ANNE FRANK
IN THE WORLD 1929 - 1945

SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN
May 16 - June 30, 2005

Original magazine layout and content courtesy of the
Calgary Anne Frank Exhibit Committee and the Jewish Free Press.
The Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee is proud to be hosting the exhibit, Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945, at the Diefenbaker Canada Centre. This important exhibit was curated by the Anne Frank Foundation, Amsterdam, and comes to us from the Anne Frank Center, New York. It has been viewed by over three million people worldwide.

Bringing the exhibit to our city has been realized through a coalition of some 30 community groups who believe in Anne Frank’s universal and inspirational message that we need to collectively strive towards being a more just and inclusive community.

In Saskatoon, we enjoy a quality of life not experienced by countries facing social upheaval, war and widespread poverty. Yet, poverty, racism and discrimination remain serious problems. When we were approached by the Anne Frank Center about hosting the Anne Frank in the World exhibit, many people saw this as an important opportunity to address the race relations challenges that we face here and now.

Moving, and at times disturbing, the story of one family’s experience in a deadly decade of discrimination and genocide illustrates why communities must take action early against all forms of intolerance and prejudice. We hope that the story of the Holocaust and Anne’s efforts to make sense of what was happening to her family and community will spark a critical examination of the roots of anti-Semitism and other forms of racism. We hope too that Anne’s hopeful and positive message will inspire others to take a more proactive role in building a compassionate community and preventing hate crimes and other bias-related acts.

Anne Frank is an inspiring example of the power of an individual voice. While her own life was cut tragically short, her story also celebrates resistance, perseverance and the triumph of humanity over inhumanity.

We would like to thank the many dozens of volunteers who have given selflessly of their time and the many organizations who have assisted us in raising the funds necessary to bring Anne’s message to Saskatoon. We wish especially to acknowledge and celebrate Mary Miller (1943-2004) who, as Director of the Diefenbaker Canada Centre, was passionate about hosting this exhibition.

The Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee plans to continue the work we have begun together in addressing and healing racism and other forms of discrimination in our community. We welcome your participation.

Michael Gertler
Fellow in Community and Co-operative Development, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, University of Saskatchewan

Monica Goulet
Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Coordinator, City of Saskatoon

Donna Scott, Q.C.
Chief Commissioner, Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission
Why Bring the Exhibit to Saskatoon?

Anne Frank is an inspiring example of the power of an individual voice, and the ability to maintain faith in humanity in the face of prejudice and human destructiveness.

The lessons of her life and her writings will illustrate why discrimination and intolerance are unacceptable, harmful, dangerous, and potentially lethal. Through Anne Frank’s story, it is hoped that a critical examination of prejudice, bias, and discrimination, and their root causes, will provoke understanding in people.

It is hoped that the viewer will take an active role in the prevention of hate crimes and bias-related acts, serious problems that remain in our community.

Who was Anne Frank?

Anne Frank’s name will be forever remembered thanks to the extraordinary diary she kept of her life during a time of war, hatred and persecution.

Born to a Jewish family living in Germany, Anne moved with her family to Amsterdam (Holland) in 1933 in the hopes of avoiding the growing anti-Semitism in Germany. Her life was relatively carefree until Germany invaded Holland in 1940 during the opening months of World War II.

In July 1942, her family was forced into hiding for fear of deportation. The ‘Secret Annex,’ a hidden room above her father’s office, became their new ‘home.’

Anne faithfully recorded the next two years of hiding in her diary. In August 1944, when the ‘Secret Annex’ was discovered, Anne and her family were forcibly sent to concentration camps in Eastern Europe. Anne died of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in March 1945.

Anne’s diary was recovered after the war ended. Her father Otto, the only member of the Frank family to survive the war, published her words for the first time in 1947.

Specific Goals of the Exhibit

- To inform visitors about the history of the Holocaust from the perspective of the Frank family.
- To affirm the need to accord all people just and equal treatment.
- To challenge each individual to think about the links between values and choices, to show what can happen when mutual respect and one’s place in society are not guaranteed, and to urge everyone to be vigilant about the infringement of human rights.

The Exhibit is an ideal vehicle for addressing intolerance; its universal and inspirational message will poignantly remind audiences that we need to collectively strive towards being a more just and inclusive community.
A Message from the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

It is my pleasure to extend greetings on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, upon the opening of the Anne Frank exhibit at the Diefenbaker Canada Centre in Saskatoon.

