Message from the President  Murray Lukawitz

Canada continues to suffer from the effects of economic uncertainty. This leaves families struggling to find their next meal. As President, I visit agencies and meet children whose meal consists of what can be doled out for $1.50. It is heart wrenching. And yet, I find myself fortunate to work with people like you who are part of the MAZON family. We each give what we can because we care and strive to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

For your partnership in this undertaking, we thank you.

An organization with such an undertaking requires a lot of attention and support. So to those outgoing Board members, thank you for your hard work and continued support. Don’t be strangers. To our new Board members, welcome. To our staff and our valued volunteers, thank you and remember we couldn’t do it without you. Together we will build on past successes and find new ways to fight hunger.

This time of the year, when we as Jews become introspective and examine how we live our lives, is a good time to search for those new ways. Meanwhile, know that your support has a positive impact. From my wife Jackie and me, may you and your families have a healthy and blessed year. Gmar kativah/vhatimah tova for the coming year.

NOW AVAILABLE

HAPPY NEW YEAR

BONNE ET HEUREUSE ANNÉE

Perform a mitzvah by helping us feed the hungry. Let us send Rosh Hashana greetings to your loved ones. You can also purchase packages of 5 cards for $36 to mail to your friends and family. Call Daphne in Toronto at (416) 783 7554 or CC in Montreal at (514) 483 6234.

SAVE THE DATE

Help us commemorate MAZON’s 25th anniversary on:

Tuesday Nov 27, 2012

Toronto: Roy Thomson Hall
Montreal: Shaar Hashomayim

Thank you for the generous grant to help children with special needs. As many of our children come from low income homes, they will greatly benefit from our program with its highly nourishing snacks and meals. Thank you for enabling us to respond to the needs of our community, and share joy and friendship with children with special needs.

The Friendship Circle Montreal, QC

We can never say thank you enough for your most generous grant in support of our Out-of-the-Cold and Kosher Food Bank programs. MAZON Canada’s grant helps us continue to provide services and support to those of our community who are in need. Yasher Koach to MAZON who does such meaningful work on behalf of the community.

Beth Sholom Synagogue Toronto, ON
MAZON AT TWENTY FIVE  By Roger Hyman, MAZON’s 1st Executive Director

In the twenty five years since I wrote an article in the first MAZON newsletter, not a lot has changed. I wrote, “It may not be highly visible but hunger is real and getting worse; and almost half of those affected are children. Hunger of any kind in a civilized society is inexcusable – hungry children a tragedy.” There are still too many hungry families and children to feel satisfied as we mark our 25th anniversary.

To fulfill our mandate of “responding to the needs of the hungry whoever and wherever they may be,” we have to do what three levels of governments have consistently failed to do. In a sense, MAZON and other charities dealing with the implications of social inequity have been part of a process whereby governments have offloaded their responsibilities for the needy to the charitable sector. There should be no food banks, no children going to bed and to school hungry, no child poverty rate of 15%, no families forced to spend so much of their income on shelter that there is nothing left for food, no need for us to mark twenty five years of applying band-aids to a damaged social system.

And yet, we have reasons to be proud. In the absence of government action, we have helped fill a gap that otherwise would not have been filled. We have survived with independence and integrity for a quarter of a century, have attracted a dedicated support base with committed volunteers and have distributed over $7 million to food programs. And much of this has been done in a uniquely transformative manner:

- we have raised monies mainly from the Jewish community and distributed it non-denominationally across Canada;
- we have established an allocations process that directs our limited resources to those most in need;
- we have demonstrated that people from every place on the Jewish belief spectrum can put aside their differences in the face of the job at hand;
- we have operated with complete gender equity on our Board, and with our officers and executive;
- and we have recognized that political advocacy is both necessary and enjoined upon us by our tradition.

In short, the MAZON family has consistently worked to construct and preserve a civil society and has done so in light of the principle of tikkun olam. We have tried to make a difference. That is worth celebrating.

