

JEWISH
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL OF
VICTORIA

2015



JCCV
ANNUAL
REPORT



JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF VICTORIA INC

מועצת הקהילה היהודית בוויקטוריה
ידישער קהילה-ראט פון וויקטאריע

JCCV THE VOICE OF VICTORIAN JEWRY

Contents

<u>NOTICE & AGENDA OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>ABOUT THE JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>JCCV EXECUTIVE 2015</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>PRESIDENTS:</u>	<u>7</u>
Victorian Jewish Advisory Board Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies Jewish Community Council of Victoria Inc	
<u>BOARD OF PATRONS AND COUNCILLORS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>PLENUM MEETING DATES FOR 2016</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF VICTORIA</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, ZIONISM VICTORIA</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>PRESIDENT'S REPORT</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>REPORTS OF PORTFOLIOS OF THE JCCV</u>	<u>24</u>
Multicultural and Interfaith Report Social Justice and Welfare Report Social Inclusion and Community Engagement Report	
<u>JEWISH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN (JEMP) ANNUAL REPORT</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>JCCV POLICY PLATFORM</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>APPRECIATION</u>	<u>38</u>

Notice & Agenda of Annual General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria Inc will be held on:

MONDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2015 AT 8.00 PM

At the Beth Weizmann Community Centre
306 Hawthorn Road, South Caulfield

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Adoption of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – 24 November 2014
3. Address by Kate Jenkins, Commissioner, Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission
4. Address by Helen Kapalos, Chairperson, Victorian Multicultural Commission
5. Presentation of the JCCV LGBTI Youth Video Competition
6. Presentation of Marion and Kurt Lippmann Scholarship
7. Report of the President, Jennifer Huppert and presentation of the Annual Report
8. Report of the Treasurer, Ian Jones
9. Adoption of Reports
10. Appointment of Honorary Solicitors
11. Appointment of Auditors
12. General Business

About the Jewish Community Council of Victoria

The Jewish Community Council of Victoria is the roof body of Victorian Jewry, Australia's largest Jewish community. With sixty major communal organisations as its affiliates, the JCCV represents the mosaic of political, cultural, welfare, educational, religious and social associations operating in Victoria.

The Victorian and Federal Governments, their agencies, the media and ethnic and religious groups have long recognised the JCCV as the representative body of the Victorian Jewish community, speaking on its behalf on all matters affecting its status, welfare and interests. The JCCV provides leadership and a voice for Victorian Jewry of more than 60,000 members and to the wider Victorian community.

Through consultation, advocacy and working with government, other faith and ethnic communities, the media, service providers and the general public, the JCCV seeks to achieve the following goals:

- Facilitation of harmony and positive relationships between the various elements of the Victorian Jewish community and between our community and the larger community
- Greater understanding of and respect for the Jewish way of life
- A thriving local Jewish community
- A safer local Jewish community
- Zero community tolerance of racism in general and antisemitism in particular
- Wider knowledge and appreciation of the Shoah (Holocaust) and its lessons
- A positive perception of Jews in Victorian society
- Continuing and enhancing the Victorian Jewish community's contribution to social justice
- A better society by promoting understanding and cooperation between all faiths
- And in partnership with the Zionism Victoria:
 1. A more sophisticated public understanding of Israel's efforts to achieve peace and security
 2. Effective counteraction of misinformation on Israel, the Middle East and the Arab/Israel conflict
 3. A greater understanding of Israel in relation to contemporary Jewish identity

The JCCV's priorities are:

- community security and safety
- representation to Government
- Shoah remembrance
- social justice
- youth engagement
- media/public relations;
- interfaith and multicultural dialogue
- professional development
- community events
- ensuring a fair voice for Israel

Our constituent organisations nominate delegates as members of the Council which meets at regular Plenum meetings. The Executive meets monthly.

HONORARY OFFICERS

President	Jennifer Huppert
Vice President	Atida Lipshatz
Honorary Treasurer	Ian Jones

OUR VISION

A society in which members of the Victorian Jewish community are able to live as Jews in peace and security, participating fully and without prejudice.

OUR MISSION

To be the recognised and responsible peak body and voice of Victorian Jewry through advocacy, representation, networking and collaboration, both within the Jewish and wider communities.

OUR VALUES

- To be inclusive and representative of the diversity of the Jewish community;
- To be independent and objective;
- To support Jewish continuity and the Jewish way of life; and
- To support Israel.

JCCV Executive 2015

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Jennifer Huppert
Vice President	Atida Lipshatz
Honorary Treasurer	Ian Jones

PORTFOLIOS

Affiliate Relations	Atida Lipshatz
Governance & Fundraising	Anton Hermann
Community Research & Welfare	Rimma Sverdlin OAM
Interfaith & Multicultural	Frances Prince
Online Engagement	Dr Andre Oboler
Security	Jack Lipson
Social Inclusion & Community Engagement	Doron Abramovici
Co-opted – June 2015	Bram Presser
Co-opted – July 2015	Daniel Nash

MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE – EX OFFICIO

Anti-Defamation	Dr Dvir Abramovich – October 2015
Zionist Council of Victoria	Sharene Hambur (Nominee of Sam Tatarka)

Presidents

Presidents of the Victorian Jewish Advisory Board, Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies and the Jewish Community Council of Victoria Inc.

As at 2014, 28 people have served as President of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria and its predecessor bodies, the Victorian Jewish Advisory Board and the Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies, since its beginnings in 1938. Maurice Ashkanasy served on three non-consecutive terms as President Mr Robert Zablud served for six and half years, making him the longest serving President and Mr Isi Leibler AO CBE served for four and a half years.

VICTORIAN JEWISH ADVISORY BOARD

Isaac Herbert Boas	1938 - 1939	Dr Jacob Jona	1940 - Dec 1942
Archie Michaelis, MLA (later Sir Archie Michaelis Kt)	1939 - 1940	Alex Masel	Dec 1942 - Nov 1946
		Maurice Ashkanasy	Dec 1946 - 7 May 1947

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Executive Director	David Marlow
Business Manager	Hilary McMahon
Project Manager	Anat Aloni
Administrative Assistant	Julie Batty

COMMUNITY SECURITY GROUP

Security Director	Ricky Pearl
Head of Operational Support	Justin Lipson

The Victorian Jewish Advisory Board officially changed its name to the Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies on 7 May 1947 and became an affiliate of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry when the body was formed in August 1944. On 10 October 1988 the Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies officially changed its name to the Jewish Community Council of Victoria. In 2000 the Jewish Community Council of Victoria became an incorporated entity.

Presidents

VICTORIAN JEWISH BOARD OF DEPUTIES

Maurice Ashkanasy	7 May 1947 - Oct 1950	Nathan Hirsch Beller OBE	Dec 1966 - Dec 1969
Ben Green	Oct 1950 - Aug 1951	Walter M Lippmann MBE AM	Dec 1969 - Dec 1972
Bernard Cowen	Aug 1951 - Dec 1951	Isi Joseph Leibler AO CBE	Dec 1972 - Mar 1977
Maurice Ashkanasy	Dec 1951 - Dec 1954	Arnold Bloch AM	Mar 1977 - Feb 1980
Abraham Samuel Leibler	Dec 1954 - Dec 1956	Phil Symons OAM	Feb-Apr 1980
Trevor Rapke	Dec 1956 - Oct 1958	Robert Zablud	April 1980 - Dec 1986
Nathan Jacobson	Nov 1958 - Dec 1961	Phil Symons OAM	Dec 1986 - Dec 1987
Maurice Ashkanasy	Dec 1961 - Dec 1962	Shmuel Rosenkranz	Dec 1987 - Oct 1988
Leon Lasky	Dec 1962 - Dec 1966		

JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC

Shmuel Rosenkranz	Oct 1988 - Dec 1990	Grahame Leonard AM	Mar 2001 - Mar 2003
Joe Gersh AM	Dec 1990 - Mar 1993	Michael Lipshutz	Mar 2003 - Nov 2005
Leon Rosen	Mar 1993 - Aug 1994	Anton Block	Nov 2005 - Nov 2008
Geoffrey Green OAM	Sept 1994 - Dec 1996	John Searle	Nov 2008 - Nov 2011
Nina Bassat, AM	Dec 1996 - Dec 1998	Nina Bassat AM	Nov 2011 - Nov 2014
Dr Philip Bliss	Dec 1998 - Nov 2000	Jennifer Huppert	Nov 2014 -
David Klein	Nov 2000 - Mar 2001		

Board of Patrons and Councillors of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry

BOARD OF PATRONS

Bassat Family	D & G Goldsmith
Barry and Suzi Carp	Jack Gringlas OAM
Besen Family Foundation	Joshua and Karen Liberman
Erdi Group	The Naphtali Family Foundation
Alan and Elizabeth Finkel	
Gandel Philanthropy	Pratt Foundation

COUNCILLORS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY

Dr Dvir Abramovich	Tom May
Nina Bassat AM	Dr Andre Oboler
Sharene Hambur	Rysia Rozen OAM
Jennifer Huppert	John Searle
Atida Lipshatz	Sam Tatarka

Plenum Meeting Dates for 2016

1 FEBRUARY	8 PM	6 JUNE	8 PM
7 MARCH	8 PM	1 AUGUST	8 PM
	Mount Scopus Memorial College Gangel-Besen Campus	5 SEPTEMBER	8 PM
4 APRIL	8 PM	14 NOVEMBER	7.30 PM
2 MAY	8 PM	21 NOVEMBER	8 PM
	Council of Presidents		
	St Kilda Hebrew Congregation		
			Mizrachi Organisation
			Council of Presidents
			Community Awards Evening
			Annual General Meeting



The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier of Victoria

1 Treasury Place
Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: +613 9651 5000

Ms Jennifer Huppert
President of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria
306 Hawthorn Road
South Caulfield, VIC, 3162

Dear Jennifer,

On behalf of the Victorian Government, I offer my best wishes to all members and affiliates of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria.

The ancestries of Melbourne's Jewish community span from all corners of the globe. From Eastern Europe, to South Africa to the Middle East, Jewish people from many places have found a home, here, in our great state.

With its varied origins comes the diverse range of voices and perspectives that make up Victorian Jewry. This is something I consider a real strength of the community, especially as its diversity is celebrated and united under the banner of the JCCV.

We have all watched in horror as peace and stability has come undone on the streets of Israel. We here in Victoria can't do much to change the day-to-day lives of ordinary Israelis. But we can give them our voice and our support.

Every human being deserves the privilege that we too often take for granted: raising a family, residing in comfort and living in peace.

To you, David and the entire team, congratulations for your advocacy and leadership. May the next year be one of prosperity and peace for the Jewish Community, here in Victoria, and across the world.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier



Your details will be dealt with in accordance with the Public Records Act 1973 and the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014. Should you have any queries or wish to gain access to your personal information held by this department please contact our Privacy Officer at the above address.



THE HON. MATTHEW GUY MP

Leader of the Opposition
Leader of the Liberal Party
State Member for Bulleen

Level 1, 157 Spring Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
t. 03 9651 6719 f. 03 9651 8987
matthew.guy@parliament.vic.gov.au

MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

On behalf of the Victorian Liberal National Coalition, I extend my best wishes to the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV) as it meets for its Annual General meeting for 2015.

Victoria's, Jewish community is characterised by its energy, dedication to upholding the rich traditions of its faith, and its commitment to inter-faith and cross-cultural engagement and can do attitude. The Victorian Liberal National Coalition recognises and values its contribution to the strength, prosperity and vibrancy of our State.

During this year we have seen the tireless efforts of the many outstanding organisations that support the advancement of the Jewish community.

In particular, we recognise the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV), which has consistently, demonstrates outstanding leadership and support to the Jewish community, and whose efforts strengthen Victoria's relationship with Israel.

The Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV) has been a vital part of our State's interfaith and intercultural movement and has helped maintain the social cohesion and community harmony Victoria is renowned for.

We all value the enormous contribution of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV) and the entire Jewish community, to the strength, prosperity and vibrancy of our society.

Victoria is, on the whole, a harmonious society and the vast majority of Victorians agree that our multicultural society is an asset to Victoria.

All Victorians must respect each other, knowing fully well that we are fortunate to live in a State where everyone has the right to express their culture, religion and heritage without fear or prejudice.

We are proud of our reputation for harnessing the many benefits of multiculturalism to make our community stronger.

On behalf of the Liberal National Coalition, I extend my most sincere wishes for good fortune, good health, and happiness to the board and members of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV) and the entire Jewish community.

THE HON. MATTHEW GUY MP
Leader of the Opposition
Leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party
Member for Bulleen

19.10.15





October 2015
Cheshvan 5776

Message to the Jewish Community Council of Victoria from Ambassador Ben-Shmuel

It is my privilege and gives me great pleasure to offer sincere best wishes and a congratulatory message to the members of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting.

I would like to thank leaders past and present who dedicate themselves and give of their time, energy and abilities to an organisation that does so much for Israel- who help us brace ourselves against enduring and imminent challenges yet still look to the future with positivity and hope.

I wholeheartedly congratulate President Jennifer Huppert for her dedication and support of this great cause and I would also like to extend my compliments to the entire council on their successes, achievements and progress over the past year.

