



Musée Holocauste Montréal  
Montreal Holocaust Museum

## INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY MARKED ALONGSIDE SURVIVOR ANGELA OROSZ RICHT AND JOURNALIST LISA LAFLAMME

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Montreal, Monday, January 16, 2023** – This January 27th marks the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, and the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. This camp was the largest Nazi concentration and death camp where over 1.1 million people were killed, including approximately 1 million Jews, 70,000 Poles, and 20,000 Roma and Sinti. In honour of this important anniversary, the Montreal Holocaust Museum (MHM), in partnership with the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, is hosting a public discussion between **Holocaust survivor Angela Orosz Richt** and **journalist Lisa LaFlamme** on **January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Museum.**

This special event is under the patronage of The Asper Foundation, which has made a landmark donation in support of the MHM's educational initiatives about the history of the Holocaust and its human rights legacy. Thanks to a \$300,000 contribution over the next three years, the MHM will be able to train hundreds of Canadian educators and better equip them to teach about the Holocaust. Montreal educators will be invited to attend the January 26<sup>th</sup> event at the Museum and bring Angela's story into their classrooms.

As the world witnesses a rise of antisemitism, racism, and hate, there is tremendous urgency to build better and more informed citizens. Holocaust education and remembrance plays a key role in combatting prejudices, xenophobia, and intolerance today.

"In remembering and sharing the stories of survivors like Angela, we can better understand the uniqueness of each individual experience and fate during the Holocaust," stated Daniel Amar, Executive Director of the Montreal Holocaust Museum. "The diverse stories of survivors and victims help us comprehend that the Holocaust occurred in preventable stages, as well as the role that deep-rooted antisemitism played. We know that hearing a story like Angela's touches listeners of all ages and backgrounds, inspiring them to better identify and combat racism today. We are profoundly grateful to The Asper Foundation for their leadership and support of our mission of Holocaust remembrance and education."

Anita Wortzman, President of The Asper Foundation, commented "The Asper Foundation and the Montreal Holocaust Museum are powerfully linked through our shared mission of what in Hebrew is referred to as Tikkun Olam – taking action to repair the world. Together, we understand the transformative power of Holocaust education and the change it can inspire. Our support of the Museum's role in Holocaust education and teacher training across Canada is a significant step in the promotion of human rights for all, a message that is at the heart of The Asper Foundation."

**About Angela Orosz Richt, Holocaust survivor and volunteer speaker at the MHM:** Angela was born in the Auschwitz concentration camp in December 1944. Her mother Vera was three months pregnant when she was deported to Auschwitz from Hungary in May 1944. Josef Mengele carried out painful experiments on pregnant Vera, but the fetus survived. She delivered Angela with the help of a fellow inmate in an upper bunk of their barrack. Angela weighed two pounds and she was so weak that she did not cry. She went unnoticed until the liberation of the camp on January 27, 1945.

**About Lisa LaFlamme, OC, OOnt, journalist, broadcaster:** Lisa LaFlamme is known for her long and distinguished career as a high-profile television journalist. She was the first woman to host *CTV National News*, a role she held — as chief news anchor and senior editor — for over a decade. She was named Best National News Anchor at the Canadian Screen Awards five times. She has been appointed to the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario.

**About the Montreal Holocaust Museum:** The Montreal Holocaust Museum educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust, while sensitising the public to the universal perils of antisemitism, racism, hate and indifference. Through its Museum, its commemorative programs and educational initiatives, the Montreal Holocaust Museum promotes respect for diversity and the sanctity of human life.

**About The Asper Foundation:** The Asper Foundation was established in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada in 1983 to build upon the philanthropic objectives of Dr. Israel Asper and the Asper family. It undertakes and develops major initiatives in the areas of Jewish charity as well as culture, education, community development and human rights locally, nationally, and internationally.

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