To read this article in its entirety, visit the newsletter section at www.mazoncanada.ca

25TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS
- “tasteful” evenings you won’t want to miss!

Come commemorate 25 years of providing support to thousands of men, women and children at our 25th Anniversary Commemorative Events taking place in Toronto and Montreal on Tuesday, November 27th, 2012.

TORONTO EVENT, "MAZON 25"

We are thrilled to be bringing this special evening back to elegant Roy Thomson Hall. Experience the finest Kosher caterers, pastry artists, vintners, and food purveyors Toronto has to offer. Be entertained by pianist and conductor David Warrack, (currently working with Michael Burgess), and bassist Dave Young (most well known for his role as bassist in the Oscar Peterson group). Have fun with our raffle and bid on our auction items. For more info, contact the National office at (416)783-7554.

MONTREAL EVENT, "AN EVENING OF TRIBUTE"

This year’s gala taking place at Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue will not only feature some of Montreal’s premium kosher caterers and purveyors but will pay tribute to those men and women that have contributed to supporting the community in Montreal this past quarter century. Each gala guest will receive our popular Ad Book Agenda. Honour those you love as “Jewels” by purchasing ads for $18 per family in this practical monthly 2013 agenda. Contact the Montreal office at (514) 483-6234 to place your order or to purchase tickets.

We want to celebrate this achievement with you because we are family and families celebrate together. We help feed the hungry out of a sense of commitment to one of the highest ideals of our tradition – to invite the poor and the hungry to our table. On November 27th, we’ll set a place for you at our table.
MAZON Founder Appointed Order of Canada

In June, our founder, Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld was appointed as a member of the Order of Canada. This is one of Canada’s highest civilian honours that recognizes a lifetime of outstanding achievement and service.

Rabbi Bielfeld was honoured for his more than 30 year contribution to Toronto’s Jewish community and social justice activities. He immigrated to Canada in 1968 to become rabbi at Toronto’s Temple Emanu-El. MAZON Canada was established by Rabbi Bielfeld and a small group of prominent Canadians to combat the impact of an economic crisis on poor families to provide food for their children.

In a response to his appointment, Rabbi Bielfeld said, “the evolution of MAZON remains one of the high points of my Canadian experience. It is a salient reminder of how many ordinary people can make extraordinary things happen in this country.”

To read this article in its entirety, visit the news section at www.mazoncanada.ca

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In Memory
Suzanne Burger

Suzanne Burger, wife of immediate past president Alan Burger, had no special talents or skills, and yet was beloved by so many. She had a love for life and a passion for family and history. As a teacher, there wasn’t a child she met that she didn’t form a bond with. She was able to see the world through their eyes, as a place of wonder and excitement. These qualities brought her lessons to life whether she was teaching about the Titanic or about dinosaurs. Suzanne made you feel that being with you was the only place on earth she wanted to be and that your conversation held the most important words. She truly cared about her friends, their lives, their ups and downs and was always there for them. She passed on the desire to respect the past, learn from others, strive for excellence, interact with people, and celebrate the good times with loved ones and fight through the tough ones.

Suzanne was diagnosed with a terrible illness. Although she turned a prognosis of one year into thirteen, she never let the disease rule her life or the lives of her loved ones. She would say “we’ll deal with that when we need to.” This was a testament to her character, courage and love of others.

To Alan, her husband of over 40 years and to her children Marc (Jill), Lorne (Ashley), and Naomi, and grandchildren Ari, Lia and Zoe remember to live life with the enthusiasm and zest for everything around you that your wife, mother and grandmother demonstrated in all she did. She will live on through your joys and simchas. Suzanne and I spent many hours together talking and I always told her I was doing it for Alan. I lied. I’ll miss you my friend.