The strength of the special relationship between Australia and Israel is a testament and a credit to organisations like the JCCV. I would also like to recognise and thank my good friend former president Nina Bassat AM for her continued and outstanding service to the Victorian Jewish community and the State of Israel.

International solidarity has never been so crucial at a time when regional instability and the threat of those seeking to undermine our legitimacy and the right to a peaceful existence have reached breaking point. Innocent Israelis are fearful of just going about their daily routine and the situation is getting worse.

Thank you to the JCCV for your enduring support. The solidarity of Zionist communities across the world and the activities in Australia are a much-needed source of hope and inspiration. We are reassured of the ongoing dedication and vitality of Victorian Jewry in part from the impressive work of this organisation. Just a glance at the JCCV on-line communal calendar is an encouraging tribute and reminder that the JCCV is at the forefront of the Victorian Jewish community's development and wellbeing.

I wish the Jewish Community Council of Victoria the very best for the forthcoming year and I want to express my genuine personal gratitude to your organisation and for the essential work that you do. The significant contribution by the JCCV to the State of Israel and both the Jewish and wider Victorian community cannot be understated.

Thank you for your unwavering support and passion for Israel and her people.

H.E. Shmuel Ben-Shmuel
Ambassador of Israel to Australia



EMBASSY OF ISRAEL

6 Turrana Street, Yarralumla ACT 2600 Australia

Telephone: (02) 6215 4500 • Facsimile: (02) 6215 4555 • E-mail: info@canberra.mfa.gov.il • Website: canberra.mfa.gov.il

Executive Council of Australian Jewry Inc.

הוועד הכולל של יהודי אוסטרליה

The Representative Organisation of Australian Jewry

Level 2, 80 William Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Address all correspondence to:
PO Box 1114, Edgecliff NSW 2027

Tel (+61 2) 8353 8500
Fax (+61 2) 9361 5888
Web: www.ecaj.org.au
E-mail: info@ecaj.org.au

PRESIDENT
Robert M Goot AM, SC

DEPUTY PRESIDENT
Jillian Segal AM

HON. TREASURER
Peter Wise

HON. SECRETARY
Sharene Hambur

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Peter Wertheim AM

VICE PRESIDENTS
Yair Miller (NSW)
Nina Bassat AM (VIC)
David Denver (WA)
Jason Steinberg (QLD)
Norman Schueler (SA)
Daniel Albert (TAS)
Robert Cussel (ACT)

IMM. PAST PRESIDENT
Dr Danny Lamm

CONSTITUENTS
NSW Jewish Board of Deputies
Jewish Community Council of Victoria Inc
Jewish Community Council of Western Australia Inc
Queensland Jewish Board of Deputies
Jewish Community Council of South Australia
Hobart Hebrew Congregation
ACT Jewish Community Inc

AFFILIATES
Australasian Union of Jewish Students
Australian Federation of WIZO
Union for Progressive Judaism
Federation of Jewish Aged Care Services
Maccabi Australia Inc
National Council of Jewish Women
B'nai B'rith of Australia/ NZ
Jewish National Fund of Australia
Council of Orthodox Synagogues of Australia

OBSERVERS
Council of Progressive Rabbis
Federation of Australian Jewish Ex-Service Associations
New Zealand Jewish Council
Zionist Federation of Australia



21 October 2015

Jennifer Huppert
President
Jewish Community Council of Victoria
306 Hawthorn Road
Caulfield South VIC 3162

Dear Jennifer

Message for Jewish Community Council of Victoria 2015 Annual Report

Both personally and on behalf of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, I would like to congratulate you on a fantastic year as President and to congratulate your Honorary Officers, members of the Executive, and staff on another fine year of service to the Victorian Jewish community.

This past year has seen strong advocacy and effective leadership from the JCCV on a number of issues of great importance to your community and to Australian Jewry generally.

We have seen considerable challenges posed to our community, including the fallout from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Abuse, a spike in antisemitic activity following the last Israel-Gaza war, and attempts to erode bipartisan support for Israel at both state and federal levels.

The JCCV has been critical to meetings these complex challenges.

As ever, this year has seen a number of outstanding JCCV events, which have shown the Australian public the richness and variety of Jewish life and its proud contribution to Australian society.

We also commend the JCCV for its contribution to policy at a national level. The constructive role which you and your colleagues have played in the fulfilment of the ECAJ's functions has been central to our success and for that we are deeply grateful.

We wish you success in the remaining years of your presidency and congratulate you and your team on a highly successful year.

With warmest regards

Robert Goot AM SC
President

Beth Weizmann Community Centre
306 Hawthorn Road
South Caulfield, VIC 3162

T: (03) 9272 5544
F: (03) 9272 5540
E: admin@zionismvictoria.org.au
W: www.zionismvictoria.org.au
ABN 93 880 343 953

President
Sam Tatarka
Vice Presidents
Sharene Hambur
Jeff Morrison
Hon. Treasurer
Mory Kalkopf
Executive Director
Jane Rapke



President of Zionism Victoria to the Jewish Community Council of Victoria 2015

On behalf of Zionism Victoria, it is my great pleasure to extend greetings to the Jewish Community Council of Victoria on the occasion of your forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

I wish to congratulate the JCCV on a successful year of activities and activism in the Victorian community. I commend your president, Jennifer Huppert, on her leadership this past year, and the JCCV Executive for your important and ongoing work engaging the community. To David Marlow the Executive Director, Hilary McMahon, Anat Aloni and Julie Batty I applaud you for your dedication and accomplishments.

During the past year, the JCCV has displayed outstanding leadership in managing a range of issues arising in our community such as domestic violence, asylum seekers, organ donation and youth alcohol consumption and in developing and nurturing the relationship of the Jewish community to interfaith groups.

Zionism Victoria is proud to maintain a close collaborative relationship with the JCCV on a range of activities and projects. We join leadership in representing the Jewish community in the public, political and media spheres to broaden understanding of community issues and strengthen the Victorian relationship to Israel.

We acknowledge your valued support for community projects such as Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut. Joint activities such as the Yom Ha'atzmaut Reception at Parliament House help to strengthen the relationship of Jewish community organisations with political leadership.

We continue to work together effectively and continuously for the benefit of the Victorian Jewish community and I look forward to the continued partnership of our organisations in the coming year.

I wish you *hatzlacha raba* for all your endeavours.

Bevirkat Zion

Sam Tatarka
PRESIDENT



President's Report

INTRODUCTION

2015 has been an exciting, if challenging, year for the Jewish Community Council of Victoria (JCCV). I took over from Nina Bassat as President at the JCCV's AGM at the end of November 2014, which also saw the election of a new executive.

The JCCV has a broad role – as the elected roof body of the Victorian Jewish Community, it is tasked with representing, and advocating for, the Jewish community, and building relationships with Government, the police, media and NGO's. Equally as important is the JCCV's role in providing services and support to those within the community, both for our affiliate organisations, and individuals.

As president, my aim has been to continue the JCCV's existing programs, at the same time developing new programs and activities to answer the needs of the an ever evolving community, and the changing circumstances which impact on the community, both in Victoria, and further afield.

Most recently, the community has been saddened by the increase in terror attacks in Israel, and concerned at the some of the representations of Israel in the media.

Closer the home, we have been shocked by the rise in home grown terrorism, which raises concerns about the safety of our community members and institutions.

The Jewish community in Victoria has also been deeply impacted by the hearings at the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

While responding to external challenges, the JCCV continues its work in the area of social justice, this year with an emphasis on social inclusion.

REPRESENTATION – Political, Police, Interfaith and Multicultural

POLITICAL

As in previous years, the Jewish community and Israel continue to receive strong bipartisan political support, and this is reflected in the good working relationship between JCCV and both the Government and Opposition..

November 2014 saw the election of a new Labor Government in Victoria, and the JCCV has held meetings with the Premier, Daniel Andrews MP, as well as a number of Ministers regarding issues of concern to the Jewish community. These have included meetings with James Merlino MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Education at which we raised issues relating to changes to religious instructions in schools, and the steps being taken to introduce comparative religious education in Government Schools, and a discussion with Martin Pakula MP, the Attorney General, regarding changes to the "move on" laws and their potential impact on BDS demonstrations.

We have also met on a number of occasions with Robin Scott, the Minister for Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs, to discuss the JCCV's involvement in the multicultural

activities in Victoria, and the steps the Government is taking to enhance social cohesion.

David Marlow and I will be meeting with Matthew Guy MP, the leader of the Opposition, in December.

Together with other Jewish leaders, I recently attended a meeting with the Federal Opposition Leader Bill Shorten MP, Mark Dreyfus MP and Michael Danby MP.

Fifteen Victorian Members of Parliament representing the ALP, Liberal Party and Greens Party participated in the 2015 Politicians' Jewish Immersion Day, visiting Jewish Care, the Jewish Museum of Australia, St Kilda Hebrew Congregation, the Jewish Holocaust Centre, culminating with a lunch with representatives of a number of communal organisations at the Beth Weizmann Community Centre. A number of the participants were newly elected to the Victorian Parliament, and it was had little previous contact with the Jewish community, and welcomed the opportunity to meet with community leaders, and gain some insight into the issues facing our community.

Once again the Annual Parliamentary Cocktail Reception in honour of Yom Ha'atzmaut, jointly hosted with Zionism Victoria, was a great success. The Premier, Daniel Andrews, and Leader of the Opposition, Guy Matthews, spoke warmly of their relationship with the Jewish community and their support for Israel. This year the reception, once again held at the Windsor Hotel, was sponsored by the State Government of Victoria through its Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship.



Federal State and Local politicians from all major parties have also attended, and in some instances address, a variety of JCCV events during the year, including our regular Plenums.

During the recent increase in terrorist attacks in Israel, the JCCV, together with Zionism Victoria and the Zionist Federation of Australia, hosted a briefing by Anat Sultan-Dadon, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Israeli Embassy, which was attended by representatives from both the Government and Opposition, including the Deputy Premier, the Hon James Merlino.

The JCCV joined with the ECAJ and NSW Board of Deputies to bring Professor Alan Johnson to Australia to assist with advocacy in the lead up to the ALP National Conference. While in Melbourne, JCCV organised meetings between Professor Johnson and members of the ALP, including Young Labor, media, students and community leaders.

The JCCV is grateful for the strong support for Israel and the Jewish community provided by the co-chairs of the Victorian Parliamentary Friends of Israel Group, Marsha Thompson MP and David Southwick MP.

President's Report

POLICE

The JCCV continues to work cooperatively with Victoria Police in a variety of areas. David Marlow represents the JCCV at both the Victoria Police Multicultural Portfolio Reference Group and the Victoria Police Interfaith Council. This provides the opportunity to increase understanding of the Jewish community and its needs, as well providing an avenue for input into policy settings and decision making at the highest level.

The JCCV has also continued its active involvement in the Victoria Police Community Encounters program, and Hilary McMahon gives presentations to cadets at the Police Academy in order to improve their cultural awareness and sensitivity.



The JCCV and the Community Security Group continue to build relationships with members of Victoria Police, through both briefings with relevant officers, and events such as the annual "Shmooze with the Blues" lunch, held before Rosh Hashanah, and the Victoria Police Jewish Community Reception, which is to be held in late November.

David Marlow and Ricky Pearl have met with both Wade Noonan MP, Minister for Police, and the newly appointed Chief Commissioner, Graham Ashton to discuss security concerns, and the Chief

Commissioner also addressed the October Plenum meeting, during which he discussed several key areas of priorities for the Police which had implications for the Jewish community.

MULTICULTURAL AND INTERFAITH

The JCCV continues to build on its relationship with a variety of interfaith and multicultural groups, and is a participant in a number of organisations and forums, both in the Government and NGO sector.

JCCV is an active member of the Victorian Government's Multifaith Advisory Group, and we have a strong relationship with the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) and the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship. The VMC has supported a number of events during 2015, including a successful Community Leadership Conference, attended by over 100 current and future leaders from the Jewish, African, Chinese, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Baha'i and Kurdish communities.

David Marlow and I have met with the recently appointed Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission, Helen Kapalos, to discuss her vision for the role of the Commission, and the part the JCCV can play in advancing multiculturalism in Victoria.

We work cooperatively with a number of communities through membership of organisations such as the Jewish Christian Muslim Association (JCMA), the Ethnic Communities

Council of Victoria (ECCV) and Faith Communities Council of Victoria (FCCV). Through this we have helped organise events such as the JCMA's Forum on Social Cohesion and the JCMA Friendship Walk. We develop and foster bilateral ties with other faith based and ethnic communities through events, including dinners with representatives of the Muslim and Catholic communities.



JCCV also participated in a multifaith consultation organised by the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence.

We are fortunate that Victoria has a strong, multicultural community, supported by all sides of politics, and by participating in events such as those outlined above, we help to strengthen the community by building relationships with other cultural and faith based groups.

COMMUNITY

The Victorian Jewish community is known for its vibrancy, and the JCCV continues to provide support for its 54 affiliate organisations, through a range of activities, including professional development for staff and lay leaders.

