



For immediate release

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The Canadian Jewish Literary Awards Announces its Return in 2016

Toronto, Ontario (Feb. 3, 2016) – After a successful inaugural year, the Canadian Jewish Literary Awards will again acknowledge excellence in writing on Jewish themes and subjects by Canadian authors.

The 2016 awards program will accept submissions of books on Jewish subjects or with significant Jewish content published between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016. The submission deadline is May 30.

Last year more than 60 submissions were received from Canadian publishers. Some of the books recognized by the Canadian Jewish Literary Awards went on to receive other major awards, including a Governor General's Literary Award for *My Shoes Are Killing Me* by Robyn Sarah, and a National Jewish Book Award in the United States for *Birth, Sex and Abuse: Women's Voices Under Nazi Rule* by Beverley Chalmers.

The Canadian Jewish Literary Awards jury is made up of prominent writers, editors and scholars committed to celebrating the vibrancy of Jewish literature and culture in Canada:

Edward Trapunski, Chair, the author of three books and the winner of an ACTRA Award as best writer.

Judith Ghert, member of the board of the Ontario Jewish Archives and member of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Canada.

Alain Goldschläger, director of the Holocaust Literature Research Institute and Professor of French at Western University, and former Chair of The National Task Force for Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research.

Sara Horowitz, Professor of Comparative Literature and Jewish Studies at York University, former director of the Golda and Israel Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies, and former President of the Association for Jewish Studies

Michael Posner, award-winning author and playwright and former reporter for the Globe and Mail.

There are two new members of the Jury for 2016:

Lesley Simpson, the author of five children's books and the winner of the 2012 Canadian Jewish Book Award for Yuvi's Candy Tree.

Andrea Knight, co-publisher of the recently launched New Jewish Press publishing program of the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. She is the former managing editor of the Azrieli Series of Holocaust Survivor Memoirs and has twenty-five years experience as an editor and publisher.

The Canadian Jewish Literary Awards wishes to acknowledge Adam Fuerstenberg who in 1987 created the Canadian Jewish Book Awards, which became the Canadian Jewish Literary Awards. He died in January, 2016 and his fervor for Jewish writing and culture will be missed. The Canadian Literary Awards is establishing an award of merit in his memory.

The 2016 gala Canadian Jewish Literary Awards ceremony will be held on October 30, 2016 at 2 pm at York University, in the Tribute Communities Recital Hall. Members of the public are invited and welcomed. Admission is free.

The Canadian Jewish Literary Awards is supported by the Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies at York University in Toronto, the Holocaust Literature Research Institute at Western University in London, Ontario, as well as Jewish Studies programs at other Canadian universities.

For further information, visit the Canadian Jewish Literary Awards website at cjlawards.ca or contact:

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