



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Board of Trustees appoints David Asper as Chair and Leonard Asper as Vice-Chair**

**WINNIPEG, MB. – March 31, 2012** – The Board of Trustees of The Asper Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of David Asper as Chair of The Asper Foundation and Leonard Asper as Vice-Chair.

David Asper, B.A., LL.B., L.L.M. is currently an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Manitoba and Chairman of Creswin Properties. He also serves on the boards of various private companies. He has a strong record of community commitment and philanthropy including leading the process to successfully construct a new stadium for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. He is currently on various community boards and committees including Vice-Chair of the Pan Am Clinic Foundation, member of the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Football Club, Chief Justice of Canada's Advisory Board of the Canadian Judicial Council and the Winnipeg Folk Festival Capital Campaign. Many significant donations and endowments have been established by David and his wife, Ruth, including a lead gift to the University of Toronto Faculty of Law to establish the David Asper Centre for Constitutional Rights as well as at the University of Manitoba, United Way Tomorrow Fund and the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba.

The Asper Foundation was established by the late Israel and Babs Asper z"l in 1983. It is one of Canada's largest private foundations and focuses on major, impactful initiatives in the areas of culture, education, community development and human rights in Canada and Israel. Among its many projects, it was instrumental in creating Canada's fifth national museum, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, the award-winning Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program (which has so far taken 10,500 students and chaperones from across Canada to Washington, D.C. on a life-changing educational journey) and various initiatives in the arts from jazz to ballet to theatre. Along with the Museum, developments such as the Jewish Community Campus, the St. Boniface Hospital Clinical Research Institute and the Lyric Theatre in Assiniboine Park have made a positive difference in Winnipeg. Centres for Entrepreneurship at the University of Manitoba and Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Community Action Centres across Israel, a New Media Centre at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya, Yad Vashem's International School for Holocaust Studies and various initiatives at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem among others have affected the lives of many in Canada and Israel.

The Foundation will continue with its mandate set by its founders to create and develop its own transformational initiatives that will provide a lasting benefit to humankind.