As well as the formal programing, the JCCV also provides a forum where members of the Victoria Jewish community from across the spectrum can exchange ideas and learn from each other's experiences. Representatives from Orthodox, Masorti and Reform congregations as well as a variety of sporting, cultural and service organisations meet together to address issues such as child protection, pastoral care and social inclusion.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND DISABILITY

This year has seen an emphasis on social justice and inclusion. The JCCV adopted a Social Inclusion Disability Policy, aimed at reducing stigma and improving inclusion and access to community based services and activities for members of the Jewish community with a disability. We are also a participant in the Social Inclusion Leadership Committee, chaired by David Southwick MP, which is working to increase access for those with a disability in areas such as communal activities, housing, education and employment.

The JCCV has recently established a Mental Health Advisory Group, with the aim of holding a series of programs towards the end of 2016 focussing on increasing awareness of mental health issues within the Jewish community, and reducing stigma.

LGBTI

The JCCV held a successful Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTI) Community Engagement Symposium, organised by the JCCV's LGBTI Working Group. Participants included Jews of diverse sexual orientation and gender diversity, as well as their families, health and

President's Report

educational professionals, Jewish LGBTI community organisations and representatives from Synagogues and youth groups. Speakers at the Symposium presented detailed research, as well as personal stories on mental health and other issues which affected Jews of diverse sexual orientation and gender diversity, arising from alienation, bullying, verbal and physical abuse, social exclusion and the effects of lack of support.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the member of the JCCV

LGBTI Working Group, Sally Goldner, Doron Abramovici, Andrew Rajcher, Julie Leder, Rita Rouso, David Marlow and Anat Aloni, for their continued support and guidance.

Keshet became the first LGBTI Jewish community organisation to join JCCV and the Plenum resolution for its affiliation was unopposed.

Through our newly formed Young LGBTI Social Inclusion Group, JADE, and with the support of a HEY (Health Equality Youth) Grant from the Youth Affairs Council, the JCCV is organising a video competition for young people between the ages of 14-25 to promote positive representations of LGBTI people in the Jewish Community.

The involvement of a number of younger members of our community was particularly pleasing, and I am looking forward to the presentation of the winning videos at the Annual General Meeting.

CHILD PROTECTION

JCCV was asked to comment in the media on a number of issues arising from the public hearings held by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Family Violence in Melbourne earlier this year. Generally the community welcomed the Royal Commission, and the opportunity for victims to tell their stories, which brought home to the community the need to implement effective child protection policies and practices.

During 2015 we have held two series of Child Protection Policy Training Programs aimed at assisting Jewish community organisations, schools and synagogues establish effective policies and practices to help protect children from child sexual abuse. We have also facilitated follow up Policy Workshops attended by a number of participants in the 2014 training program. Representatives from over 35 communal organisations, including Schools, Synagogues, Youth Groups and other organisations from every sector of the community have now participated in the programs, gaining a greater understanding of the procedures and policies required in order to protect children.

The JCCV Child Protection Reference Group, comprising Chair Andrew Blode, Rimma Sverdlin OAM, David Marlow, Katherine Levi, Anton Hermann, Vicki Gordon OAM, Marilyn Kraner and Debbie Weiner, was formed in 2013 to develop a strategic plan of addressing issues relation to

child protection, and was instrumental in developing the JCCV's training programs delivered in 2014 and 2015.

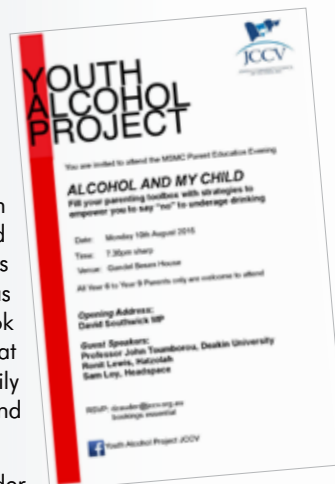
After guiding the activities of the Reference Group since its inception, Andrew Blode has decided to step down as its Chair, although he has offered to continue his involvement with the JCCV's work in this area. We appreciate the time and effort he has put into ensuring that our community is aware of, and properly addresses, the issues surrounding child protection. With Andrew's resignation, the Reference Group has been wound up, and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution its members.

The JCCV will continue to be active in this area, with a focus on assisting community organisations prepare for the introductions of the Victorian Child Safe Standards which will apply to all organisations which provide services to children from 1 January 2017.

YOUTH ALCOHOL PROJECT

The JCCV Youth Alcohol Project (YAP) continues to provide educational programs for Jewish day school students and their parents regarding alcohol misuse. During 2015 the JCCV Youth Alcohol Project expanded its activities to include a Parent Network Project, providing a forum for parents to discuss issues relating to youth and alcohol in the Jewish community.

With the assistance of a grant from Glen Eira City Council, YAP has printed and distributed postcards with messages regarding alcohol abuse. The JCCV has also established a dedicated YAP Facebook page, which has regular posts aimed at providing Youth in our community with easily accessible information about alcohol and the impact of its misuse.



The YAP Project Officer, Debbie Zauder, and Rimma Sverdlin OAM, chair of the YAP Committee continue to guide the project, with the assistance of the YAP Committee, comprising Rabbi Ian Goodhardt, Ann Wollner, Ronit Lewis, Ruth Casen, Jacquie Lerner, Brian Samuel and Isabel Leasman, whom I thank for their ongoing commitment and support.

PASTORAL CARE

Through our work with Spiritual Health Victoria, the JCCV continues to provide cultural sensitivity training for pastoral care workers in Victorian Hospitals, improving the services provided to community members.

Once again JCCV held a pastoral care immersion day for pastoral care workers from around the state. This was the first time that the program was part of a pastoral care University



level subject delivered through Birling College and the University of Divinity. Twenty pastoral carers from various religious faiths participated and they heard from a wide variety of speakers and had a rich immersion into Jewish history, tradition and explanation of Jewish pastoral needs.

JCCV is also working with Spiritual Care Victoria, Jewish Care, Progressive Judaism Victoria, Kehilat Nitzan and the Rabbinical Council of Victoria through the JCCV Pastoral Care Committee on a program for accreditation of Jewish pastoral care workers.

David Marlow and Anat Aloni ensure that the JCCV continues to make an important contribution in this area.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

The JCCV, and the Jewish community generally, would not function without the many hours contributed by the countless unsung volunteers, who donate their time to a variety of Jewish communal organisations. I am delighted that we have the opportunity to acknowledge their contribution through the JCCV volunteer awards at the Annual Awards Night.

In addition, the JCCV Executive presents the General Sir John Monash Award for Outstanding Service to the Jewish Community, to a person who has demonstrated an exceptional and outstanding commitment to the Victorian Jewish Community over a long period of time, which this year was presented to Tony Levy OAM in recognition of his many years of service to the community. I am also delighted that Lauren Mandel has been awarded the JCCV Young Leader Award in recognition of her contribution to the community, particularly in the area of social inclusion.

The JCCV continued its role as the administrator of the Marion and Kurt Lippmann Foundation scholarship program, which provides an annual scholarship to a young communal professional for professional development.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The JCCV's community events are an important feature of the Jewish community calendar.

JCCV Plenums, which bring together JCCV affiliates to discuss issues of importance to the community, are the backbone of the organisation. This year we have been fortunate to hold Plenums at Jewish Care, Bialik College and Blake Street Hebrew Congregation, and speakers have included Philip Dalidakis MP and Margaret Fitzherbert MP, Professor Emeritus David Pennington AC and Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police, Graham Ashton AM APM.

Our annual events include:

- the Yom Hashoah Commemoration held at Robert Blackwood Hall and Hazkarah ceremony at the Shoah Memorial at Melbourne General Cemetery;
- participating in the Yom Hazikaron Commemoration at Robert Blackwood Hall co-ordinated by Zionism Victoria;
- Yom Ha'atzmaut Parliamentary Cocktail Reception co-hosted with Zionism Victoria; and
- JCCV Community Awards evening, which recognises the contribution made by volunteers within the community.

I would like to make special mention of the Yom Hashoah Committee of Randi Gross, Hilary McMahon, Michael Cohen, Nina Bassat, Ariella Leski, Bram Presser, Lena Fiszman and Matan Franco, who ensure that the Community commemoration at Robert Blackwood Hall is meaningful and relevant.

Randi Gross also makes an important contribution to the production of the JCCV Community Awards evening.

The JCCV mission includes strengthening ties between the Victorian Jewish community and Israel, and we hosted or co-hosted a number of events with a focus on Israel during the year, including:

- an evening with Isi Leibler;
- a talk by Israeli journalist and author Ben-Dror Yemini;
- a briefing given by Anat Sultan-Dadon, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Israeli Embassy; and
- a presentation by Israeli Journalist author and political commentator, Ehud Yaari.

Although ours is a diverse community, it is marked by the level cooperation between the various communal organisations, and I am delighted that we have been able to work with a number of different organisations, including Zionism Victoria, the Zionist Federation of Australia, Australia Israel and Jewish Affairs Council, Jewish Care, Jewish Holocaust Centre, Jewish Museum of Australia and Hatzolah in bringing events and services to the community.

One of the highlights of the year was the Forum on Aboriginal Constitutional Recognition, which addressed the issues arising from the current Constitution, the process being undertaken in an effort to bring about reform, and the impact constitutional recognition could have on the lives of First Australians.

The JCCV also participated in the 'In One Voice' festival, a Jewish street festival held in Elsterwick.

In a new initiative, and with support of Gandel Philanthropy and Hatzolah, the JCCV has acquired a defibrillator which will be made available to JCCV affiliates and other community organisations for loan for major events, if they

President's Report

do not already have one available. JCCV will work with Hatzolah to arrange training for organisations in the use of the defibrillators.

Assistance to Shoah survivors with restitution applications and certifying Life Certificates continues to be an important task, and JCCV is represented on the Jewish Care Restitution Committee

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA

The JCCV has used a variety of media platforms to engage with the community.



The JCCV website, jccv.org.au, and in particular the Media Centre and Online Community Calendar, provide up to date information regarding the activities of the JCCV and its affiliates, as well as links to other communal sites. JCCV activities and media statements are also publicised via the JCCV Facebook page.

The JCCV Directory and Diary continues to be an important resource for both the Jewish and broader community, as does the JCCV e-bulletin, "What's Nu".

This year I have appeared on a number of different programs on J-Air Radio, and we continue to receive media coverage from The Australian Jewish News and J-Wire. The ongoing support of those organisations is acknowledged.

COMMUNITY SECURITY GROUP

The Community Security Group (CSG) saw a number of organisational changes during 2015. After 5 years of service, Simon Glynn has moved on from the role of executive director. This has resulted in a restructure, and the appointment of Ricky Pearl to the new role of chief executive officer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Simon for his contribution to the CSG, and the leadership he brought to the organisation.



Security levels were heightened during the year due to a number of factors, and under Ricky's leadership the CSG professional staff, Justin Lipson, Dave Freedman, Dan Goodhardt, Tim Freed, Jason Blumenthal, Jesse Coppel, Tiffany Goldstein and Sharon Karliner, together with a growing group of dedicated volunteers have shown a continuing commitment to the protection of the Jewish community, and the development of important relationships with State and Federal Police.

The CSG also plays an important role in collating and distributing information on anti-semitic incidents in Victoria. This enables the JCCV to make judgements regarding the impact of anti-semitism in the community, as well as information which can be used when making representations to Government and Police.

The CSG strike an important balance between ensuring the security of the community, and informing the community of the risks it is facing. Simon Glynn and Dan Goodhardt provided briefings on the security concerns facing the community at the March and August Plenum meetings, and at the height of the security concerns during the year, CSG held a briefing for community leaders.

The CSG could not operate without the financial support of the community, and the Advisory Board, ably led by Mark Gandur continues to ensure that the CSG has funding to carry out its important work.

In this time of heightened security, the Jewish community in Victoria owes a debt of gratitude to the staff and volunteers of the CSG for the time they give to ensuring the protection of the community.

JEWISH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Jewish Emergency Management Plan (JEMP) through its Technical Committee continues to work closely with CSG, Hatzolah, Emergency Service Organisations and local municipalities to ensure that the Jewish community is equipped to deal with a major emergency.

JEMP's Technical Committee, comprising Danny Elbaum, Rabbi Ronnie Figdor, Frank Gaensler, Kathy Kaplan OAM, Ronit Lewis, Justin Lipson, Andrew Litwinow, David Michaelson, Saul Midler and Ricky Pearl and myself, and also provides regular briefings for Youth groups and other communal organisations.

This year, JEMP upgraded its radio system thanks to the generosity of the Spotlight Foundation.

My thanks go to Kathy Kaplan OAM, JEMP's Executive Administrator, and the volunteers of the Technical Committee for the time they contribute to this important part of the Jewish community.

JCCV FUNDING

Patrons

The achievements of the JCCV outlined in this report would not be possible without the continued generosity, support and encouragement of our Patrons. The funding received from our Patrons guarantees the financial viability of the organisation, and ensures that the JCCV can continue to deliver its program of events and activities.

Estate of Jacob Frenkiel

For the fourth year the Estate of Jacob Frenkiel has made a generous donation to support the activities of the JCCV, particularly the Youth Alcohol Project. I express my gratitude to the Executors of the Estate, Richard Greenfield and Emilio Bortington, who through their donations to the JCCV and other Jewish communal organisations, have a great impact on the community.



President's Report

Appeals

Members of the community continue to give generously to the JCCV Community Appeal and the Kol Nidrei Appeal, and I thank the community for its continued support it gives to the JCCV through its donations, evidencing the trust the community places in the JCCV and its work.

