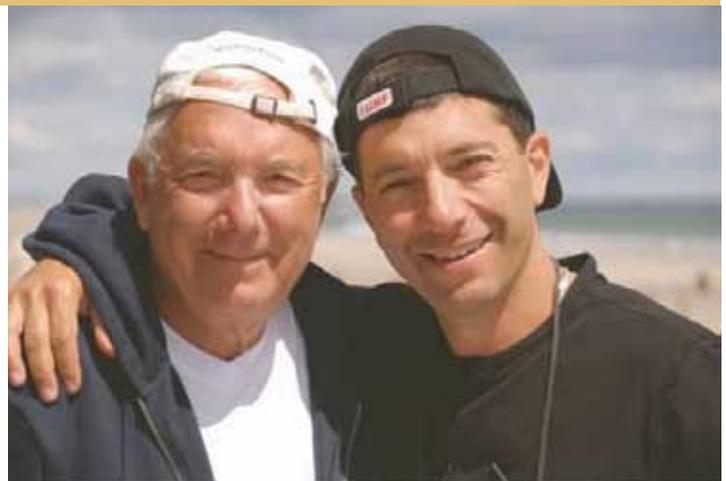
## A SON CONTINUES HIS FATHER'S LEGACY: MICHAEL AND NORM LATSKY

A gift to the CJCS Foundation can honour the memory of someone special, becoming a legacy for many years to come.

Michael Latsky knew that he wanted to do something very special to honour his father Norman, who passed away suddenly in 2013.

“My father was really a community guy... he was very socially-minded. I gave to the Cummings Foundation because I know that my dad would have loved it. And I know that the Centre means a lot to so many people.”

In 2004, Norman Latsky had been instrumental in starting the Foundation as a separate and professionalized



fundraising arm for the Cummings Centre. Norm was a regular fixture at the Foundation offices, always accompanied by his dog Maya, from whom he was inseparable.



Executive Director Cathy Simons says: "Norm was such a special person - very enthusiastic, sociable, and caring. He really championed our cause and set the framework - you could say that he built the foundation for the Foundation. He was just so thrilled and proud about what we were able to develop and accomplish as an organization."

When the Cummings Centre was looking for a donor to help fund new treadmills in the gym for the Centre's essential adapted exercise classes, Cathy approached Michael, who liked the idea. "I wanted a legacy piece," says Michael, "Something that would be around for a long time."

Treadmills fit the theme of an active lifestyle, something that is very important to Michael and was to Norman as well: "He was always very active - he taught me to ski, we played baseball. He was runner and encouraged me to get out and exercise," a value Michael has passed down to his own grown children.

"Norm was determined to support seniors and to help the Cummings Centre, a place that had so impressed him," says Cathy. "We are so grateful that his family has continued their support of the Foundation as a legacy to their wonderful Dad."

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## TRIBUTE CARDS: MAKE YOUR DONATION EXTRA MEANINGFUL

By sending a personalized Tribute Card from the Cummings Centre Foundation, you can offer a special thank you to friends or family, celebrate a simcha or special occasion, or honour the memory of someone who has passed away.

Earlier this year, the Foundation introduced a new card design featuring a beautiful painting by the late Harry Retter. Harry was a strong believer in our mission to enrich the lives of seniors and we are grateful to his family for sharing his painting with us.

Our colourful original card is also still available. This stained-glass design was created by a group of members in the Cummings Centre's Fine Arts Studio.

To send a card, please contact us at 514.734.1825 or click here to complete the Tribute Card order form. Card donations start at \$18. Thank you!

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## MITZVAH MEAL PROGRAM A GREAT SUCCESS

In a time of great need, the community came forward... and in a big way!

The 2021 Rosh Hashanah Mitzvah Meal Program raised over \$110,000 this year, over \$20,000 more than the last New Year. Nearly 4,000 Mitzvah Meal cards were sent out, an increase of 500 cards from the previous year.

The money collected helped send countless nutritious meals to vulnerable and isolated seniors, homebound during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors Foundation would like to thank all our donors for generously donating to the cause this year. We hope to count on your support once again in March 2022 for the Passover Mitzvah Meal program.

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## DOROTHY REITMAN APPOINTED LIFETIME MEMBER OF THE FOUNDATION BOARD

Dorothy Reitman was appointed Life Director, the first honour of its kind for the Foundation at the Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors Foundation Board Meeting on October 19, 2021. Reitman has been an active Board member since the Foundation was founded in 2003.

"I feel very proud and privileged to be appointed a Life Member of the talented board of the CJCS Foundation, an agency serving older adults which is a pacesetter not only in Montreal but also in Canada," said Reitman.