As we celebrate our Centennial in Saskatchewan, we have so much for which to give thanks, including the fact that most Canadian children have never experienced the horrors of war. We live in one of the world's most privileged nations, where we enjoy rights, freedoms and a standard of living that are unimaginable by billions. It is often easy to take our good fortune for granted.

The Anne Frank exhibit is an excellent opportunity for Canadians of all ages, and particularly young people, to learn about a dark period of history through the eyes of a teenager. This fascinating exhibit also raises important issues about racism that are as relevant in 2005 in Saskatchewan as they were in 1944 in Europe.

I wish to thank the City of Saskatoon, the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission, and the many sponsors for bringing this informative and meaningful project to Saskatoon.

Dr. L.M. Haverstock
Lieutenant Governor
Province of Saskatchewan

A Message from the City of Saskatoon Mayor

As Mayor of Saskatoon it is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all visitors to the Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945 exhibit.

I am encouraged that you have taken the opportunity to participate in this important remembrance of the Holocaust. By learning the story of Anne Frank we can attempt to comprehend the hardship and suffering endured, and understand the strength and courage of the heroic individuals from this tragic era in history.

Each and every one of us plays a vital role in ensuring that there is zero tolerance for racism and discrimination in our community. One of the City of Saskatoon’s core values is to work with community organizations, business and labour, all orders of government, and other stakeholders to create an inclusive community, where cultural diversity is welcomed and valued, and where everyone can live with dignity and to their full potential, without facing racism or discrimination.

To the Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee, friends and supporters, I offer my thanks and appreciation for your efforts in bringing this thought provoking exhibit to our community.

Sincerely,
Donald J. Atchison
Mayor
A Message from the Premier of Saskatchewan

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I am very pleased to welcome everyone to the *Anne Frank in the World* travelling exhibit.

This incredible exhibit uses Anne Frank’s story, through her own words and carefully selected photographs, to carry her message of compassion, respect and justice to the world – a message we could all do well to heed. This remarkable young woman once said, “I keep my ideals, because in spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart.” Given what she had to endure, this message is even more poignant and important.

This is, indeed, an auspicious year for our province to welcome this exhibit. For, as we celebrate Saskatchewan’s 100th anniversary, we look back to the past and ahead to the future. Ms. Frank’s story reminds us of the hope that can prevail in even the darkest of circumstances, and that we should not forget the past, but use the knowledge so gained to build a better future for everyone.

Our province’s motto is, “From many peoples strength,” and there is no doubt that our people are our greatest strength. We are an innovative and tolerant people who want to live in peace and harmony with each other, who value equal rights and opportunities for all, and who accept and celebrate our differences as well as our similarities. Ms. Frank’s story serves as a strong reminder of our commitment to each other.

I want to commend the members of the Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee, the City of Saskatoon, and all those who worked so tirelessly to bring this important exhibit to Saskatoon.

Lorne Calvert
Premier
I am honoured to bring greetings on behalf of the Saskatchewan Department of Justice to all visitors to the Anne Frank in the World exhibit.

Anne Frank’s story, combined with haunting images of Nazi terror and the Holocaust, serve as a sobering reminder of how blessed we are to live in a free country. The events captured in this exhibit demonstrate man’s capacity for evil when racism and hatred are allowed to flourish within society. Never before have we seen such inhumanity and cruelty within a generation, and hopefully we will never see it again.

The events of the Holocaust force us to recognize the importance of human rights and the role of our justice system in protecting and maintaining those rights within society. The greatest test of our system of justice is guaranteeing the rights of citizens and inspiring their trust and confidence in that system.

The magnitude of injustice that took place during the dark days of the Holocaust is almost inconceivable. It has echoed throughout history and will continue to do so for generations to come, if only as a reminder of how such inhumanity affects us all. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”

As we celebrate our Centennial and look to the future, we must do so with hope. If a young Anne Frank could find hope within her dire circumstances, we can most certainly do the same with great courage and thanksgiving. My hope is that we, as a province, can lead this country in the cause of social justice to help ensure a peaceful, tolerant, and compassionate society for generations to come.

I would like to congratulate the Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee, the City of Saskatoon, and everyone who dedicated themselves to bring this important exhibit to Saskatchewan.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Quennell, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
On behalf of the University of Saskatchewan, I am very pleased to welcome the Anne Frank exhibit to the Diefenbaker Canada Centre on the University of Saskatchewan campus.