COUNCIL FOR JEWISH EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, COUNCIL FOR JEWISH COMMUNAL SECURITY, TRUDE WEISS FOUNDATION, THE MARION & KURT LIPPMANN FOUNDATION

The Council for Jewish Education in Schools (CJES) is the entity which provide tax deductibility for donations for Jewish education in schools and on University campuses. The CJES is administered by the JCCV, and oversight is by the CJES Committee, comprising Alan Samuel JP, Hilary McMahon and myself.

The Council for Jewish Communal Security (CJCS) enable tax deductibility for donations for communal security, for both the operations of the CSG, and security for communal facilities. The CJCS is administered by the CJCS committee, comprising Ian Jones, and myself.

In addition to the CJES and CJCS, the JCCV administers the Trude Weiss Foundation for educational support and The Marion and Kurt Lippmann Foundation. The administration is carried out by Hilary McMahon, and Ian Jones is responsible for compliance. My appreciation goes to all those involved in the administration of these funds.

ECAJ

The JCCV values the ongoing relationship with the Executive and staff of the ECAJ. Many of the issues facing the Jewish community in Victoria are not isolated to this State, the JCCV benefits greatly from the support and exchange of ideas with the ECAJ President, Robert Goot AM SC as well as interaction with community leaders from around Australia. The ECAJ staff, Peter Wertheim, Alex Rychin and Julie Nathan continue to provide support to the JCCV and its staff.

Through the ECAJ the Victorian Jewish community is able to have an input in the national arena, and the community is also appreciative of the strong representation ECAJ provides for Australia within World Jewry.

EXECUTIVE & STAFF

As I mentioned above, the role of volunteers in our community cannot be underestimated, and this applies to the volunteers on the JCCV executive.

As I mentioned above, November 2014 saw the election of a new executive, which took office for a term of 3 years.

I am delighted Atida Lipshutz (Vice President & Affiliate Support), Ian Jones (Treasurer), Rimma Sverdlin (Community Research & Social Justice) and Anton Herman (Governance, Fundraising and Child Protection) and Jack Lipson (Security

Liaison) have once again committed their time and resources to the community. They are joined by France Prince (Multicultural & Interfaith), Doron Abramovici (Social Inclusion & Community Engagement) and Dr Andre Oboler (Online engagement), as well as the 2 additional members co-opted onto the executive during the year, Bram Presser and Daniel Nash. The Executive has also had the benefit of the input received from its non-voting members, Sharene Hambur, representing Zionism Victoria, and Dr Dvir Abramovich, representing the ADC.

The Executive members bring a variety of skills and experience to the work of the JCCV, and represent the breadth of the Jewish Community. I greatly value the support and counsel of the executive.

Working for a Jewish communal organisation can be a thankless task, and I am delighted to have the opportunity to ensure that the JCCV professional staff receive recognition for the work.

Executive Director David Marlow brings great professionalism to his role. He is an effective ambassador for the community, in his role as representative of the JCCV, and in his interactions with the community and communal organisations plays an important role in bringing the many disparate elements of our community together. David also plays a central role in publicising the activities of the JCCV through traditional and social media, and he ensures that the JCCV office operates effectively and efficiently.

This year marks Hilary McMahon's 25th year of service to the JCCV, which was recognised with a presentation at the August Plenum. Hilary's title of Business Manager does not do justice to her contribution to the community. Hilary not only oversees the finances of the JCCV, the CJCS, CJES and the Foundations, but is also a key member of the Yom Hashoah committee, ensures that JCCV functions and events run smoothly, is the key driver of the Community Recognition Awards and represents the community to cadets at the Victorian Police Academy.

Anat Aloni joined the JCCV as a project officer in early 2015, and she has moved seamlessly into the role, bringing great enthusiasm to the JCCV's projects, participating in its working groups and committees, and producing flyers and other marketing material. Anat is a welcome addition to the JCCV team.

Administrative Assistant Julie Batty responsibilities include minutes, reports, database support and data entry, advertising and fundraising administration, and general assistance. She is the face and voice of JCCV, sitting at the reception desk and answering the phone, and her contributions are appreciated.

In addition to the volunteers and members of the committees, working groups and reference groups outlined above, I would like to thank volunteers Mervyn Chait, Anne Livnat and Rebecca Pillai.

While the community has faced many challenges, 2015 has been a successful year for the JCCV, and this could not have been achieved without the valuable contribution made by the Executive and Staff, who work cooperatively in order to achieve the aims of the organisation.

President's Report

CONCLUSION

As I reflect on the first year of my term as JCCV President, what stand out the most for me is the level of cooperation between the various elements of the Jewish community, in particular the JCCV affiliates. Our affiliates encapsulate the breadth and diversity of our community – representing a variety of cultural and religious views, active in the arts, sport and welfare, providing support for particular sectors of the community. Despite this, when it matters the community comes together and works cooperatively. While the Jewish community faces many challenges, it is strengthened by its diversity and its inclusiveness.

I appreciate the support and encouragement of the JCCV Executive and Staff, and the many members of the Jewish community I have interacted with during the year.

Jennifer Huppert

Executive Director's Report

The past year has been very successful in progressing social inclusion within the Jewish community, while also being enormously challenging in terms of social cohesion across the Victorian community.

Overseas events have cast a long shadow over the Victorian community from the rise of ISIS in Syria and Iraq, the growth of violent extremism in Australia, and global terror events across Europe to the recent onslaught of Palestinian terror attacks involving knives, rocks, guns and vehicles in Israel. These events have created tensions in social cohesion across the Victorian community, and raised concerns and challenges regarding security at our schools and community infrastructure, and Jewish community safety generally.

To address these issues, we have worked closely with key organisations in the Jewish community, as well as the Premier, relevant Ministers, Opposition leadership, leaders of the major faith and community groups, Victoria Police and other partners seeking to maintain community peace and harmony, and prevent the spread of violent extremism which would seek to harm our community's way of life.

In this environment, the JCCV's areas of focus over the past year have been:

- Social Cohesion: working towards a more socially cohesive Victoria to ensure community harmony and safety, so that we can live confidently and safely as Jews
- Social Inclusion: working towards social inclusion in the Jewish community, to ensure all Jews feel free and welcome to participate and contribute to the community
- Youth Engagement: ensuring the engagement, health, safety and future of Jewish youth
- Jewish Continuity: ensuring community strength and continuity through key events
- Israel Advocacy: enhancing the discussion of Israel in the community to be more balanced and fact-based

Social Cohesion

To support our social cohesion priority, the JCCV:

- Is an active participant in the Victorian Multi-faith Advisory Group (MAG) which aims to address and advise the State Government on a diverse range of issues of concern to the Jewish community, including racism and religious intolerance, countering violent extremism, social issues in diverse communities such as family violence and community security
- Actively participates in the Victoria Police Multicultural Portfolio Reference Group (PRG) which helps improve cultural sensitivity in Victoria Police and adds an element of multicultural understanding to the Police decision making process.
- Works through the Victoria Police Interfaith Council with a variety of faith groups to add an understanding of faith issues to the Police decision making process and providing advice regarding fostering social cohesion.

Both this group and Multicultural PRG provide advice and input to various Police projects and their senior level decision making processes in areas such as security, community policy, religious sensitivity and preventing radicalisation of youth.

- Is a founding member and participant in the Victoria Police Community Encounters program which seeks to create empathy and understanding amongst police and PSO recruits for people of diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Is actively involved in the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV) and the Faith Communities Council of Victoria (FCCV) which help address issues such as racism, religious discrimination, community education, and religious education in schools.

- Helps drive initiatives through the Jewish Christian Muslim Association (JCMA) including:

- o JCMA religion in schools project,
- o JCMA Friendship Walk which attracted over 200 Jews, Muslims and Christians visiting a church, a Synagogue and a mosque in support of peace and understanding, and

- o JCMA Social Cohesion Forum which focused on identifying ways to promote peace and harmony, and prevent violent extremism.



- Organised a JCCV Jewish community immersion day with Labor, Liberal and Green State members of parliament, introducing them to Jewish Melbourne, and the issues faced by our community, including antisemitism, community security, the growing need for aged care and welfare services, and the community's concerns regarding Israel, while also reducing stereotypes.

- Actively participates on the Spiritual Health Victoria (SHV) Council which consists of representative of the major faith backgrounds



- Developed and hosted the JCCV Community Leadership Conference which was a two day conference aimed at developing leadership and organisational governance skills with over 150 community leaders from a wide range of communities participating, including leaders from the Jewish, African, Chinese, Indian, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim, Kurdish and Buddhist communities.

- Arranged and hosted community dinners with the Catholic Archdiocese and the Muslim community to build friendships and create coalitions against religious intolerance and racism. From the Muslim Dinner in particular, partnerships were built between various community leaders which have resulted in a number of joint events and opportunities for cooperation.

Executive Director's Report

- Regularly meets with representatives of a wide variety of communities and community representatives, including the Victorian Council of Churches, Africans, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, Sikhs, Chinese and many others to discuss issues of mutual concern and projects of mutual benefit.
- Sponsored the Interfaith Centre of Melbourne International Harmony Day Lunch at State Parliament which involved all major faith groups in Victoria.



- Organised and hosted the JCCV Aboriginal Constitutional Recognition Forum to help the Jewish community understand the need for change in terms of recognition for Australia's first people.

Social Inclusion

To support our social inclusion priority, aiming to ensure the full inclusion and participation in the community of Jews with disabilities and Jews of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity (LGBTI Jews), the JCCV:

- Disability Policy was developed, approved by the JCCV Plenum and launched to encourage Jewish community organisations to take appropriate action to ensure the inclusion of community members with disabilities
- Launched the Disability Services booklet at a JCCV Plenum, which was developed by the Social Inclusion Leadership Committee (SILC) of which JCCV is a founding member
- JCCV's LGBTI Community Engagement Project is focused on reducing homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and intersex exclusion in the Jewish community, and thereby improving the mental health outcomes for LGBTI Jews, and was enabled by a HEY (Health Equal Youth) Grant from the Youth Affairs Council. Key initiatives delivered under that project this year include:
 - o The establishment of a JCCV LGBTI Youth Advisory Group (now named JADE – Jews All Diverse and Equal) to advise the JCCV on issues effecting LGBTI youth
 - o Promotion of a JCCV LGBTI Youth Video Competition to help promote understanding of issues confronting LGBTI youth in the community
 - o Hosting of the first JCCV LGBTI Symposium which brought together LGBTI youth and community members with their families, community organization leaders, rabbonim and service providers to raise the understanding of LGBTI issues in the community



- Keshet Australia, the LGBTI education and support group, became the first LGBTI group to become a member of a Jewish community organization in Australia when they were elected as an affiliate of the JCCV unopposed
- The JCCV Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (GLBTI) Working Group continues, and has helped the JCCV deliver its initiatives to address the mental health issues arising from homophobia and community alienation in the Jewish GLBTI community.

Youth Engagement

The JCCV is determined to ensure the engagement, health, safety and future of Jewish youth in our community:

- The Youth Alcohol Project (YAP) has continued over the year, launching YAP 'Myth-Fact' postcards, delivering programs in the Jewish day schools to students while also increasing the focus on communicating with and running forums with parents.

- JCCV launched the inaugural JCCV Young Leader Award at the JCCV Community Awards to help recognise and promote leadership in young members of our community
- The JCCV now has strong and effective cross-generational representation on its Executive (board of management) with directors in their 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s and 60s. This ensures a breadth of input, as well as continuity.
- The establishment of JADE (explained above) and the JCCV LGBTI Youth Video Competition have helped JCCV connect with young Jews of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity
- To foster youth engagement, young speakers, youth choirs and young musicians have participated in JCCV activities, most notably the Yom Hashoah Commemoration, the Community Awards evening and the Hazkara service at Carlton Cemetery.

- During the past year, we have organised two rounds of an extensive Child Protection policy and procedures training program to help community organisations develop appropriate policies, procedures and processes for the protection of children from child sexual abuse. It has been extremely successful, changing attitudes and thinking, and has driven the development of policies in dozens of Jewish community organisations. Over the past two years, approximately 100 participants from 40 Jewish community organisations have undertaken the training so far, including:



- o All seven Jewish day schools (5 this year)
- o 5 Jewish youth groups (5 this year)
- o Eleven Synagogues (6 this year)
- o 17 other Jewish community organisations

Executive Director's Report

Jewish Continuity: Community strength and continuity through key events

JCCV plays a lead role in organising, co-hosting and/or supporting many major important events in the community, including:

- JCCV organised and hosted the Yom Hashoah Commemoration with over 1000 people attending this year



- JCCV led the group of community organisations who hosted the community event for the visit of Chief Rabbi of the Commonwealth Ephraim Mirvis



- JCCV supported and/or participated in many key community events including for Yom Hazikaron (sponsor and on the organising committee), the Yom Haatzmaut Concert, the Yom Haatzmaut Family Day and the 'In One Voice' Festival.

- Hatzolah, with the support of Gandel Philanthropy, presented the JCCV with a life-saving mobile 'Start-the-Heart' defibrillator device to be available to loan for community events at venues where no such device is available.

