

JHSSA DESCRIPTIVE LEVEL RECORD

TITLE: Jewish National Fund Calgary fonds

No.: JNF

DATE RANGE: 1913, [1930-], [194-]-2019

EXTENT: 22cm of textual records. –13 objects. – 2 discs

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:

Jewish National Fund (JNF) Calgary is part of JNF Canada, which itself is an arm of JNF-KKL (Jewish National Fund-*Keren Kayemet Le Yisrael*), a non-profit organization founded in 1901 to buy and develop land in what was then Ottoman Palestine (subsequently Israel) for Jewish settlement. Over the years JNF has placed much emphasis on irrigation, environmental and reclamation projects, as well as immigrant settlement programs.

One of JNF's earliest, and longest-lasting fund-raising initiatives is the distribution of "Blue Boxes", small tin boxes with a slot in the top, used primarily within Jewish homes to collect coins that are then donated to JNF. Funds are also raised through the sale of trees (to be planted in Israel), the issue of stamps "of historical and philatelic interest", and the sale of Golden Book and other commemorative certificates -- issued by JNF to acknowledge donations made to JNF, generally in honour of an individual's or organization's activities, or personal milestones -- as well as large-scale annual and one-off events. A major fund-raising project for JNF Canada has been the Negev Dinner, held annually in many Jewish communities, including Calgary.

JNF activities in Calgary were initially overseen by the Winnipeg office, and the first Calgary JNF office was opened in 1976, with Micha Peled as Executive Director. Calgary's inaugural Negev Diner was held in 1955, honouring community pioneer Charles Waterman. Subsequent "Negev" events, while not necessarily annual, have included concerts and "Galas", as well as dinners. Other fundraising activities have included speakers, concerts and sports events.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The fonds consists of correspondence, Golden Book and other commemorative certificates, fundraising items, and program and publicity material from JNF Calgary / JNF Canada / JNF-KKL.

The fonds has been arranged into the following series: Correspondence, Certificates, Activities, Negev Dinner, JNF-KKL.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of fonds

SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: JNF Calgary; Ed Wolfman; estate of Clara Herscu; see series

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

ACCRUALS: further accruals expected though not scheduled

RELATED GROUPS OF RECORDS: JHSSA Photo Collection

FINDING AIDS: item lists available for some series

GENERAL NOTE: Some information for the Admin History is taken from *A Joyful Harvest* (cJHSSA 2007)
Includes material from the following accessions: 98-011, 99-010, 2001-020, 2005-022,
2006-014, 2011-001

Series Title: Correspondence

No.: .01

Date Range: 1971- 1985

Extent: .5cm of textual records

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of correspondence sent and received by JNF Calgary, including a blank donation card and an embossed envelope.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

Series Title: Certificates

No.: .02

Date Range: 1913, 1942, 1958, 1976, 1994

Extent: 5 objects

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of two framed JNF Golden Book certificates ("for Jacob Diamond ... President of the Congregation House of Jacob, by the Agudath Zion of Calgary" 1913; by "Calgary B'nai Brith Lodge in the name of H. Chrystal, President" 1942); a 1958 certificate from the "Children's Register of the Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael", acknowledging the birth of Jeffrey Stephen Kerr, inscribed by his grandparents, Alex and Gertie Belkin; a "Citation of Honour" from JNF to Edythe Pearlman (1976); and a 1994 JNF acknowledgement of a significant donation from Bnai Brith Calgary toward a project in Israel.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Calgary Bnai Brith; Jay Joffe, estate of Edythe Pearlman; Allan & Naomi Kerr

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

Series Title: Activities

No.: .03

Date Range: 1963, 1998, 2012-2013

Extent: 1cm of textual records

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of publicity material for various JNF Calgary events and programs, including a receipt book for donations collected by Ann Lupa, December 1963-January 1964, and an invitation to a 1998 retirement brunch for long-time employee Edythe Pearlman.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

Series Title: JNF-KKL

No.: .04

Date Range: [c193-?], [c194-?], 1962-1978, 1991-1998, 2016

Extent: 5cm of textual records. –6 objects

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of material published by JNF, JNF Canada and (Jewish National Fund-*Keren Kayemet LeYisrael*). Also included is a “JNF Questions and Answers” booklet published by JNF in London (c1970), 3 historic stamp booklets, a 6-stamp sheet of JNF-KKL stamps issued in 1991 for the 90th anniversary of JNF-KKL, and 4 “blue boxes”.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

Series Title: Negev Dinner

No.: .05

Date Range: 1955-2019

Extent: 15cm of textual records.—2 objects. – 2discs

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of programs and invitations for Calgary Negev Dinners, Galas and Concerts. Some material is photocopied, date of copying unknown. Also included are 2 discs, a “JNF” yarmulke, and a commemorative bag from the 2019 dinner.

The series is incomplete.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: M. Bogoch, D. Chetner, S. Gurevitch, R. Hallis, J. Joffe, A. Rubin,
A & C Shapiro

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

FINDING AIDS: item list available