This dynamic exhibit on the life and experiences of Anne Frank from 1929-1945 will be of interest to many people in the Saskatchewan community, and bringing it to Saskatoon provides them with an opportunity to see this very unique exhibit.

The University of Saskatchewan believes that diversity and multiculturalism are integral to the success of this province and this exhibit will compel the people of Saskatchewan to explore their own experiences with discrimination.

I applaud all of those involved in organizing this exhibition and encourage as many people as possible to take advantage of this educational and revealing display.

With best wishes,

Peter MacKinnon
President

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A Message from the Congregation Shir Chadash

We are proud to participate with the more than 30 agencies and diverse organizations, which have worked tirelessly through the Steering Committee, to bring the world-class “Anne Frank in the World” exhibit to Saskatoon.

Congratulations to the Steering Committee. Your dedication and hard work is an example of what our community can do when we embrace cultural diversity and harmony. We also thank the Diefenbaker Canada Centre for its generosity in hosting this exhibit.

The story of Anne Frank is powerful. It has come not only to symbolize those horrors and atrocities of the Holocaust, but has also served to provide us with an example of how non-Jewish people risked their lives to help others.

As we commemorate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the death camps and the end of World War II, fewer survivors of the Holocaust remain to bear witness to those horrific events. This exhibit honors the memory of those who perished and shows gratitude to those who reached out in the face of adversity. It provides the citizens of Saskatoon with an opportunity to learn from the past, and to develop principles and hope for the future.

In Saskatoon, we have our own challenges and opportunities. As we acknowledge those issues, we must resolve to take action so that healing can truly happen. As the famous philosopher George Santayana said: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

May we all find visiting “Anne Frank in the World” an inspiration for Shalom…peace.

Linda Epstein
President

Congregation Shir Chadash was established in 2000. It provides a group of Jewish people with the opportunity to worship in both egalitarian and traditional services within a kosher environment.
A Message from the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority

On behalf of the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA), I am pleased to welcome the Anne Frank exhibit to the city of Saskatoon.

Miskâsowin represents the value of finding one's sense of origin and belonging. The goal of this principle is to celebrate a positive sense of origin and belonging among all us in a uniquely First Nations organization, driven by First Nations culture and values.

Wîtaskêwin, another of our powerful guiding principles, speaks to living together in harmony and sharing our success. The exhibit will challenge us to explore our own experiences with discrimination.

I would like to congratulate the Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee, as you have dedicated your time and resources in organizing this project. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the visitors of this exhibit and hope you find the experience moving.

Sincerely,
Edmund Bellegarde
SIGA CEO/President

A Message from the Congregation Agudas Israel

The congregation is very pleased to be partners with so many fine organizations and individuals who are dedicated to making our community a better, safer place for everyone. The story of Anne Frank illustrates the need for each one of us to maintain and extend the umbrella of human rights. Hate is so easy to spread.

Canada is often held aloft as an example of many peoples living together in harmony, as a country where everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the bounty from education, health care, and justice. We should be proud of our collective successes but we must also admit that there is much more to be done. Canadian history and recent events can too easily provide many examples of discrimination, racism and injustice.

Inspiration is, literally, the breath of the divine. We hope that each visitor will be inspired to recognize and react to all forms of discrimination and intolerance. In this way, our community and our world can be healed.

Shalom,
David Katzman
Congregation Agudas Israel

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

8 Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945  Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, May 16 - June 30, 2005
A Message from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations

On behalf of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Member Nations, Executive, Senate and staff, I am pleased to support the Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee.

I would like to congratulate those who have dedicated their time in organizing and bringing this opportunity to the Province of Saskatchewan. This exhibit promises to be unique, as it will share the life of Anne Frank and the challenges she faced and it is an opportunity to learn.

Men and women from across Canada joined the ranks of the military to combat against racism. Many of these men and women were First Nations and believed in the cause that they were fighting. Veterans from across Canada, including First Nations Veterans, traveled overseas this year to commemorate VE-Day and to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. We need to reflect on the sacrifices these people gave and learn from their experiences.

I would like to extend my greetings to everyone and hope they find this experience truly significant.

Chief Alphonse Bird

A Message from the Saskatoon Tribal Council

First Nations people believe all life coming from the Creator is to be respected. We denounce the Holocaust. We abhor the mistreatment of any person, but especially of children. It repulses me to think of innocent children being locked up in concentration camps and starved.