- Seven JCCV Plenums were held during the year in addition to the JCCV AGM, where delegates from our affiliates and interested community members came together to focus on issues of community interest and concern, including the following speakers over the past 12 months:

- Affiliate presentations by Jewish Care Victoria, Blake Street Hebrew Congregation and Bialik College at JCCV Plenums hosted at their venues
- Prof Len Saxe, Brandeis University
- Assistant Commissioner Andrew Crisp, Victoria Police
- Shimon Laibl Allen, founder of Beit Rafael
- Margaret Fitzherbert MLC
- Philip Dalidakis MLC and now Minister for Small Business
- Tim Goodwin, Indigenous lawyer and Constitutional expert
- Renata Singer, 'In One Voice' Festival
- Prof David Penington AC, past Vice-Chancellor of University of Melbourne and medical expert with a special interest in prevention of drug abuse
- Chief Commissioner Graham Ashton, Victoria Police
- The JCCV Community Awards evening with the



prestigious Sir John Monash Award, the JCCV Young Leader Award, and the awards presented to outstanding volunteers by community organisations. The keynote speaker and presenter at the awards was Australian Race Discrimination Commissioner Tim Southphommassane

- Boardroom Luncheon held with Australian Human Rights Commissioner Tim Wilson
- Through the JCCV Community Leadership Conference and a JCCV Governance training day organised earlier in the year, JCCV:
- Provided over 70 Jewish community leaders (young, new and experienced) with governance training to improve the effectiveness of our community organisations
- Provided over 50 Jewish community leaders with high quality leadership training, including presenters such as Prof Leon Mann from the University of Melbourne, the Hon Robin Scott Minister for Multicultural Affairs, ABL Partner Joey Borensztajn, Nina Bassat AM and Management Consultant Jonny Schauder.
- A JCCV Jewish community spiritual care immersion day was organised where pastoral care coordinators from hospitals across the state and from various faiths spent a day visiting Jewish Melbourne to better understand our community and our community's special needs, including the Jewish Museum, St Kilda Hebrew Congregation, the Mikvah, and the Jewish Holocaust Centre, with a diverse ranges of speakers including Orthodox, Conservative, Progressive and secular Jewish spokes people, Holocaust Survivor and rabbonim. This is the second year that we have run the program, but the first time that the day forms part of a formal subject at the Stirling Theological College.

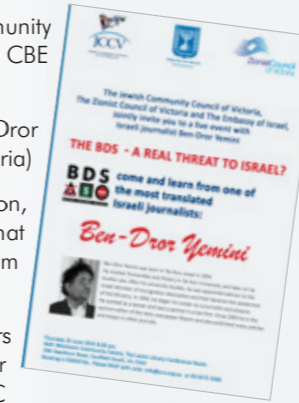
Israel Advocacy

The JCCV was involved in a wide range of activities and events to help re-balance views in the general community on Israel, including:

- Yom Haatzmaut Community Cocktail Reception with members of State and Federal Parliament held at the prestigious Windsor Hotel in partnership with Zionism Victoria
- British academic and Labor expert Prof Alan Johnson (with ECAJ) who assisted with politician, advisor and media briefings
- Community speaker events, including:

Executive Director's Report

- Commentator and community stalwart Isi Leibler AO CBE (with AIJAC)
- Israeli journalist Ben-Dror Yemeni (with Zionism Victoria)
- Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Israel, Anat Sultan-Dadon (with Zionism Victoria and ZFA)
- Israeli foreign affairs analyst and commentator Ehud Yaari (with AIJAC and Zionism Victoria)



It is also worthwhile highlighting that the JCCV administers the following programs on behalf of the community:

- Marion and Kurt Lippmann Scholarship
- Trude Weiss Scholarship
- Council for Jewish Education in Schools
- Council for Jewish Community Security
- Proof of life certification and other documentation support and advice for Holocaust Survivors.

In conclusion

During the year, our new Project Manager Anat Aloni joined the JCCV professional team and has brought particular expertise in marketing communications and promotion of events.

Our professional team have delivered outstanding results this year, and I am delighted that Hilary McMahon, Anat Aloni and Julie Batty continue to be passionate, professional and driven to deliver for the community.

It is also essential to recognise the contributions of Katherine Levi, who developed and delivers the JCCV Child Protection training, and Debbie Zauder, our YAP Project Manager.

We have worked with many wonderful partners on events and in working groups and committees, who are listed elsewhere in this report, but I would like to especially thank the following organisations who are consistently excellent partners, a delight to work with and outstanding contributors to the community:

- Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council (AIJAC) on political and Israel related issues
- Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) on national and international issues
- Jewish Care Victoria on a range of social justice, welfare and social inclusion issues
- Jewish Holocaust Centre (JHC) working together on Holocaust commemoration and education
- Jewish Museum of Australia (JMA) working together on Jewish education

- Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) supporting social cohesion and cooperation across cultures
- Victoria Police working together for a safer and more harmonious community
- Zionism Victoria (ZV) working in support of Israel

Key new initiatives for JCCV in the next 12 months include:

- A Mental Health Project aimed at improving awareness of mental health issues in the community, with a special focus on suicide prevention and inter-generational mental health issues
- Commencement of a Drug Abuse prevention project, including a Drugs Forum
- Development of a Pastoral Carer Accreditation process to enable Jewish community pastoral carers to visit Jewish patients in hospital, with the support of Spiritual Health Victoria
- Partnering with the Jewish Holocaust Centre on the United Nations Holocaust Memorial Day event
- A community dinner with Victoria Police

David Marlow

MULTICULTURAL & INTERFAITH PORTFOLIO REPORT 2015

This has been my first year on the JCCV Executive, and it has been an honour and a pleasure to work with the other Executive members, and I thank them all, for their collegiality and support.

As the JCCV Liaison to the FCCV (Faith Communities Council of Victoria) I have regularly attended and participated in the Management Committee meetings. I have met leaders from a variety of faiths across Victoria, working together with them to promote positive relations between different faith communities.

In my position as JCCV Liaison to the JCMA (Jewish Christian Muslim Association of Australia) I have regularly attended and participated in the Executive meetings. In addition, I have joined the Schools Program Committee. A new Schools Coordinator was appointed this year, bringing a renewed sense of energy and enthusiasm to the position. The JCMA's Women's Committee has been especially active this year, organising a wide variety of events.

I commend Rabbi Fred Morgan and the Council of Christians and Jews, for initiating The Grassroots Dialogue Project. This project enabled a significant number of Christian and Jewish representatives to present 'their religious traditions and personal faith stories' at a wide variety of churches and synagogues.

This year I conducted the annual NCJW Interfaith and Intergenerational Women's Model Seder and was the educational facilitator at the ADC's Multifaith Future Leaders Program.

In mid-September the Victorian Government announced and presented the new Victorian curriculum. This includes a new compulsory area entitled, 'Learning About World Views

and Religions'. This covers Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Secular humanism and rationalism. (I was a member of VCAA- Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority- community focus group that consulted on this new area of the Victorian school curriculum.) It is hoped that the Jewish Museum of Australia will be able to provide professional development for teachers in regard to the teaching about Judaism. In addition, a delegation from the JCMA (myself included) recently went to Parliament to meet with Hon James Merlino (Minister for Education and Deputy Premier of Victoria). The basis of this meeting was to discuss, in the light of the new curriculum, the potential for the JCMA's School Program to run in government schools and for the JCMA to be a provider for professional development for teachers.

Highlights this year have included attending the inaugural ICV (Islamic Council of Victoria) Iftar dinner, the JCMA's "Maintaining Social Cohesion in Australia" forum and the JCMA's Friendship Walk (from St. Peter's Eastern Hill Anglican Church to East Melbourne Synagogue to the Albanian Mosque).

I would like to thank my predecessor, Dr Helen Light, for her guidance and advice. I would also like to thank David Marlow, our Executive Director, for all his involvements in interfaith organisations and activities.

Frances Prince
Multicultural & Interfaith Portfolio Representative



SOCIAL JUSTICE AND WELFARE PORTFOLIO

The programs continued in 2015 with positive and pleasing results.

YOUTH ALCOHOL PROGRAM

Work is continuing with students in Jewish Day Schools. 2015 saw a very important step forward with the Program extending to work with Parents.

My deep thanks again to Debbie Zauder, YAP Manager. Her ongoing professionalism, dedication and motivation are the key to the program's success.

As Chair, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for their ongoing support and their professional advice towards developing the program.

Reflecting on the past year's Youth Alcohol Project's (YAP) events, activities and resources, I am proud to report increasing positive feedback plus encouraging changes to drinking culture in our community.

YOUTH ALCOHOL PROGRAM REPORT

This year the Jewish schools in Victoria once again participated in educational sessions and drama workshops at the year 6 to 8 levels. Both parents and students were treated to guest speakers of the highest calibre and experience in the alcohol sector. Professor Toumborou from Deakin University, internationally renowned researcher in the field of alcohol and youth, involving the effect of families, kindly offered his services as a guest speaker. YAP plans to continue working with the Professor on more projects next year. Sam Loy, a Youth Worker from Headspace, Sergeant Tim Lambourne, representing the Victoria Police and Tania Grunfeld, a psychologist also joined YAP's team of speakers. All brought to YAP a fresh, up to date and relevant approach to the issues at hand. A sincere thanks to Ronit Lewis representing Hatzolah and Elinor Zeitlen, YAP's Drama Facilitator for their continued commitment and devotion to the YAP's cause.

The Parent Network Project (PNP) was launched early this year. The main aim of the PNP is to empower parents to know how other parents are dealing with youth and alcohol issues, and work together to formulate common responses. A number of PNP What's Apps have been established as a tool for parents to connect with each other using social media. Congratulations to Mount Scopus Memorial College's parents for their involvement in the pilot project and the wholehearted support of the PNP. Mount Scopus PNP What's App's are now available from Year 6 to 12. The PNP was funded by a Glen Eira Council Community Grant.

YAP is also utilising social media with the launch this year of a Facebook page, the "Youth Alcohol Project YAP JCCV". The page very quickly attracted well over 200 followers to date and is growing every day. Members range from parents, students, academics, workers from other alcohol programs and those with a general interest in the youth and alcohol issue. Every week new articles are posted, including latest research results, dates and times of YAP activities, photos of events, with a taste of "Jewishness". I welcome you to join the page and contribute any interesting articles.

YAP continues to combat underage drinking in the Jewish community. In 2016, a variety of new projects are currently being drafted, they already show great promise. The YAP Management Committee is enthusiastic to make a difference through awareness and education. Thank you to each and every member of the YAP Management Committee for your continued support and inspiring discussions! Thanks Ruth Casen, Rabbi Ian Goodhardt, Jennifer Huppert, Jacque Lerner, Isabel Lesman, Ronit Lewis, David Marlow, Brian Samuel, Rimma Sverdlin and Ann Wollner.

Thank you for the privilege to work on YAP, I appreciate the opportunity to manage the project and assist in making positive changes to the underage drinking culture that permeates in the Jewish community. For any further information, please contact me at dzauder@jccv.otg.au.

Debbie Zauder
Youth Alcohol Project Manager



CHILD PROTECTION

This year has produced extraordinary results due to the professionalism of the training and program planning. The community has shown serious ongoing commitment to safeguarding children and young people within organisations and I commend the participants and their leadership.

The Child Protection Reference Group completed its role this year and I would like to thank all the members of the Reference Group for their commitment and time. The members were: Andrew Blode - Chair, Nina Bassat AM, Anton Herman, Vicki Gordon OAM, Marilyn Kraner, Katherine Levi, David Marlow, Anat Aloni, Rimma Sverdlin OAM and Debbie Weiner.

Work will continue in this area in a different format and Katherine Levi will deliver the second round of JCCV Child Protection Policy and Procedure training before the end of this year.

PASTORAL CARE

The steering committee in 2015 has focused on the Pastoral Care Immersion Day which is now part of a formal subject at the School of Divinity, and the development of an accreditation process for Jewish pastoral carers. This work is very important not just in a pastoral care setting but in



Social Justice and Welfare Portfolio

an education setting that promotes Judaism and the Jewish people to the broader community.

The Steering Committee is a whole-of-community approach and I would like to thank each of the members for their input and time. The committee is comprised of: David Marlow, Anat Aloni, Rabbi Dovid Gutnick, Michel Laloum, Sue Morgan, Rabbi Yosef Nerenberg, Rabbi Adam Stein, Gabbi Sar-Shalom and Heather Tan.

My heartfelt thanks go to everyone who has tirelessly worked on the projects for the benefit of the Jewish community.

I would like to thank Jennifer Huppert as the President for her support and look forward to working with her in the coming year.

As well my thanks go to my fellow Executive Members and the highly professional JCCV staff whom I look forward to working with in 2016.

Rimma Sverdlin OAM

PORTFOLIO: SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

According to the Australian Human Rights Commission, Social inclusion is about participation, equal opportunity, and empowerment.

This year marks the first year that the JCCV had a director hold the portfolio of Social Inclusion and its significance is paramount. While the JCCV has been a long and proud advocate for the Victorian Jewish Community and minorities within, in 2015, we have strongly advocated for inclusive practice within Jewish organisations. It is the JCCV's role to ensure that all Jews within the state of Victoria feel empowered to participate in our community and state.

