



**“COMPELLED TO REMEMBER”
PROGRAM EXPLORES JEWISH AND ABORIGINAL LEGACIES**

November 1, 2012 – The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) and the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) will co-present *Compelled to Remember*, Sunday, November 4 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto.

Survivors of the Holocaust and Residential Schools, their children and grandchildren will discuss their experiences of historical trauma and injustice, healing and recovery, the work of keeping memories alive, and reconciliation. The program will explore parallels and differences between the Jewish and Aboriginal legacies, and focus on the need of injured communities to remember and to speak.

“This event is a coming together of two communities that know firsthand the lasting effects of racist government policies,” said Commissioner Marie Wilson, who will observe the discussion and offer reflections on behalf of the TRC. “We also know the importance of sharing our truths; a great deal is at stake if these truths can be forgotten or denied.”

Dr. David B. MacDonald, Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Guelph, will facilitate the program.

"While the Holocaust is unique in terms of its lethality and its cold, premeditated intent, there are many lessons that can be applied to other examples of collective trauma and tragedy," he said. "I hope we can learn from Survivors of both the Holocaust and the Indian Residential Schools as we seek to move forward with truth and reconciliation."

Compelled to Remember is generously co-sponsored by the RBC Foundation, and is part of the 32nd annual Holocaust Education Week (HEW) – eight days of educational, cultural and community programs across Greater Toronto and beyond. One of the largest Holocaust educational forums of its kind, Holocaust Education Week features leading international voices in Holocaust history, pedagogy and cultural awareness. See www.holocausteducationweek.com for details.

The Native Canadian Centre of Toronto is located at 16 Spadina Road; the nearest subway stop is Spadina.



The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established as a result of the 2007 Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. Its mandate is to inform all Canadians about what happened in the 150-year history of the Residential Schools, and to guide and inspire a process of reconciliation and renewed relationships based on mutual understanding and respect.

For more information:

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