We, as First Nations people, want to honor the memory of a little Jewish girl because of her immense courage. We want to thank the City of Saskatoon, Mayor Don Atchison and Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Coordinator Monica Goulet for their hard work in bringing this world-class exhibit here to our city.

I believe the Anne Frank display will inspire courage in the people who see it, those who read the words of a brave child in hiding. It’s almost unfathomable that her little diary – the pages once scattered as she was torn from her sanctuary – will be right here in our midst. The words she put to paper will touch our First Nations and Métis people. These are words that will inspire those cast into any kind of ghetto – just as the Jews were in many European cities.

What we will see in this exhibit demonstrates the tremendous will of people to survive. I am continually awed by the courage that comes out of people.

Anne spoke of the “chaos, suffering and death” all around her, but she said when she looked up to the sky she somehow felt everything would “change for the better and that this cruelty too shall end, that peace and tranquility will return once more.”

I believe the Anne Frank exhibit will help us look to the sky.

I would like to send sincere thanks to the Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee on behalf of the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

Tribal Chief Glenn Johnstone
Thank you to our Sponsors

We wish to acknowledge and thank all of the individuals and organizations that have graciously donated funds and services in-kind. We would not have been able to make this dream become a reality without your support!

Department of Saskatchewan Justice
Saskatoon Tribal Council
Government of Canada
Cameco (Secret Annex)
Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
Saskatoon StarPhoenix
Saskatchewan Department of First Nations & Métis Government Relations
Saskatchewan Lotteries
B’nai Brith, Saskatoon
City of Saskatoon
Mendel Art Gallery
Diefenbaker Canada Centre
President’s Office, University of Saskatchewan
United Community Funds of Saskatoon
Congregation Agudas Israel
CP Rail, Saskatchewan Service Area
Saskatoon Foundation (Art Smart)
Sherwood Chevrolet
University Secretary’s Office, University of Saskatchewan
Native Law Centre, University of Saskatchewan
Department of Sociology, University of Saskatchewan
Congregation Shir Chadash Sisterhood
Saskatoon Public School Division
Saskatoon Catholic School Division
Saskatoon Police Service
College of Law, University of Saskatchewan
Sheraton Cavalier
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AMJ Campbell
Official Transporter of the Anne Frank Exhibit
901-57th Avenue N.E., Calgary  Toll free: 1-800-661-3993
The Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee Membership

**Secretariat and Co-conveners:**
City of Saskatoon Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Office
Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission

B’nai Brith, Saskatoon
Congregation Agudas Israel
Congregation Shir Chadash
Diefenbaker Canada Centre
Eagle Feather News
Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research
Government of Canada
Mendel Art Gallery
Native Access to Nursing Program, U.of S. and SIAST
Persephone Theatre
Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority
Saskatchewan Intercultural Association
Saskatchewan Learning
Saskatoon Catholic School Division
Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation (Brokers)
Saskatoon Community Youth Arts Programming
Saskatoon Public Library
Saskatoon Public School Division
Saskatoon Tribal Council
Shir Chadash Sisterhood
United Way of Saskatoon
University of Saskatchewan

**Participating Schools**

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This magazine will be available free of charge for all visiting students thanks to the generous donation of Elaine and Sherwood Sharfe.
Coming Together - Uniting Projects
Events Coinciding with Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945

The Saskatoon Foundation and the Mendel Art Gallery Present...

DiverCity
DiverCity is an exhibition at the Mendel Art Gallery featuring Celebrating Culture panels created by the students of St. Goretti School, as well as artworks from the Mendel Art Gallery’s permanent collection and video documentaries completed by Walter Murray Collegiate students. Students of the Media Studies 20 class at Walter Murray Collegiate researched, wrote, filmed, and edited a documentary video based on the stories of recent immigrants from war-torn countries.
May 16 - June 30, 2005
For more information contact the Mendel Art Gallery at (306) 975-7610 or visit www.mendel.ca

The Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission Presents...
The 2005 Annual Conference of the Canadian Association of Statutory Human Rights Agencies (CASHRA)
As one of the organizing partners bringing Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945 to Saskatoon, the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission is proud to feature the exhibit during the upcoming CASHRA conference. The conference will provide delegates from across the country with the opportunity to view this meaningful exhibit on one of its few stops in Canada.

The Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee Presents...
Social Justice Youth Art Retreat
Selected youth from the community and local professional artists will use visual and literary art to express their personal views on Anne Frank’s story, racism, discrimination, and the importance of human rights diversity. The youth will create panels that reflect their feelings and opinions about how these issues pertain to our community. The panels will form part of the Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945 exhibit and will remain in Saskatoon to serve as a legacy for the years to come.

SCYAP and Cameco Presents...
The Anne Frank Secret Annex Project
May 16 - June 30, 2005
Saskatoon Community Youth Arts Programming (SCYAP)
253 - 3rd Avenue S, Saskatoon
Youth at the SCYAP centre will host a Community Journaling Workshop. This free workshop, which operates on a drop-in basis, includes three major components:
• A guide and interactive tour of a reproduction of the Frank family’s hiding place, the ‘Secret Annex’
• A tour of an exhibition of commissioned artworks created by marginalized or ‘at risk’ youth
• A hands-on journaling exercise and opportunity to participate in the Community Journal
Hours:
Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays
For more information contact Bevin Bradley at (306) 652-7760 or visit www.scyapinc.org. This project is funded in part by the City of Saskatoon.
Each year around this time Jews worldwide gather to commemorate the worst genocide in human history: the murder of six million Jewish people, more than one-and-a-half million of them children. This year Saskatoon has been awarded the privilege of hosting the exhibit, *Anne Frank in the World*, the start of which coincides with the Holocaust Memorial days. Anne Frank was a hidden child who, through the betrayal of someone, was discovered and later perished in the fires of the Holocaust. Miklos Samual Kanitz, now a resident of Saskatoon, was also a hidden child during the Holocaust, but unlike Anne Frank, he and his immediate family survived.

The Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee is honoured that Miklos has agreed to speak at the Saskatoon opening of the *Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945* exhibit.

Born in Budapest, Miklos was just a toddler at the outbreak of World War II in September 1939. The Hungarian government, despite pressure from Nazi officials, resisted the deportation of the 750,000 Jews living in Hungary to the German-run concentration camps. This did not stop the Hordi government from enacting anti-Jewish laws fashioned after Hitler’s Nuremberg laws, and by 1941 Hungarian Jews were excluded from all social and economic life in Hungary. At this time, all able-bodied Jewish males were taken into work battalions. Of the more than 100,000 labourers conscripted, only a handful survived the war.

The very limited sense of security enjoyed by Hungarian Jews came to an end in March 1944 at which time the Hungarian Nazi Party (Arrow Cross), with the aid of the German army, seized power in Hungary and the roundup of the Hungarian Jews commenced. During one of these round-ups, Miklos, his mother, and older brother Julius, were taken to a ghetto in Budapest, the site of an abandoned factory yard. Eventually, there were more than 15,000 Jews held in this compound under the most primitive conditions. During his stay at the ghetto, Miklos witnessed numerous murders and the most brutal treatment committed by the Arrow Cross soldiers. In May, selections began and nearly all the Jews held at this ghetto were shipped to Auschwitz where they were immediately gassed and cremated upon arrival. Between May 15, 1944 and June 6, 1944, more than 500,000 Hungarian Jewish women, men and children were shipped out and then brutally murdered upon arrival to Auschwitz.

In June 1944, Miklos and his family were taken out of the ghetto by a Christian friend of his mother, who risked her own life to hide them in a root cellar located in her yard. Miklos and his family spent the next seven terrifying months hiding in the cellar, constantly fearing discovery. Thanks to the arrival of the Soviet army in February 1945, Miklos and his family were finally able to leave their hiding place. Miklos’s father, Peter, escaped from the slave camp in February 1945 only to be captured and imprisoned by the advancing Russian armies. He later managed to return to his family in December 1945.

Of numerous family members from both sides of his family, only six survived the horrors of the Holocaust. It took Miklos more than 50 years to gain the courage to speak of his childhood experiences. Since then, he has related the story of his survival to thousands of Saskatchewan students and has been a guest speaker to numerous civic and professional groups. Like Nanette Konig, a childhood friend of Anne Frank, Miklos holds the firm belief that those who survived the Holocaust must bear witness to what happened.
On January 27, 1945, shortly after his wife Edith’s death at Auschwitz-Birkenau, Otto Frank is liberated from the concentration camp by the Russian army. He does not know at this time the fate of his daughters, Margot, born 1926, and Anneliese Marie, born in 1929. Upon liberation, Otto Frank is first taken by the Russians to Odessa, and finally he is allowed to go to France, by way of Marseille.