My first act in my position as Director for Social Inclusion and Community Engagement was to create a Disability policy for the JCCV's Policy Platform. Refer attached. The policy aims to encourage Jewish organisations to look at those individuals who have a disability as they do individuals who do not. We all have diverse skills and experiences that shape our character and how we want to contribute to a fulfilling life and the economy.

Through months of collaboration with David Southwick who chairs the Social Inclusion Leadership Committee, and Jewish Care, Access, Maccabi All Abilities, a Disability Platform was adopted by the JCCV Plenum on Monday 3rd August 2015.

The month of August was momentous for the JCCV and Social Inclusion in the Victorian Jewish Community. In addition to the Disability policy being adopted at the August plenum, the first Jewish LGBTI organization, Keshet Australia was successfully welcomed as an affiliate of the

JCCV. This was the result of strong advocacy by past and present JCCV Executives and Presidents namely John Searle, Nina Bassat AM and current President Jennifer Huppert, as well as our Executive Director David Marlow and office of the JCCV. Thanks and acknowledgement must also go to community leaders (Orthodox, Conservative, Progressive, Unaffiliated), congregations, LGBTI groups and individuals of the community who supported this motion.

Later that month, the JCCV delivered the Jewish Community's first ever LGBTI Symposium with approximately 86 audience members ranging from males and females who identify as either Orthodox, Conservative or Progressive, LGBTI or straight. Presenters included Shaun Staunton from Beyond Blue, Dr. Gavriel Ansara discussing LGBTI health issues from an Orthodox viewpoint, Sally Goldner discussing Transgender and Bisexual issues and the final presenter of the night was Rebecca Forgasz, Director and CEO of the Jewish Museum of Australia tying the presentations together with an incredible personal account. The forum also had various workshops, which delivered great outcomes for those in the community. The JCCV thanks all the presenters, workshop facilitators and the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria for their support in assisting us deliver this important initiative to the Victorian Jewish Community.



It is important to understand that when we talk about social inclusion, we often refer to those who have a disability, a different sexual orientation or gender identity, and those who are part of a migrant community but often forget that single people can be isolated in society that as well, whether it is the isolation of living in a single household or the perceived social pressure which may arise to be part of a couple.

This year has been a successful and positive year in terms of inclusion for the Victorian Jewish Community but there is still much work to be done. We all have a responsibility to ensure that inclusion becomes instinctive in our mindset.

I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead in 2016 and wish everyone a Happy and Peaceful New Year for 2016 both wherever you are in the world and especially our Jewish homeland forever, Eretz Yisrael.

Am Israel Chai,

Doron Abramovici
Director for Social Inclusion and Community Engagements

JEMP Annual Report 2014



JEMP Inc (Vic) is a Support Agency providing preparedness, planning, response and recovery for Victoria's Jewish Community. As such, **JEMP** is like an insurance providing comfort to our community in knowing we have the relevant cover but hoping that we do not need to call on that cover.

JEMP's Technical Committee [TC] is **JEMP's** operational arm charged with managing emergencies in our community when they occur. **JEMP's** TC meets formally every month with several informal meetings and communications during each month.

The TC comprises respected community members who, between them, have decades of emergency service and business continuity experience. Members of **JEMP's** Technical Committee are Danny Elbaum [Hatzolah], Rabbi Ronnie Figdor, Frank Gaensler, Jennifer Huppert [JCCV and therefore **JEMP** President], Kathy Kaplan OAM, Ronit Lewis [Hatzolah], Justin Lipson [CSG], Andrew Litwinow, David Michelson [Commander], Saul Midler and Ricky Pearl [CSG].

JEMP also acknowledges and thanks Nina Bassat AM [JCCV], Simon Glynn [CSG] and Mike Bookman [Hatzolah] for their valuable contributions to **JEMP** while they held their roles with their respective organisations.

The ongoing challenge for the TC is to maintain its level of readiness in the hope that full activation will not be required. The TC achieves this by undertaking regular tabletop exercises simulating different emergency scenarios to test **JEMP's** readiness, and Plan, at any given moment.

JEMP representatives attend the quarterly meetings of the Emergency Management Meetings of the Cities of Bayside, Glen Eira, Stonnington and Port Phillip. David Michelson also sits on the Southern Metropolitan Region Emergency Response Committee. The Cities of Yarra and Moreland held a combined major training exercise this year to which **JEMP** was invited.

This year, **JEMP** upgraded its radio system thanks to the generosity of the Spotlight Foundation. Our new Motorola Mototrbo Digital Two-Way Radios, operates on the Orion Digital Network which now offers **JEMP**, and the CSG and Hatzolah who also upgraded to these radios and this network, modern technologies, secure access and a far broader reach than did our old Motorola Zion radios.

As in previous years, **JEMP** keeps a record of when and where Jewish Youth, Scout and Camp Sababa Groups go on camp so that, in the event of an emergency, **JEMP** is ready to assist if required. While that invitation is also open to Melbourne's Jewish Day Schools, none, to date, have chosen to share this information with **JEMP**.

To further assist Jewish Youth Groups and Schools, **JEMP's** website provides a raft of resources and guides and offers them the opportunity to work with them to review and/or revise their emergency plans. As in previous years, **JEMP** runs twice yearly pre-camp briefings for Schlichim,

Madrachim and other camp leaders. Jewish Scout Groups and Camp Sababa are also invited to these briefings.

JEMP holds quarterly meetings with Melbourne's Emergency Service Organisations [ESOs]. This year **JEMP** made a concerted effort to expose those organisations – police, ambulance, fire brigade, city council, Red Cross, Department of Human Services and others – to different organisations from our community. The feedback from these meetings has been overwhelmingly positive with the organisations astounded by the breadth and depth of the services and organisation our community provides its members.

Meetings were held at St Kilda Hebrew Congregation, at Hatzolah, at the Holocaust Centre and at Beth Weizmann. Speakers came from those organisations, from Beit Raphael, from the Chevra Kadisha and from Tefilat Channa. **JEMP** also arranged for ESO representatives to tour the Holocaust Museum and the Anne Frank Travelling Exhibition.

As a result of the education provided at these ESO meetings, there have been a number of occasions when the police and some city councils thought to contact **JEMP** to offer assistance with some situations, albeit not 'emergencies'.

JEMP's volunteers commenced planning a Business Continuity Seminar with view to making it available to Jewish organisations and businesses. While the professional commitments of **JEMP's** TC members meant that the seminar was not delivered this year, it is **JEMP's** intention to offer it to our community in 2016.

JEMP's Technical Committee sees Community Recovery and Rehabilitation as the next critical steps following a major emergency with the realisation that such recovery and rehabilitation strategies and processes need to be initiated immediately **JEMP** initiates a response to an emergency. To this end, this work will form part of **JEMP's** 2016 focus.

JCCV Policy Platform

SUBJECT

1	PREAMBLE
2	OUR MANDATE
3	OUR POLICIES
3.1	INTRODUCTION
3.2	THE VICTORIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY
3.3	CULTURAL DIVERSITY
3.4	INTERFAITH RELATIONS
3.5	RACISM IN VICTORIA
3.6	ANTI-RACIST ACTION
3.7	RESPECT
3.8	ANTISEMITISM
3.9	REPORTING OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS
3.10	HOLOCAUST DENIAL
3.11	HOLOCAUST RHETORIC
3.12	HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE
3.13	RESTITUTION
3.14	TERRORISM
3.15	JEWISH EDUCATION
3.16	GENDER EQUITY
3.17	YOUTH REPRESENTATION
3.18	STATE CEREMONIES
3.19	ACCOMMODATION OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES
3.20	JEWISH BURIAL RIGHTS
3.21	GET REFUSAL
3.22	SOCIAL JUSTICE
3.23	MENTAL HEALTH
3.24	INTEGRATION
3.25	ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION
3.26	CLIMATE CHANGE
3.27	STEM CELL RESEARCH
3.28	ISRAEL
3.29	ALCOHOL
3.30	CHILD PROTECTION
3.31	DISABILITY

JCCV Policy Platform

1. PREAMBLE

The Australian Jewish community, of which the Jews of Victoria are such a vital part, differs markedly from other Diaspora Jewish communities as Jews were here right from the beginning of Australian nationhood and have been integral partners in the development of modern Australia.

Jews are at home in this multicultural nation built on migration, a state of affairs that has not always been the Jewish experience elsewhere. More than that, our community has made a recognised, remarkable and perhaps disproportionate contribution to the Australian way of life. Through the efforts of talented and hardworking individuals and groups, the Australian Jewish community is proud of the part it has played in the many cultural, political, social and economic achievements of this great diverse country.

Long the largest Jewish community in Australia, Victorian Jews have played a major part in this wonderful story as military leaders, Governors-General, judges, philanthropists, captains of industry, presidents of football clubs and 'ordinary' men and women. Thus Jewish lives, beliefs and traditions have helped to shape both Victoria and Australia.

2. OUR MANDATE

Our constitution sets out the aims and objectives of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria.

In essence, our mandate is:

- to be the roof body and official voice of the Jewish community of Victoria on lay matters
- to advance its unity
- to work to achieve its goals
- to partner others to ensure the continuity and development of our community's religious, spiritual, cultural and social heritage.

Through consultation, advocacy and working with government, other faith and ethnic communities, the media, service providers and the general public, the JCCV seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

- A better society by promoting understanding and cooperation between all faiths
- Facilitation of harmony and positive relationships between the various elements of the Victorian Jewish community and between our community and the larger community
- A positive perception of Jews in Victoria
- Greater understanding of and respect for the Jewish way of life
- A thriving local Jewish community
- A safer local Jewish community
- Zero community tolerance of racism in general and antisemitism in particular
- Contributing to social justice in Victoria

- Wider knowledge and appreciation of the Shoah (Holocaust) and its lessons
- In partnership with the State Zionist Council of Victoria:
 - A more sophisticated public understanding of Israel's efforts to achieve peace and security
 - Effective counteraction of misinformation on Israel, the Middle East and the Arab/Israel conflict
 - A better informed public understanding of Israel in relation to contemporary Jewish identity
- Working with Jews in other States and Territories to achieve these objectives at a national level through the Executive Council of Australian Jewry.

3. OUR POLICIES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The current policy platform of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria is outlined below.

Its development has not been an easy task. Our community is heterogeneous and hence has a multitude of views. Nonetheless, there are certain issues on which we are largely united. These include the significance of Israel in Jewish life, a commitment to Jewish continuity and the importance of Jewish education for our children.

While recognising the diversity of the Victorian Jewish community, these policies seek to embody the majority beliefs and values of our community. These, we believe, enhance general Australian values of democracy, the rule of law, the freedom, rights and responsibilities of the individual, understanding and respect, and a fair go for all.

3.2 THE VICTORIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY

This Council:

- 3.2.1 RECOGNISES the distinctive character of the Victorian Jewish community as part of the Jewish people in Australia and elsewhere, with a shared history, culture and religious tradition.
- 3.2.2 RECOGNISES Victorian Jewry as a vital and vibrant component of a culturally diverse Australian society.
- 3.2.3 RECOGNISES the pluralistic nature of Victorian Jewry and its complex nature due to diverse languages, cultural origin and countries of origin.
- 3.2.4 RECOGNISES that the JCCV is the sum of its affiliates and the need for regular, appropriate and ongoing consultation with the latter.

JCCV Policy Platform

- 3.2.5 ACKNOWLEDGES that skilled professional expertise is crucial to the effective and efficient delivery of services and support within the organised Jewish community and the need to provide relevant professional development and encouragement of Jewish professional involvement in community organisations.
- 3.2.6 ACKNOWLEDGES that volunteerism is the backbone of organised Jewish communal life and the need to provide all possible support for and recognition of volunteers.
- 3.2.7 ACKNOWLEDGES the diversity of Jewish organisations in Victoria, which cater to a wide range of interests and needs within the Jewish community and are an indication of its strength.
- 3.2.8 ACKNOWLEDGES the right of any Jewish organisation to identify as an ethnic organisation due to the choice of the membership of that organisation or due to specific aims, objectives and programs consistent with policies and programs of the government relating to ethnic affairs.
- 3.2.9 ACKNOWLEDGES the right of any Jewish organisation to identify as a faith organisation due to the choice of the membership of that organisation or due to specific aims, objectives and programs consistent with policies and programs of the government relating to religious affairs.
- 3.2.10 VALUES the friendly cooperation and cordial relationship between Victorian Jewry and ethnic groups and roof bodies within Victoria.
- 3.2.11 VALUES the friendly cooperation and cordial relationship between Victorian Jewry and faith groups and roof bodies within Victoria.
- 3.2.12 ENCOURAGES close liaison between Jewish organisations and ethnic, faith and other Victorian groups in the pursuit of common policies in the best interests of the entire Victorian community.
- 3.3 CULTURAL DIVERSITY**
- This Council:
- 3.3.1 AFFIRMS its support for Federal and Victorian policies of cultural diversity, which have benefited all citizens as a building block of social cohesion.
- 3.3.2 CALLS ON Federal and Victorian governments to confirm their commitment to cultural diversity as a policy which respects the right of all Australians to express their individual cultural identity, and to maintain and share their cultural heritage, within the framework of an overriding commitment to Australia, the basic values of Australian democracy and the rule of law.
- 3.3.3 COMMENDS government policy of ensuring access and equity in the provision of government services, including the provision of mechanisms to address the barriers faced by immigrants not yet familiar with Australian culture and language.
- 3.3.4 ACKNOWLEDGES the diversity of cultural expressions within the Jewish community and supports the furtherance of diverse cultural activity.
- 3.3.5 CALLS UPON Jews and Jewish organisations to support others whose views they disagree with but whose presence is constructive for diversity within the community
- 3.3.6 RECOGNISES the centrality of language to cultural transmission and calls upon members and elements of the community to increase their learning and daily use of Jewish languages.
- 3.4 INTERFAITH RELATIONS**
- This Council:
- 3.4.1 WELCOMES the development of multi-faith events and contacts between bodies representing many diverse faith groups.
- 3.4.2 APPLAUDS activities which improve the basis for dialogue between Jews and other faith groups.
- 3.4.3 NOTES past efforts at improving Jewish-Muslim relations, particularly those which have recognised common concerns in human rights areas such as religious liberty, racial tolerance and recognition of religious rights.
- 3.4.4 SUPPORTS dialogue and cooperation between representatives of the Jewish community and all other faith communities with a view to common action for communal tolerance and inter-community cooperation.
- 3.4.5 CALLS on all Australians to respect the dignity and right of all people to maintain their own religious traditions.
- 3.4.6 SUPPORTS the expansion of the dialogue process to include other partner organisations representing religious communities.

