### Background - Montreal’s Jewish Community

Montreal's Jewish community is Quebec's oldest minority culture, itself diverse and composed of several different cultural, linguistic and religious variations. The community grew in successive waves of immigrants: British Sephardic, Eastern European Ashkenazi (mainly Romanian and Russian, including Polish and Ukrainian) from 1881-1914 and lastly the Holocaust survivors post-1945. The community is further diversified with the arrival of North African Jews starting in the mid-1960s, Ethiopian Jews starting in the late 1970s and Former Soviet Union Jews starting in the early 1990s. The community is also aging, recently arrived immigrants and a growing Chasidic population. The community suffered somewhat from the renewal of stalled immigration opportunities and also in part to federal policies of Canada. There now exists in the community the generation of non-Invite community members who are young adults and provided for the United States, Britain and Transcanada and whose young parents had been born in Canada.

### Identity in Transition

**Research Goals**

An examination of community identity in transition; how to reconcile identity elements as defined in an archival outreach programme and the identity promoted by a community partner agency. The end result is often used in literature produced by the parent agency when discussing identity, yet what role does actual Montreal heritage play in providing shape to the imagined community?

**Methodology**

This JPL project is to take it upon itself to use results to assist the community in promoting an identity that is adaptable for the changing demographics but still sustains the needs of the community.

- The JPL project is to provide benchmarks and leadership for cultural sustainability promoting identity based on part of a celebration of origin.

### Study Population (Phase I)

- School aged children, approximately 12-15 years
- Kids of the J-L A through school, camps, or theater outreach classes
- Gathering religious affiliation and practice
- Gathering ethnic background
- Range from third generation (or greater) Canadiens to recently arrived or first-generation immigrants

### Experience Heritage Project

- Created 2008 as part of a long-term revitalization of the JPL and its programme.
- "A portal program that exploits community heritage, media and information library and another advisory for heritage and cultural activity.
- "Teaching goals include easing emphasis on personal connection to community identity, a celebration of origin.

### Defining Factors - Identity Elements in the Jewish Public Library Archives (JPL)

#### Within the Elements

- Art and culture: Montreal’s Jewish cultural and artistic historical background
- Jewish cultural and social opportunities
- Jewish history and culture: Jewish history, culture, and social opportunities
- Jewish periodicals and books: Jewish periodicals, books, and Jewish school books
- Jewish periodicals and books: Jewish periodicals, books, and Jewish school books
- Jewish schools and Jewish day schools: Jewish schools, Jewish day schools, and Jewish school books
- Jewish synagogues and Jewish religious: Jewish synagogues, Jewish religious organizations, and Jewish educational institutions

### Limitations of Research (initial and on-going):

- Collecting and preservation behavior in FED CJA departments has been – and to a point continues to be – politically driven and led by local offices, and local offices are also obligated to fulfill provincial requirements; the politicized history of Quebec mainly focused on the majority of the population, not the minority communities.
- Archives in a unique position to possibly support current identity trends by using the original material that led to those trends. The Archives believes that this exploration of identity supports a greater connection between individual and community.

### DOCUMENT SURVEY

**Identity Category**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status of specific institution or ethnic group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hebraic, Jewish learning, Delphic, Orthodox, Greek, Community, French and Arabic.</td>
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</table>

**Gender and Ethnic Diversity**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Impact of the Archive in Community Engagement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hebrew, etc.) are seldom discussed in literature. Instead, when examined, the groups were discussed as one unit with little exploration of the effects of groups on one another.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Community Engagement**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Impact of the Archive in Community Engagement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semantics of “heritage” in community identity literature rarely contains references to heritage institutions.</td>
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**Philanthropy/Response to Crisis**

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<th>Impact of the Archive in Community Engagement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The changing identity of the community (demographics) at the turn of the 20th century encouraged the founding of the JPL. The changing identity of the community encouraged the founding of the JPL.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Initial Observations

- Identification of identity promoted by the dissemination Heritage programme support not only the JPL’s initiatives and activities but also the ongoing campaigns can but decayed elements of identity, not currently represented but still present in the community.

### Appendices

- Exemplified in a new identity McCallum and the Montreal Jewish Council (JMC) organized the first-ever community-wide heritage programme, the Montreal Jewish Heritage Project (JPL). The project aims to create a new identity for the JPL, providing a framework for the planning and implementation of heritage projects. The project seeks to engage a broader audience by promoting the JPL’s role in preserving and promoting Jewish heritage in Montreal. The programme is designed to capture the themes of identity, community, and heritage in a unique way, allowing for a greater understanding and appreciation of the JPL’s contributions to Jewish culture and community identity.

### References


### Acknowledgments

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### Disclaimer

- The information provided in this document is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Users should consult their own legal advisors for specific advice regarding their situation. The Montreal Jewish Heritage Project (JPL) cannot be held liable for any actions taken or not taken based on the information provided in this document.

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- August 2008