Eventually, Otto Frank makes his way to the family home in Amsterdam, where on June 3, 1945 he is re-united with former co-workers Miep and Jan Gies. The desperate search is on for his daughters.

“I still hope to find my children,”
-Otto Frank, July 7, 1945

Later that summer, he begins to accept that his children have probably died. At the same time, he is presented with a package containing photos and notebooks which Miep Gies has rescued from the Secret Annex where the Frank family hid between 1942 and 1944. For weeks, Otto Frank refuses to look at the package.

“I had it in my hands but I couldn’t read it yet.”
- Otto Frank, August 26, 1945

Finally, on October 24, Otto Frank receives notification in the form of a letter that Margot and Anne are both dead.

A few months later, in 1946, there is reference in a Dutch newspaper to a diary kept by Anne Frank. In the summer of 1947, the first 1,500 copies of
“The Diary of Anne Frank” are published by Contact Publishers in Amsterdam. In 1951 the diary is translated into English. The book by the young Anne Frank fires the imagination of the public and is re-published and translated numerous times, eventually becoming one of the most widely read books in the world.

The Beginning

The Frank family can trace its origins to at least the 17th century in the German city of Frankfurt. Both Anne Frank’s parents are natives of German soil – her father Otto born on May 12, 1889 in Frankfurt and her mother, Edith Hollander, born on January 16, 1900 in Aachen.

During the First World War, Otto Frank serves in the German Army as a lieutenant.

In 1925, Otto and Edith are joined in holy matrimony.

Two months after their wedding, a malcontent, petty politician from Austria publishes the book “Mein Kampf,” or “My Struggle.” While serving a prison term for a failed coup attempt in Munich, Adolph Hitler outlines his mission in life – to eliminate the threat posed by a worldwide Jewish conspiracy to destroy the foundations of ‘Aryan life.’ The book is to become the signature theme of the Nazis and their blueprint for a thousand year Reich– the Greater German Commonwealth.

Within a few years the author of that book, Adolph Hitler, becomes the rising star of German politics and in an election in 1932, his National Socialism party (the Nazis) captures 37.3 per cent of the vote and is asked to form a coalition government.

By 1934, with the tide of state-sponsored anti-Semitism rising in Germany, the entire Frank family re-locate to the Netherlands, a country which is considered tolerant and which was neutral during WWI.

It is here where Anne attends kindergarten at the Montessori School. She is a happy child who enjoys her school work and has many friends to play with.

Although general war has broken out in Europe, families such as the Franks try to maintain as normal a life as possible.

But on May 10, 1940, German paratroopers launch a surprise attack on Holland and within five days the Dutch government capitulates to the invaders and the country comes under German occupation.

The noose begins to tighten on the Jewish community. One of the first tasks of the Nazis is to register all people of Jewish descent.

In short order, the German occupation decrees that all Jewish students must be expelled from Dutch public schools, so Anne and Margot enroll in the Jewish School of Amsterdam.

On June 12, 1942, in celebration of her thirteenth birthday, Anne receives a diary from her father at a party attended by many friends. One of the young people at that party is Nanette Konig, who later is transported to a concentration camp – survives the ordeal – and after the war meets Otto Frank. Nanette is one of the first people to read the published diary of Anne Frank.

However, not long after Anne Frank’s happy birthday party, disturbing news shatters the already-nervous family. On July 5, Margot Frank, then 16 years old, receives notice to report for deportation to a “labour camp.”

The Frank family immediately decides to go into hiding. They leave their home forever and go into the “Secret Annex” of Otto
Frank's business at 263 Prinsengracht.

It is to be their secret home for the next 25 months and where Anne Frank will fill approximately 300 pages of diary and notebook paper with her thoughts, fears, and hopes, and the daily minutiae which describe the secret life of an oppressed family.

**The Diary**

Eight people reside in Secret Annex at 263 Prinsengracht in Amsterdam. In addition to the four members of the Frank family, there are Mr. and Mrs. van Daan, their teenage son Peter, and Mr. Dussel.

Those who most actively assist the people in hiding are Mr. Koophuis, Miep Gies, Elli Vassen and Mr. Kraler.

"The entrance to our hiding place has been properly concealed. Mr. Kraler thought it would be better to put a cupboard in front of the door, but of course it had to be a moveable cupboard that can open like a door. Mr. Vossen made the whole thing."

