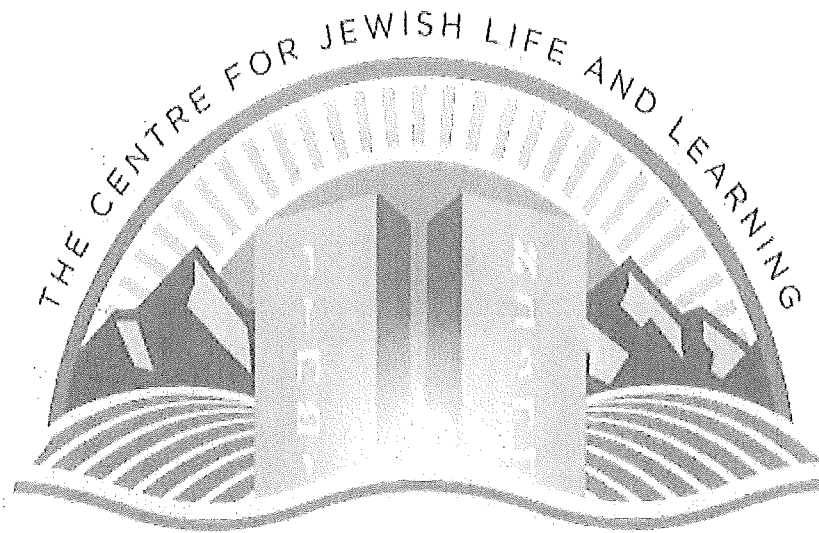


By the Grace of G-d



CHABAD
OF THE OKANAGAN

**2011 Menorah Lighting
Celebration Proposal**

Public Menorah Lighting Proposal | 2011

"In the spirit of Chanukah, all Canadians should endeavour, each in our own way, to add a little more light and freedom to the world."

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper



First-ever public Menorah lighting ceremony at the Prime Minister's residence, 24 Sussex Drive.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper lights the *Shamesh* candle on the first night of Chanukah, December 1st, 2010.

December 1st, 2011

His Worship Mayor Gray and Members of City Council,

I hope this finds you all in good health and happy spirits. I am writing you concerning our proposal for the placement of a Menorah display in honour of the holiday of Chanukah in the area around Kelowna's City Hall.

This year's Chanukah holiday begins on December 20th and runs through the 28th. We propose to set up a large Menorah, and on one of the nights, we would like to arrange for a community-wide Menorah lighting ceremony, to which all are invited, regardless of background or race. We will provide entertainment and, if agreeable, traditional refreshments such as *latkes* (fried potato pancakes) and donuts. The celebration would involve widespread media coverage, and we anticipate the participation of local personalities to help with the celebration. We would be honoured and delighted to have the Mayor himself light the *Shamesh* candle. Afterwards, the Menorah would remain for the duration of Chanukah, each night of the holiday one additional light would be kindled. This is also one of the universal messages that Chanukah has to offer, that every day you must increase in light. Never suffice with what was done previously. "Every living thing must grow"!

The holiday of Chanukah, the "Festival of Lights," is a celebration of a great miracle – the victory of a small, beleaguered Jewish nation over its powerful oppressors who had sought to coerce them into replacing their faith with Hellenism. In lighting the Menorah's lights, we recognize and celebrate the universal values of religious freedom, the triumph of freedom over tyranny, good over evil, right over might, and light over darkness.

Because of these universal messages, for many years now, the Chabad-Lubavitch movement has been displaying the joy of Chanukah in public places such as City Halls, the Legislature, parks, malls, shopping centres and other such public places in over 75 countries around the globe. Chabad has attracted thousands of people to these holiday celebrations, these events have received immense press coverage and have featured appearances from government officials and celebrities. Many such lightings take place annually all across Canada, from British Columbia to Nova Scotia (see attached photos).

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In fact, last year Prime Minister Harper hosted the first-ever public Menorah lighting at his private residence at 24 Sussex Drive, which I myself was invited to attend. (see photo on pg. 2).

We respectfully request Kelowna's City Hall as the site for this first annual Menorah lighting celebration to affirm the universal lessons which the Menorah represents.

I am enclosing pictures of Menorahs from elsewhere around Canada to give you an idea of how successful these public Menorah lightings have been.