Dorothy Reitman is well-known for her dedication to a range of philanthropic causes. She played a pivotal role in the inception of the Cummings Centre, raising funds for what was then the Golden Age Association and working in close collaboration with Federation to create a central home for seniors. Reitman also served for many years on the Cummings Centre Board and has given generously to a number of initiatives including the Capital campaign,

as a Gold Governor, supporting Mitzvah meals, the Sports Celebrity Breakfast, and many other initiatives. Reitman's tireless commitment to the Jewish community have earned her the Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 and an appointment to the Order of Canada in 1997, among many other accolades.



"Dorothy is so steadfast in her commitment and has come to every Board meeting," notes Foundation Co-President Roz Wiener. "She is always very thoughtful and continues to bring incredible value to the Foundation."

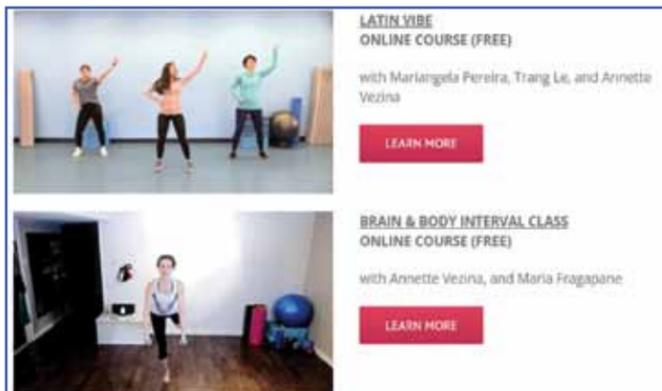
"Dorothy, we have benefitted from your presence, your support and your wise counsel over the years," said Co-President Allan Chandler. "We all look forward to many more years of your involvement as a Life Director."

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## CUMMINGS CENTRE MEMBERS GRATEFUL FOR VIRTUAL LIBRARY PROGRAM

Connie Abramovitch has been a fixture at the Cummings Centre for over 20 years. Prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 92-year-old could often be found multiple times a week at the Centre, attending lectures or taking her much-beloved exercise classes. That was until March of 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of the Westbury campus.

Nevertheless, Connie was able to keep up with her workouts and courses virtually thanks to the Virtual Learning Library.



"I am grateful to the Cummings Centre for giving us both live courses on Zoom as well as recorded programs through the Virtual Library," she said. "I love them!"

The library contains over 330 videos of Cummings Centre events, classes, and lectures, ranging from global affairs, music, and art to health and wellness programs. Members can learn how to paint tropical sunsets, how to make vegetable couscous, and stay in shape physically and mentally with Latin Vibe & Brain and Body Interval classes. The programs are offered free to Cummings Centre members thanks, in part, to the generosity of the Leonard Albert Family Foundation.

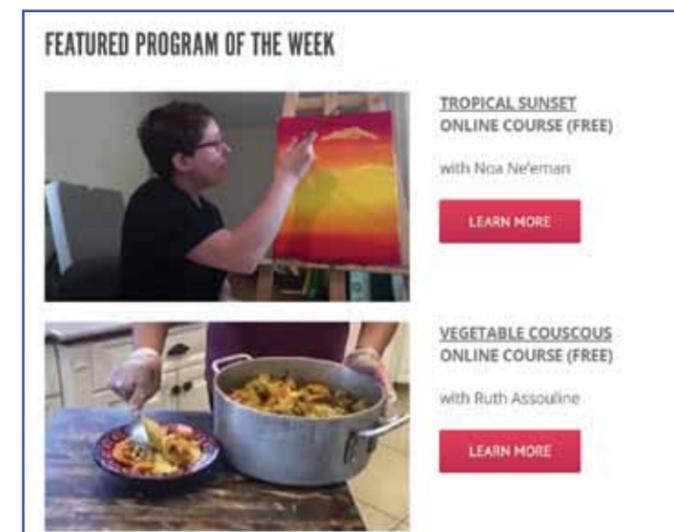
"It really thrills me to see what happens after we give a donation," said Wendy Albert, who runs the Leonard Albert Family Foundation along with various family members. "I love it. When we donated to the Virtual Library, we had no idea how many seniors would be able to take advantage of it due to COVID."

There are, in fact, many seniors grateful to those



funding a resource that has played such an integral part in their daily routines.

"What a treasure trove of information," said Barbara Van Lierop. "Thank you for providing this service to the membership."