Murray Lukawitz

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Tina Abbey’s
Apple Cake With Honey & Phyllo Crust

Ingredients:
• 8 apples peeled and sliced thin
• 3 – 4 tablespoons honey
• 2 teaspoons cinnamon

Method:
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
On a large cookie sheet, covered with parchment paper, place a 9” springform pan. In a large bowl, mix together peeled and sliced apples, honey and cinnamon and set aside. Lay the phyllo dough on a work surface and cover with a damp towel to prevent drying. Take one sheet of phyllo and brush lightly with melted butter. Place the phyllo over the springform, letting the sides of the phyllo hang over the sides of the pan. Repeat with two or three more sheets of phyllo. The last sheet of phyllo should be loosely crumpled so that it fits inside the springform pan. Spread about 1/3 of the apple mixture on top of the phyllo.

Form a second layer of phyllo by repeating the process with three or four sheets. Spread about 1/3 of the apple mixture on top of the phyllo. Form the third layer of phyllo by repeating the process with three or four sheets. Spread the remaining apple mixture over the phyllo. Loosely tuck all of the phyllo sheets on top of the apple mixture. Using one or two more sheets of phyllo dough, brushed lightly with melted butter, loosely place on top allowing some height.

Bake at 350º for 45 - 60 minutes. If cake starts to get too brown, lightly cover the top with a piece of tinfoil.

CREATE YOUR OWN CUSTOM FUNDRAISING PAGE

Whether you’re receiving donations honouring a loved one, or running a marathon, you can use our online fundraising pages, track your progress with a fun, virtual thermometer and motivate supporters to help feed the hungry. It’s easy! Within a few minutes you can set up your page, upload photos, messages and ask friends to sponsor your campaign or activity. Click on ‘Get Involved’ at www.mazoncanada.ca.

Murray Lukawitz
2012 Allocations

Since 1986, MAZON Canada has allocated over $7,000,000 to hunger programs across the country. Some of the organizations we supported in Spring 2012 are:

- **Alberta** - Brooks Food Bank
- **British Columbia** - Jewish Women International
- **New Brunswick** - Restigouche County Volunteer Action Association
- **Nova Scotia** - Glace Bay Food Bank Society
- **North West Territories** - Food First Foundation
- **Ontario** - Holy Blossom Temple Out of the Cold and Food4Kids Hamilton, Halton, Niagara
- **Quebec** - B’nai Brith Food Baskets and New Hope Senior Citizens
- **Saskatchewan** - Souls Harbour Rescue Mission

For a complete list of Spring 2012 Allocations visit www.mazoncanada.ca

Children’s Birthday Parties with a Twist

MAZON Canada announces a new partnership with ECHOage, the birthday party website everyone is talking about!

Has your child or grandchild ever received unwanted birthday gifts and not received the gift they really wanted? Then you are like so many other families. ECHOage was created to solve this problem and simplify the process of organizing a birthday party. The founders also wanted to inspire their children to become generous and compassionate.

The concept is simple: children choose the birthday gift they want and also choose a charity to support. Instead of bringing gifts to the child’s birthday party, guests are invited and asked to contribute funds through a dedicated page on the ECHOage website. The funds are then distributed evenly between the gift for the child and the charity. The result is a win-win for everyone! Parents also get to use a fantastic online tool to organize the party. The website makes it more rewarding for kids and less work for parents.

When a child chooses MAZON through ECHOage, they support the important work of feeding hungry families. Now that is something to celebrate!

Host your next birthday party in support of MAZON. Visit us at www.mazoncanada.ca.

SET A TABLE FOR THE HUNGRY AT YOUR SIMCHA

**MAZON Canada makes it easy to symbolically set a table at your event for the hungry. You can donate, in honour of your guests. We will be delighted to provide you with MAZON Canada place cards or table toppers. These will explain to your guests what MAZON Canada does and how you have honoured their presence at the simcha.**

We want to hear from you! Your feedback is important to us. Let us know if you have any ideas, suggestions or questions by emailing us at info@mazoncanada.ca