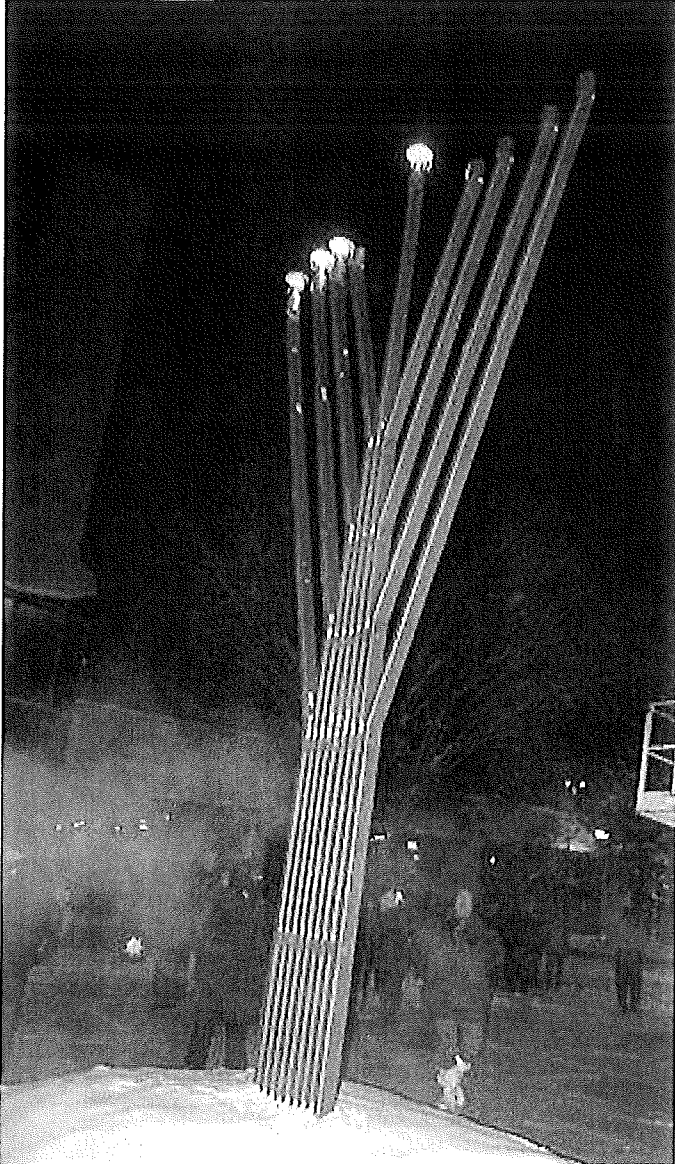
The Jewish population in Kelowna will derive much pleasure and enjoyment from the Menorah. At the same time, I am sure that the wider community will appreciate the broader concept of religious freedom and cultural expression which is embodied in the Menorah. Thus the Menorah will truly enhance and add to the spirit of peace and harmony, which makes Kelowna so special.

Looking forward to working with you to make this holiday season a most meaningful one for all of us.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Shmuel Hecht
Executive Director

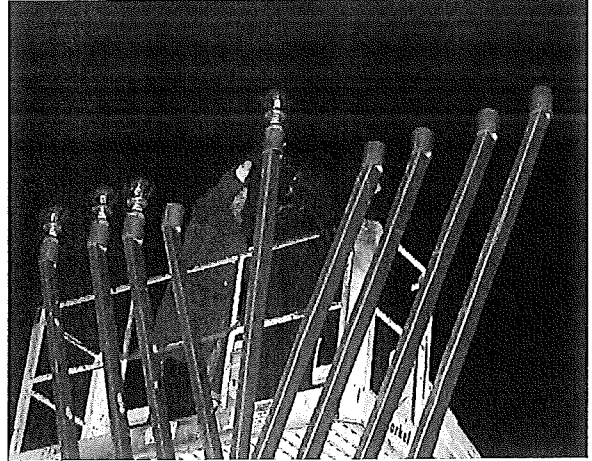
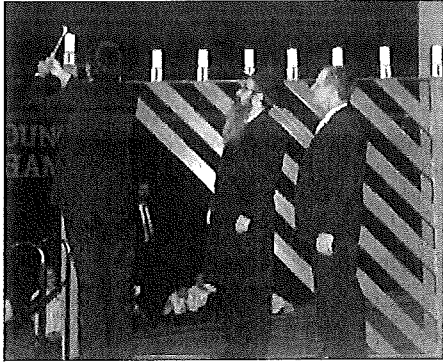
Chabad Lubavitch of Kelowna
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Public Menorah lighting ceremony at the Alberta Legislature, December 11th, 2009.

Premier Ed Stelmach lights a 21' Menorah atop a cherry picker.

The annual event is organized by Chabad of Edmonton.

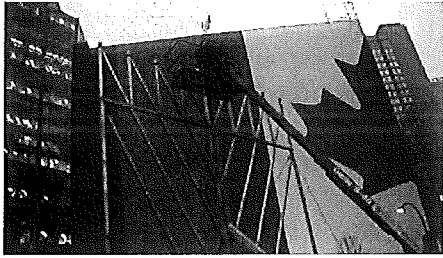


Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi lights the Menorah's *Shamesh* candle at Calgary's City Hall.

The annual event is organized by Chabad of Calgary.



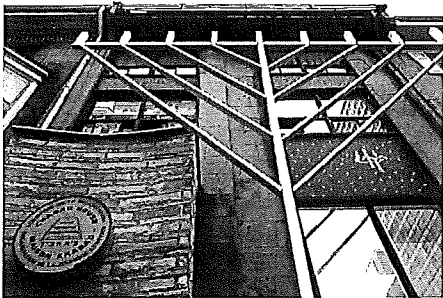
Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi dances with Rabbi Menachem Matusof, executive director of Chabad of Calgary.



Vancouver's 32' Menorah



Toronto



Montreal



Halifax