JCCV Policy Platform

- 3.5 RACISM IN VICTORIA**
- This Council:
- 3.5.1 CONDEMNS all manifestations of racist action and speech.
- 3.5.2 SUPPORTS public programs to educate Victorians regarding the senselessness and immorality of racism.
- 3.5.3 CALLS ON leaders of all mainstream political parties to consistently articulate a vision which embraces cultural diversity and which guarantees dignity and rights for all Victorians.
- 3.5.4 CALLS ON all mainstream political parties to place racist, divisive and extremist candidates in the last positions when allocating electoral preferences.
- 3.5.5 CALLS on political, civil and religious leaders to play public leadership roles in emphasising the unacceptability of racism.
- 3.6 ANTI-RACIST ACTION**
- This Council:
- 3.6.1 NOTES the activities of extremist organisations, the currency of various racist myths and the tolerance given to racist comment by some sections of the mainstream media.
- 3.6.2 NOTES that racial vilification and racial violence in Victoria have intensified since September 11, 2001.
- 3.6.3 ACKNOWLEDGES that effective responses to racism include moral and political leadership from public figures; legislation to make clear that racism is unacceptable and to give recourse to its victims; and on-going public education.
- 3.6.4 COMMENDS those public figures who have taken a leadership position against racism and antisemitism.
- 3.6.5 COMMENDS the Victorian Government for legislating against anti-religious and racial activity.
- 3.6.6 CALLS ON state and federal law enforcement agencies to urgently upgrade the capacity to pursue and apprehend the perpetrators of acts of racist violence and vandalism and to fund both public and Jewish communal strategies to achieve those ends.
- 3.7 RESPECT**
- This Council:
- 3.7.1 ACKNOWLEDGES the distinctive character of the Victorian Jewish community as part of the Jewish people worldwide, with a shared history, culture and religious tradition.
- 3.7.2 RECOGNISES that irrespective of the common traits that bind us as a community, Victorian Jewry is also diverse and pluralistic and that this is reflected in different, often strongly held views, on a range of issues affecting the Jewish and larger communities.
- 3.7.3 CALLS FOR respect for any such differences, while affirming that disagreement is only permissible in ways that do not vilify other persons or their views.
- 3.7.4 CALLS FOR abstention from any public or private conduct that incites hatred against, serious contempt for, revulsion, vilification or severe ridicule of, another person or group on the ground of their identity (including race, religion, colour, disability, sexual orientation, gender and national origin) or views of that other person or group.
- 3.8 ANTISEMITISM**
- This Council:
- 3.8.1 EXPRESSES ALARM at the escalation in acts of antisemitism in Victoria including assaults on Jewish people, attacks on synagogues and other Jewish institutions and on homes and businesses owned by Jews.
- 3.8.2 NOTES that extremist left and right-wing organisations have encouraged their supporters to work together with extremist elements within other communities.
- 3.8.3 CONDEMNS the prevalence of anti-Jewish rhetoric in elements of the mass-media which hides behind criticisms of Israel.
- 3.8.4 CALLS ON the government of Victoria to take all necessary steps to protect Jewish citizens and communal property and to prevent other acts of anti-Jewish incitement.
- 3.8.5 COMMENDS Victoria Police for agreeing to establish an Intelligence Crime Desk at the Moorabbin Divisional Intelligence Unit to monitor and report antisemitic incidents and offences committed against the Victorian Jewish community.

JCCV Policy Platform

3.9 REPORTING OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

This Council:

- 3.9.1 NOTES the importance of the Jewish community's state and national leadership having an accurate picture of the nature and extent of antisemitic violence, vandalism, intimidation and harassment in both Victoria and Australia.
- 3.9.2 URGES all members of the public to report all incidents of an antisemitic nature, whether crimes or not, to the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission and the Community Security Group.

3.10 HOLOCAUST DENIAL

This Council:

- 3.10.1 NOTES that individuals and organisations in Victoria propagate Holocaust denial to attack the Jewish community.
- 3.10.2 NOTES the deception employed by Holocaust deniers in the way they present their hatred in quasi-academic guise.
- 3.10.3 CALLS ON Jewish organisations to continue the policy of not engaging Holocaust deniers in any public debate which could give credence to Holocaust denial but to clearly and publicly identify Holocaust deniers as people engaged in antisemitism, racism and promotion of extremist ideologies.

3.11 HOLOCAUST RHETORIC

This Council:

- 3.11.1 RECOGNISES that the Holocaust, the Nazi program of genocide, was a unique historical event.
- 3.11.2 NOTES that the Holocaust is generally recognised as the benchmark of human evil.
- 3.11.3 DEPLORES the inappropriate use of terminology relating to the Nazi Genocide in Australian public debate.

3.12 HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

This Council:

- 3.12.1 ENCOURAGES public remembrance of Kristallnacht, Yom Hashoa and UN Holocaust Memorial Day.

- 3.12.2 CALLS on the Victorian Department of Education to ensure that all students obtain a basic knowledge of the events of the Holocaust in order to gain an understanding of the dangers of ideological hatred.

3.13 RESTITUTION THIS COUNCIL:

- 3.13.1 APPLAUDS the efforts of those working for the rights of survivors, their heirs and the Jewish world in the areas of restitution and restoration of property and true recording of the history of the Holocaust.
- 3.13.2 CALLS for the resolution of all outstanding claims with a minimum of administrative cost or delay, and for priority in the application of funds for the benefit of survivors and the heirs of victims.

3.14 TERRORISM THIS COUNCIL:

- 3.14.1 JOINS in mourning the victims of terrorism in Israel and throughout the world, and extends condolences to the relatives and friends of those who have been murdered, and sympathy and wishes full recovery to the injured.
- 3.14.2 SUPPORTS local efforts to prevent terrorist attacks, including the enactment of effective anti-terrorism laws, the application of resources for efficient investigative processes, and local participation in the international war against terrorism.
- 3.14.3 NOTES the importance of legislation designed to counter terrorism and to provide security properly recognising the required balance between human rights and law enforcement.
- 3.14.4 APPLAUDS governmental activity to ensure that the cohesion of Australia's multicultural society is not prejudiced in the undertaking of anti-terrorism activities.

3.15 JEWISH EDUCATION

This Council:

- 3.15.1 NOTES that the Victorian Jewish community maintains a number of private day schools which are essential to Jewish learning and our community's continuity.
- 3.15.2 STRESSES the importance of Jewish day schools having high quality Jewish and Israel Studies and Jewish languages curricula.

JCCV Policy Platform

- 3.15.3 NOTES that the provision by the United Jewish Education Board of Jewish education to Jewish students who do not attend Jewish day schools in Victoria is essential to ensuring Jewish learning and our community's continuity for those outside of the Jewish day school movement.

- 3.15.4 CALLS ON all Victorian Jewish Day Schools, the United Jewish Education Board and Jewish Youth groups to substantially increase the teaching of contemporary issues facing Israel and world and Australian Jewry in programs offered at primary and secondary levels.

- 3.15.5 RECONFIRMS the responsibility of leaders of Victorian Jewry to strive to ensure that no Jewish child is denied full-time Jewish education due to financial considerations; and the continued responsibility of leaders of Victorian Jewry to support organisations that provide Jewish education of children who are outside of the Jewish day school system to ensure Jewish continuity for all.

- 3.15.6 CALLS ON Jewish communal and fund-raising organisations to explore additional methods of alleviating financial constraints affecting Jewish day school education and the ability of Jewish day schools to provide the highest quality Jewish education.

- 3.15.7 NOTES the importance of and encourages participation in Adult Jewish education opportunities such as those offered by Melton and Limmud Oz.

3.16 GENDER EQUITY

3.16.1 This Council:

- a. RECOGNISES the leadership capability and commitment to be found within the Jewish community in Victoria;
- b. Recognises the need for people in leadership positions to possess appropriate qualifications and experience; and
- c. Having read to the above, seeks to reflect gender equity in its leadership positions.

- 3.16.2 To this end the Council commits to achieving gender equity in its elected representatives including:

- The committee of management of the Council (Executive); and
- Victorian Councillors to the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (Councillors)

3.17 YOUTH REPRESENTATION

This Council:

- 3.17.1 RECOGNISES that the involvement of younger community members is of vital importance to the success of Jewish continuity.

- 3.17.2 NOTES with concern the lack of youth representation on most communal bodies.

- 3.17.3 CALLS on constituent bodies to encourage youth involvement.

- 3.17.4 CALLS on Jewish communal bodies to support and work with youth groups and movements to prepare an action plan to develop strategies to encourage youth participation on communal bodies.

- 3.17.5 RECOGNISES the important social, cultural and educational contribution over many years made by our many organised Jewish youth movements and calls on affiliate groups to support their work into the future.

- 3.17.6 ENCOURAGES the organised Jewish youth movements to encourage their members to grow into broader community leadership roles.

3.18 STATE CEREMONIES

This Council:

- 3.18.1 CALLS ON the State Government to recognise that state ceremonies, celebrations and memorials should be inclusive and not make use of religious words and symbols that may effectively exclude some Australian citizens.

3.19 ACCOMMODATION OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

This Council:

- 3.19.1 NOTES decisions by a number of instrumentalities which recognise and support the right of all staff to meet their religious and ceremonial obligations, regardless of religious, ethnic or cultural background.

- 3.19.2 RECOGNISES the right of all Victorians to observe religious and ceremonial obligations.

- 3.19.3 CALLS UPON government and employers organisations to respect and support, as a matter of policy, the right of employees to meet the obligations of their beliefs.

JCCV Policy Platform

- 3.19.4 CALLS UPON Government to ensure that religious and ceremonial obligations can be observed without attracting the threat of loss of employment.
- 3.19.5 CALLS UPON Government and statutory bodies to take religious holy days and dietary requirements into consideration when planning public events.

3.20 JEWISH BURIAL RIGHTS

This Council:

- 3.20.1 NOTES Jewish law and tradition require burial in perpetuity.
- 3.20.2 NOTES that a grave containing human remains is demarcated as the final resting place of the person concerned and the integrity of the grave must not be altered without explicit Rabbinic authority.
- 3.20.3 REAFFIRMS the need to maintain arrangements for Jewish burials in perpetuity and calls on cemetery authorities to respect this requirement; and
- 3.20.4 CALLS UPON State Governments to plan for and ensure sufficient land is allocated for Jewish communities to bury their dead in accordance with Jewish communal requirements.

3.21 GET (DIVORCE) REFUSAL THIS COUNCIL:

- 3.21.1 RECOGNISES the invidious situation of the agunah (wife refused a divorce).
- 3.21.2 URGES the members of the Rabbinical Council of Victoria and the Melbourne Beth Din to collaborate with their counterparts in Australia and elsewhere to seek an acceptable solution to deliberate Get refusal.

3.22 SOCIAL JUSTICE

This Council:

- 3.22.1 RECOGNISES the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and encourages its affiliate organisations to uphold the principles therein.
- 3.22.2 RECOGNISES that there are many people within the Jewish and wider communities who are members of socially disadvantaged groups.
- 3.22.3 NOTES that there are individuals prohibited from full involvement in Jewish communal life due to their membership of socially disadvantaged groups.

- 3.22.4 ACKNOWLEDGES its duty to ameliorate the social disadvantage and hence individual distress of Victorian Jews through support of its affiliate organisations.
- 3.22.5 URGES its affiliate organisations to be conscious of and to cater for the needs of socially disadvantaged Jews.
- 3.22.6 ACKNOWLEDGES its duty to ameliorate the social disadvantage of members of the broader Victorian community by working in concert with faith, ethnic and other groups.

3.23 MENTAL HEALTH

This Council:

- 3.23.1 RECOGNISES that there are members of the Victorian Jewish Community with mental health issues which require different types and levels of response.
- 3.23.2 RECOGNISES the need to destigmatise these members of our community
- 3.23.3 SUPPORTS those affiliates whose members possess professional qualifications (recognised under the Health Professionals Registration Act, 2005, Victoria) who provide specialist services and expertise within a Jewish ethos (assessment/diagnosis/treatment; community education and referrals) to those in the community with and/or affected by mental health issues.
- 3.23.4 SUPPORTS those affiliates whose members while not professionally qualified in this field provide support services within a Jewish ethos to those in the community with and/or affected by mental health issues.

