

## JHSSA DESCRIPTIVE LEVEL RECORD

**TITLE:** JHSSA Local Jewish Press collection **No.:** LJP  
**DATE RANGE:** 1914, 1943, 1962-1966, 1980-2020  
**EXTENT:** 58cm of textual records.

### ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:

News from the early Jewish communities of southern Alberta was included, in English, in the Montreal-based *Canadian Jewish Times* as early as 1905, and in the Yiddish-language *Israelite Press* [*Dos Yiddishe Vot*] from around 1912. The first Jewish newspaper based in Calgary, *The Canadian Western Jewish Times*, lasted a single issue in 1914.

Winnipeg's *Jewish Post*, and later the *Western Jewish News*, carried regular reports from Calgary correspondents, but it wasn't until the early 1940s that Calgary had its own publication, *The Jewish Community Centre Bulletin*. Beginning in 1960, southern Alberta news was part of *Alberta Jewish Chronicle*, and in 1962, the Calgary Jewish Community Council began publishing the *Calgary Jewish News*, which continued monthly until 1985. *The Jewish Star* commenced a ten-year run of bi-weekly publication in 1980. Its closure in 1990 was closely followed by the establishment of *Jewish Free Press*, which was sold in December 2019 to the publishers of the *Edmonton Jewish News*, who began publishing *Alberta Jewish News* which included news from both Edmonton and Calgary.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The collection consists of issues (some photocopies, date of copying unknown) of *The Canadian Western Jewish Times*, *The Jewish Community Centre Bulletin*, *Alberta Jewish Chronicle*, *Calgary Jewish News*, *The Jewish Star*, and *Jewish Free Press*. Also included is Vol 31, No 1 of *Alberta Jewish News*.

The collection has been arranged into the following series: *The Canadian Western Jewish Times*, *The Jewish Community Centre Bulletin*, *Alberta Jewish Chronicle*, *Calgary Jewish News*, *The Jewish Star*, *Jewish Free Press*, *Alberta Jewish News*.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of collection

**SOURCE OF ACQUISITION:** Jewish Free Press; Arlein Chetner; estate of Leo Sheftel; unknown donors

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access

**FINDING AIDS:** indices are available for some series

**ASSOCIATED MATERIAL:** Glenbow Museum

**ACCRUALS:** further accruals expected though not scheduled

**RELATED GROUPS OF RECORDS:** Calgary Jewish Federation fonds

**GENERAL NOTE:** some information for the Admin History is taken from *A Joyful Harvest*, c2005, JHSSA.

Non-archival issues (photocopies, duplicates, etc) of *The Canadian Western Jewish Times* (1914), *The Jewish Community Centre Bulletin* (1943), *Alberta Jewish Chronicle* (1960, 1962, 1966), *Calgary Jewish News* (1962-1985), *The Jewish Star* (1979-1990), *Jewish Free Press* (1990-2019), and *Alberta Jewish News* (2020- ) are available to researchers through the JHSSA Local Jewish Press Reference Library. Some *Jewish Free Press* issues are also available to researchers in digital format; see series finding aid.

**Series Title:** The Canadian Western Jewish Times

**No.:** .01

**Date Range:** 1914

**Extent:** 1cm of textual records

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:**

A single issue of *The Canadian Western Jewish Times*, "A Jewish Monthly devoted to Jewish interests and Jewish advancement", was published in Calgary by brothers Abe and Jacob Barron in 1914. The editorial board had representatives from Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Moose Jaw, Regina and Winnipeg, and included four women. Local and foreign subscriptions were offered at \$1.50 and \$2.00 /year respectively. In addition to news and events from the representatives' communities, the 30+ pages include articles on subjects as diverse as "A Century of Jewish History in England", "Experience of Jews as Farmers in Alberta", and "Jewish Law in International Jurisprudence".