"Love, love the fitness," gushed Jennie Land. "It is my lifeline. We are so lucky to have this opportunity with such a wonderful caring community."

Wendy is happy to be able to help support such initiatives and see firsthand the impact it has on the community.

"When my parents started the Foundation, it was an incredible gift - more for me than for the people we give to," she said. "Cummings is an amazing gem in our city."

To learn more about how your gift to the Cummings Foundation can help support the senior population, please contact Cathy Simons, Executive Director, CJCS Foundation at 514.734.1777 or [cathy.simons@cummingscentre.org](mailto:cathy.simons@cummingscentre.org).

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## HOLD THE DATE: COVERING ALL OUR BASES FOR 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPORTS CELEBRITY BREAKFAST



The Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors Foundation's Sports Celebrity Breakfast is back live and in-person for its 18<sup>th</sup> edition on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The annual event, typically held at the Gelber Conference Centre, will shift to the Jardin Royalmount (8187 chemin Royden) next year.

"The decision to hold the event in June at a beautiful venue, such as the Royalmount, was made with all of our guests health and safety in mind," said event co-chair and senior vice-president of Delmar International, Mike Wagen.

The 2022 edition will mark the first in-person breakfast since April of 2019, with the 2020 event being held virtually and a special video retrospective taking the place of the traditional proceedings last May.

"Our committee has been committed to retaining the integrity of this signature fundraising event," said Wagen. "The Sports Celebrity Breakfast was always intended to gather community leaders, sports heroes and legends under one roof. Being back in-person gives our media participants the chance to conduct interviews with our celebrity guests, all the while offering ticketholders the opportunity to personally meet their heroes and obtain autographs."

As in years past, there will be a slew of celebrity guests and sports personalities in attendance. Montreal Alouettes owner Gary Stern is set to be the Guest of Honour; Montreal Canadiens legend and Hockey Hall of Famer Yvan Cournoyer will be named the Sports Personality of the Year; former Major League Baseball (MLB) outfielder and New York Yankees broadcaster Ken Singleton will be awarded the Expos Baseball Legend Award; and former sportscaster and the long-time radio voice of the Canadiens, Alouettes and Montreal Impact on CJAD 800 and TSN 690 AM, Rick Moffat will be given the Larry Fredericks Media Award. More guests will be announced at a later date.

Since its inception in 2004, the Sports Celebrity Breakfast has generated over \$3 million for Seniors in Crisis, a program vital to the well-being of the seniors in our community.

For sponsorship opportunities or to make a donation, please contact Annie Bensoussan at (514) 734-1729 or [annie.bensoussan@cummingscentre.org](mailto:annie.bensoussan@cummingscentre.org).

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## PINKERS KEEPING MEMORIES ALIVE

More than six years following the death of her late husband Harry, Roslyn Pinker still thinks back fondly on his experiences at the Cummings Centre.

“The Cummings Centre was a lifeline for my husband during his lifetime,” she said. “It offered him an opportunity to take courses, attend lectures, and be with his friends. His life was really enriched by his association with the Centre.”

She says the Centre also afforded her husband of 61 years the opportunity to take on a leadership role. Harry served as an assistant during the exercise classes, helping others with their cardio work.

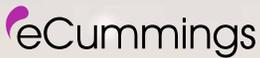
Roslyn, and her children Steven, Susan, & Robert, have continued Harry’s legacy long after his passing. Roslyn is a Silver Governor and a regular supporter of the CJCS Foundation’s Mitzvah Meal Program. In addition, an endowment fund in both Roslyn and Harry’s name continues to exist with the Foundation, in memory of two Holocaust survivors who were cousins of Roslyn’s parents.

“Cummings has been a real blessing to our family and friends,” said Roslyn. “It really is quite a remarkable place with such a great generosity of spirit by its staff and volunteers. The city is rich for the programs and services that are made available by Cummings to its members.”

*To learn more about how you can make an impact through our Governors Program, please call 514.734.1756 or visit <https://cummingcentre.org/governors>*

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The Foundation would like to thank all of our donors for their contributions this year. The Cummings Centre’s safety net of programs and services include crisis intervention, home care, meals on wheels, adapted programs, caregiver support, and much much more. Be a lifeline for a senior in need by making your gift to the CJCS Foundation today and benefit from a 2021 year-end tax receipt.



### WINTER 2022 - LIVE ON ZOOM

Cummings virtual community is here for you wherever you are! Whether you are in the sunshine state, abroad or, in the comfort of your home, our signature programs are available at the click of a button, from your computer, tablet, smart phone or dial in using your telephone.

For a preview of our **Winter Program brochure**, [click here](#)

