

Health & Lifestyles



BBYO members at the recent spring regional convention at Camp Northland

Record number of teens attend BBYO convention

Compiled by CJN Staff

A record number of Toronto-area teens boarded the buses to Camp Northland for BBYO's spring regional convention, this year.

With imagination as the weekend's theme, the convention encouraged the teens to enrich their connection to Judaism, sharpen leadership skills and develop strategies for strengthening BBYO, a leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement.

The convention marked the end of a landmark year for BBYO's Lake Ontario region, which saw a large increase in teen involvement. In Toronto alone, membership has increased 25 per cent since the 2007-08 school year, and more than 300 teens from Lake Ontario region were involved in BBYO programs this year. Additionally, nearly 100 Toronto-area middle-school students were involved in Teen Connection, the BBYO program created especially for Jewish pre-high school students, which has helped yield BBYO's largest incoming class of freshmen in years.

"No longer is BBYO the Toronto Jewish community's best kept secret," said BBYO program director Kevin Goodman. "With the launch of three new chapters this year, more teens than ever

before are taking advantage of the fun and meaningful experiences that BBYO has been providing to Jewish high school teens for over 80 years."

In addition to setting the agenda for the coming year and electing the 2009-10 Lake Ontario region executive at the convention, participants enjoyed the Sunday awards ceremony where senior Michelle Naftalis was presented with the 17th annual Lake Ontario region award for outstanding BBYO leadership, in memory of Marci Birzon. Also recognized were Maya Feldberg, who received the award for emerging leadership, and members of Chaverot chapter, who won the regional spirit gavel.

Convention co-chairs were incoming presidents Michelle Covant and Michael Gallowitz, who were elected to lead BBYO's 2009-10 regional executive. Also elected were vice-presidents Kelly Indarjit and Eli Krapivnik for programming, Alissa Malina and Josh Harendorf for membership, Michelle Efrosman for communications, and Maya Feldberg and Russel Bahar for service, advocacy and Judaism.

For more information on BBYO in the Greater Toronto Area, contact Kevin Goodman at 416-398-2004, ext. 222, or kgoodman@bbyo.org.

'No longer community's best kept secret'

FAMILY MOMENTS

Mazel Tov

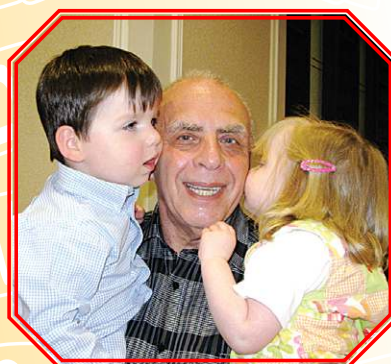
The Canadian Jewish News



Mazel tov Lou & Doni Brown on your 60th anniversary. Wishing you good health and happiness always. With love, your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



Happy 93rd birthday to Henry, upcoming 84th to Fanny and 63rd anniversary to you both. Never surrender. With love, from the entire family.



Abigail and Joshua would like to wish their Grandpa, Joel Jeffries, a happy 70th birthday! Love from Mommy & Daddy too!



Mazel tov Morris & Blanche Shmit on your 60th anniversary. With all our love, Francy & Larry, Eta & Julius, Sara & Phil and all the grandchildren.



Happy first anniversary! Wishing us many more happy and healthy years together. We should be in here again on our 50th! Love, PF.



Miriam, Oren and Jasmine Levy, mazel tov on the birth of Elan Matai! With love, Fred & Debbie Granek.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS!!

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