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The series consists of a photocopy of the 1914 issue of *Canadian Western Jewish Times*.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of series

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access

**Series Title:** The Jewish Community Centre Bulletin

**No.:** .02

**Date Range:** 1943

**Extent:** .5cm of textual records

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:**

*The Jewish Community Centre Bulletin*, also called *The Jewish Community Bulletin*, was published in Calgary through the House of Israel community centre. The first two issues were edited by Mr I Engel; the third lists an editorial committee including Rabbi A Horowitz, H. Crystal, and N. Safran, with Yoel Joffe serving as Business Manager.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The series consists of a photocopy of Vol 1 No 3, September 24, 1943, of *The Jewish Community Centre Bulletin*.

The series is presumed to be incomplete.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of series

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access

**Series Title:** Alberta Jewish Chronicle  
**Date Range:** 1960-1966  
**Extent:** .5cm of textual records

**No.:** .03

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:**

The *Alberta Jewish Chronicle* began publication in 1960, with offices in both Calgary and Edmonton. The August 1960 issue includes three articles about Calgary or written by a Calgarian, and one article about Edmonton. The 1962 issue notes that letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Calgary office, "Irving Switzer, Managing Editor". By 1987, *Alberta Jewish Chronicle* was a quarterly publication, with little Calgary content.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The series consists of three issues of the *Alberta Jewish Chronicle*; Vol 1 No 6, August 1960; Vol 3 No 4, March 2 1962; Vol 7 No 2, July 11 1966.

The series is presumed to be incomplete.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of series

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access

**Series Title:** Calgary Jewish News  
**Date Range:** 1962-1985  
**Extent:** 18cm of textual records

**No.:** .04

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:**

The *Calgary Jewish News* was a monthly publication produced by the Calgary Jewish Community Council from 1962-1988, under the editorship of various Council employees, including Harry Shatz, Gil August and Douglas Wertheimer. For much of its run it was the only locally-produced source of Jewish news.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The series consists of photocopied issues of the *Calgary Jewish News*. Some original issues (1962-1980) are held in the Calgary Jewish Federation fonds.

Issue numbering was inconsistent, and the series is presumed to be incomplete.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of series

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access

**FINDING AIDS:** issue by issue index

**Series Title:** The Jewish Star **No.:** .05  
**Date Range:** 1980-1990  
**Extent:** 30cm of textual records

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:**

*The Jewish Star* was published in Calgary by Douglas Wertheimer and his wife, Gila, beginning in 1980. They also published *The Jewish Star: Edmonton Edition*. Both editions of the newspaper ceased publication when the Wertheimer's left Calgary in 1990.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The series consists of photocopied issues of *The Jewish Star*, Vol 1-10, and one piece of letterhead.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of series

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access

**FINDING AIDS:** issue by issue index (does not include Vol 9 #1-6)

**Series Title:** Jewish Free Press **No.:** .06  
**Date Range:** 1990-2019  
**Extent:** 8cm of textual records

**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:**

The *Jewish Free Press* (JFP) was established in 1990 by Richard Bronstein, Judy Shapiro and Ira Brier, who was the original editor until he left Calgary in 1993. Shapiro took over until 2004, followed by Bronstein through December 2019, when the paper was sold.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The series consists of the inaugural and final issues of the *Jewish Free Press*, as well many year's end-October and end-April issues. A complete series (some original, some photocopies) is available to researchers through the JHSSA Local Jewish Press Reference Library.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of series

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access

**FINDING AIDS:** issue by issue index Vol 1 #1 –Vol 12 #12 (does not include Vol 4 #7-15);  
list of issues available in digital format

**Series Title:** Alberta Jewish News **No.:** .07  
**Date Range:** 2020  
**Extent:** .5cm of textual records

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

In December 2019, the publishers of the *Edmonton Jewish News* bought the *Jewish Free Press*, and established a new publication called *Alberta Jewish News*. The series consists of the January 30, 2020 issue Vol 31, No. 1, the first issue of the new publication.

**SOURCE OF TITLE:** title from content of series

**ACCESS CONDITIONS:** no restrictions on access