3.24 INTEGRATION

This Council:

- 3.24.1 NOTES that the Jewish community includes Jewish immigrants who are on the fringes of the organised community structure.
- 3.24.2 RESOLVES to support affiliate organisations in taking active steps to absorb and integrate these immigrants into our community's core.

JCCV Policy Platform

3.25 ABORIGINAL RECONCILIATION

This Council:

- 3.25.1 RECOGNISES Indigenous people as the first Australians, with unique cultures, languages and spiritual relationships to the land and waters.
- 3.25.2 PURSUES a vision of an Australia that provides equal rights and life chances for all.
- 3.25.3 AFFIRMS the fundamental importance of reconciliation as the basis of an Australian Community which respects the diversity of values, cultures, ideas and the contribution of all people.
- 3.25.4 SUPPORTS programs that encourage organisations and individuals to turn their good intentions into action. Areas for action may include the Council using its networks to:
- Raise community awareness and understanding of the historic, social and economic factors which contribute to the current levels of disadvantage confronting many Indigenous people and communities.
 - Influence governments and business to address the systemic issues that keep many Indigenous people and their communities in poor health and poverty.
 - Support human rights based approaches to economic and social development programs in Indigenous communities; and
 - Lead inter-faith alliances to develop and provide targeted financial and capacity building support to selected projects which strengthen Indigenous organisations' governance, management, service delivery and professional development.
- 3.25.5 ENCOURAGES the Jewish community to increase its knowledge and understanding of the identity and experiences of Indigenous peoples and reflect this awareness in our social relationships and our support for their advancement.
- 3.25.6 CALLS UPON the government, business and civil communities and people of Victoria to take action to reduce the relative disadvantage many Indigenous people may face by improving education, health, housing, employment, governance, social and communal relationships and law and justice
- 3.25.7 ENCOURAGES our affiliates and other Jewish organisations and individuals to support and pursue reconciliation in their activities.

3.26 CLIMATE CHANGE THIS COUNCIL:

- 3.26.1 NOTES that climate change is a major challenge facing Victoria and the world. The current drought, water shortages, bush fires and record temperatures remind all Australians of our nation's vulnerability to climate change.
- 3.26.2 SUPPORTS efforts to bring together Australian faith communities to take action on climate change.
- 3.26.3 DECLARES its support for action to tackle Australia's rising greenhouse gas emissions.

3.27 STEM CELL RESEARCH

This Council:

- 3.27.1 NOTES that leading rabbinic authorities have given their support to the use of existing embryos for stem cell research, mindful that Jewish law concerns itself that such embryos are only appropriately obtained.
- 3.27.2 NOTES that stem cell research offers great hope to many sufferers and contains the potential to rectify painful, debilitating and life shortening genetic conditions.
- 3.27.3 SUPPORTS properly conducted research into the saving of life as a part of our human mandate to act in the image of G-d, to heal and to be merciful.
- 3.27.4 CALLS ON all JCCV affiliates to encourage Victorian Jews to publicly support the opportunities which stem cell research provides as reinforcing and not diminishing the sanctity of life.

3.28 ISRAEL

This Council:

- 3.28.1 AFFIRMS Victorian Jewry's strong and enduring solidarity with Israel and her people.
- 3.28.2 APPLAUDS the Victorian government's relationship and agreements with numerous Israeli governmental institutions, Israeli and public bodies and academic institutions.
- 3.28.3 STRONGLY URGES all Jews, individually as well as communally and institutionally, to visit Israel and schedule events in Israel.
- 3.28.4 APPLAUDS the success of many Israel experience programs operated by Australian Jewish organisations in partnership with Israel.

JCCV Policy Platform

3.29 ALCOHOL

This Council:

- 3.29.1 ACKNOWLEDGES that inappropriate levels of alcohol consumption is a problem within the Victorian Jewish Community, reported anecdotally to be of equal severity to that of the general Victorian Community. The problem is particularly serious amongst our youth from aged 12 years and above, who engage in binge drinking and expose themselves to risk.
- 3.29.2 AFFIRMS its support for the Federal and Victorian Governments' policies and Police initiatives designed to educate the community about the dangers of alcohol consumption, particularly regarding underage drinking
- 3.29.3 RECOGNISES that alcohol can play a part in Jewish religious ceremonies but notes that grape juice is often regarded as a viable alternative for both minors and adults as a non-alcoholic option.
- 3.29.4 ENCOURAGES all Victorian Jewish Schools, youth related groups and organisations to participate in Alcohol Abuse Awareness Programs for their students and parent body.
- 3.29.5 CALLS UPON all Jewish Parents to be appropriate and responsible role models in relation to alcohol use, for their own children and for all children in the Community.
- 3.29.6 CALLS UPON all Jewish communal groups and organisations, as well as leaders in the Community and all individuals to take into account the provision and supply of alcohol when planning events either public or private. It is imperative that adults in the Jewish Community model the responsible supply and use of alcohol.

3.30 CHILD PROTECTION

This Council:

- 3.30.1 AFFIRMS that all children have the right under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child to be protected from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.
- 3.30.2 NOTES that the Victorian Child Wellbeing and Safety Act (2005) establishes inter alia the fundamental principles that:

- i. society as a whole shares responsibility for promoting the wellbeing and safety of children; and
- ii. those who develop and provide services, as well as parents, should give the highest priority to the promotion and protection of a child's safety, health, development, education and wellbeing.
- 3.30.3 ITERATES Jewish values that emphasise the importance of our youth, and Jewish laws that recognise the vulnerability of children and prohibit physical, emotional, verbal and sexual abuse and/or neglect and/or maltreatment of children of any and all kinds from any source.
- 3.30.4 ACKNOWLEDGES that the Jewish community is not immune from the scourge of child abuse in all its forms as well as neglect or the impacts on children growing up in an environment of family violence. Child abuse occurs in all societies, in all faiths, at all socio-economic levels and within all levels of religious observance.
- 3.30.5 ENCOURAGES Jewish communal groups and organisations which work with children to prioritise the development and implementation of child protection policies and procedures, and to provide educational programs for children and adults, to ensure the safety of those children in their care.
- 3.30.6 ENCOURAGES Jewish communal groups and organisations to raise awareness of the prevalence of abuse and promote the safety and protection of children throughout the community.
- 3.30.6 AFFIRMS its support for Recommendation 10 in the Victorian Parliamentary Enquiry into Vulnerable Children, which states:

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development should develop a wide-ranging education and information campaign for parents and caregivers of all school-aged children on the prevention of child sexual abuse.
- 3.30.7 CALLS UPON anyone who has reasonable grounds to suspect, or knowledge that a child is being harmed, or who is at risk of harm, to report it to the appropriate authorities, namely the Department of Human Services or its equivalent and/or Victoria Police.
- 3.30.8 CALLS UPON the Jewish community to do its utmost to assist community members who make disclosures of abuse to find the care, help and support they need, and avoid the imposition of any stigma, ridicule or discrimination by reason of having reported the abuse or having been a victim of such abuse.

JCCV Policy Platform

3.31 DISABILITY

For the purposes of this Policy, "disability" has the meaning given to that term in the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic), that is "disability" includes:

- (a) total or partial loss of a bodily function; or
- (b) the presence in the body of organisms that may cause disease; or
- (c) total or partial loss of a part of the body; or
- (d) malfunction of a part of the body, including:
 - (i) a mental or psychological disease or disorder;
 - (ii) a condition or disorder that results in a person learning more slowly than people who do not have that condition or disorder; or
- (e) malformation or disfigurement of a part of the body.

This Council:

- 3.31.1 REFERS to the United Nation's 'Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities' in its recognition that "disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others".
- 3.31.2 IS committed to the principles of Access and Equity set out in the Department Of Human Services' Access and Equity Framework 2013-2017 and inclusion of members of the Victorian Jewish Community who are disadvantaged by disability.
- 3.31.3 RECOGNISES the diverse experience of persons with disability, and that there are members of the Victorian Jewish Community with disabilities, who require different types and levels of response.
- 3.31.4 SUPPORTS the development of projects, which improve opportunity for inclusion and access including: education, training, employment, affordable childcare, assistance with housing, a range of disability and aged care services – support for care-givers; and above all – building up at community levels a network of supportive services, amenities and accessible transport facilities and social mentoring which reduce stigma and social exclusion from the networks and vibrant life of our community. In addition, the JCCV SUPPORTS projects that promote full and effective

participation and inclusion in the community of people with disabilities on an equal basis with others and without discrimination.

- 3.31.5 ACKNOWLEDGES that inclusion of and access for people with a disability to mainstream services, community based activities and other government initiatives, is a shared responsibility and therefore in its role as a roof body calls on organisations within the Victorian Jewish Community to be inclusive, as they would any other constituent.
- 3.31.6 ACKNOWLEDGES that organisations have a legal obligation to make reasonable adjustments when providing services, education or employment for people with disabilities.
- 3.31.7 PROMOTES the adoption of the Companion Card as a mechanism for advancing the policy

Appreciation

The Jewish Community Council of Victoria wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the following sponsors and supporters:

Tisher Liner FC Law, the Council's Honorary Solicitors, and the Auditors for the JCCV, Jack Gaddie & Associates for their assistance during 2015.

Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council	J-Air
Allen Feiglin Graphics	Jewish Care Victoria
Arnold Bloch Leibler	Jewish Christian Muslim Association
Australian Jewish News	Jewish Museum of Australia
Australian Multicultural Foundation	Jewish Holocaust Centre
Henry Benjamin @J-Wire	Katherine Levi
Bialik College	King David School
Andrew Blode	Leibler-Yavneh College
Blake Street Hebrew Congregation	Monash University
B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission	Mount Scopus Memorial College
Mervyn Chait	Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship
City of Glen Eira	Parliamentary Friends of Israel
Community Security Group	Paul Topol Photography
Eastern Press	Peter Haskin Photography
Ecumenical and Interfaith Commission	Peter Unger Catering
Edit-1 Video	Sean Meltzer
Ephraim Finch	Sholem Aleichem College
Estate of Jakob Frenkiel	Spiritual Health Victoria
Executive Council of Australian Jewry	Studio HBD
Randi Grose	Victoria Police
Guests Accounting	Victorian Multicultural Commission
Handcrafted Flowers	Yeshivah Centre
Islamic Council of Victoria	Youth Affairs Council of Victoria
Rabbi Philip Heilbrunn	Zionist Council of Victoria
High Key Productions	Zionist Federation of Australia

and to the many volunteers, working group members and donors whose generosity has been outstanding and gratefully appreciated.

**MONDAY
16 NOVEMBER 2015**
IN THE PRESENCE OF
DR TIM SOUTHPOMMASANE
RACE DISCRIMINATION COMMISSIONER

THE GENERAL SIR JOHN MONASH
AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE
IS BEING PRESENTED TO
TONY LEVY

JCCV YOUNG LEADERSHIP AWARD
LAUREN MANDEL

NOMINATIONS

AUSTRALIAN FORUM OF
RUSSIAN SPEAKING JEWRY
MARINA PROSTAKOVA

BLAKE STREET HEBREW
CONGREGATION
KIM JAFFA

B'NAI B'RITH VICTORIA INC
CLAUDE FROMM

EMMY MONASH AGED CARE
TOM GOROG

JEWISH COMMUNITY ARTS
AND MEDIA
AMIT REHAK

JEWISH CARE VICTORIA INC
DELYSIA PAHOFF

JEWISH LABOR BUND INC
DR DAVID RINGELBLUM

JEWISH TASKFORCE AGAINST
FAMILY VIOLENCE
RONNIT SCHREIBER

KEHILAT NITZAN CONSERVATIVE
(MASORTI) COMMUNITY INC
**DALIA & JOHN
FURSTENBERG**

KING DAVID SCHOOL
MICHAEL LAWRENCE

LEO BAECK CENTRE
MICHAEL POLACK

MACCABI VICTORIA
JUSTIN LIPSON

MELBOURNE HEBREW
CONGREGATION INC
DR VICTOR WAYNE

NCJWA (VIC) INC
VIVIEN BRASS

NORTH EASTERN
JEWISH CENTRE
MARLENE OPPENHEIM

SHALOM ASSOCIATION
BORYS FELDMANN

SHOLEM ALEICHEM COLLEGE
LILLY KOCHEN

ST KILDA HEBREW
CONGREGATION INC
DAVID EDEN

STAND UP
JARROD WHITE

TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL
SUE MORGAN

VAJEX AUSTRALIA INC
JULIE LEDER

ZIONISM VICTORIA
SAM TATARKA

2015 **JCCV** COMMUNITY AWARDS

AWARDS



306 Hawthorn Road
Caulfield South
Victoria 3162 Australia

T 61 3 9272 5566
F 61 3 9272 5560
E community@jccv.org.au

Community Security Group
(CSG) 1300 000 274

Jewish Emergency Management Plan
(JEMP) 1800 18 1816

FOLLOW
JCCV  

www.jccv.org.au