-Anne Frank, July 11, 1942

With German security forces actively searching for Jews, extreme caution has to be taken by everyone at all times. Although there is a Dutch resistance movement, it is small, and there are enough collaborators to make life for Jews perilous.

Otto Frank's business associates help the families in hiding, bringing them food, water and other supplies.

Hiding from the Nazi forces is a game of patience and learning to overcome boredom overlain with fear as one day passes into the next.

"Believe me, if you have been shut up for a year and a half, it can get too much for you some days. Cycling, dancing, whistling, looking out into the world, feeling young, to know that I'm free – that's what I long for . . . ."

-Anne Frank, December 24, 1943

It is clear that even in her teenage years, Anne Frank desires to be a writer. Those who have read "The Diary," and other material she produces, remark at the young woman's powers of observation. Like all good writers, she makes use of the world around her. Nothing is too large or too small to be omitted from her curious mind.

"Daddy, Mummy, and Margot can't get used to the sound of the Westertoren [Church] clock yet, which tells us the time every quarter of an hour. I can. I loved it from the start, and especially in the night it's like a faithful friend."

-Anne Frank, July 11, 1942

In a short period from May 20, 1942 until the family is betrayed and arrested in August 4, 1944, Anne Frank busily rewrites and edits her original diary. She dreams of writing a novel about the Secret Annex, or "Achterhuis."

"You've known for a long time that my greatest wish is to be a journalist and, later on, a famous writer. In any case, after the war I'd like to publish a book called The Secret Annex."

-Anne Frank, May 11, 1944

"At long last I have started my Achterhuis, in my head it is as good as finished."

-Anne Frank, May 20, 1944
Anne Frank never finishes writing Achterhuis. When the Frank family is betrayed, they are arrested by German security forces and taken to Westerbork, the main transit point for Dutch Jews being sent to the concentration camps.

The family is split up and Anne is put on a train with many others, crowded like cattle, given no food or water, and taken first to Auschwitz-Birkenau, then later to Bergen Belsen, two of the most notorious Nazi extermination camps.

At Bergen Belsen, Anne Frank and her classmate Nanette König meet briefly across the barbed wire fence separating sections of the camp. Anne tells Nanette about her diary and how one day she still hopes to write a novel about her experiences in the Secret Annex.

We don't know if Anne continues writing while at Bergen Belsen. We do not know what she experienced at this concentration camp. Nothing of hers survives the time she spends at Bergen Belsen.

But her writings from the Secret Annex in 1944 still speak of optimism.

“Could we be granted victory this year, 1944? We don’t know yet, but hope is revived within me; it gives us fresh courage, and makes us strong again.”

- Anne Frank, June 5, 1944

The last we know of Anne Frank is when her father Otto receives a letter from the International Red Cross in 1954 confirming that Anne died there of typhus just before the camp was liberated by the British Army. Records indicate that a few days before Anne dies, her sister Margot falls from a bunk above, and because of her weakened state, dies from shock after hitting the barracks floor.

When her father, Otto Frank, receives Anne’s notes after the war, friends persuade him to publish the diary. It first appears in print in 1947 under the title “Het Achterhuis” (The Annex).

On August 19, 1980, Otto Frank passes away at his home in Birsfelden, Switzerland, at the age of 91.

“Of the wisest and most moving commentaries on war.”

- Eleanor Roosevelt, framer of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

“One of the wisest and most moving commentaries on war.”

- Nelson Mandela, president of South Africa, 1994

“Some of us read Anne Frank’s diary on Robben Island and derived much encouragement from it.”

- Nelson Mandela, president of South Africa, 1994
World War II can be roughly divided into two distinct campaigns. The war we talk about the most, that's written about extensively in our history books, some of our novels, and a spate of Hollywood movies, is the war of nation state against nation state. The Axis versus the Allies. Their professional soldiers against ours. A struggle for military, political and economic supremacy in the world.

The other is the war against the Jews. Even before the German invasion of Poland which triggered WWII, the National Socialism (Nazi) movement had begun, as far back as 1933 when Hitler was appointed Chancellor, to take discriminatory action against German citizens of Jewish origin.

In April of that year, Germans were being urged to boycott Jewish shops and businesses and Jews were barred from holding positions in the civil service and the universities.

In May of 1933 there were public burnings of books by Jewish authors. On July 14, the Nazi party was proclaimed the only legal political party in Germany.

The period 1934 to 1935 saw Hitler steadily consolidate power. Through large public rallies, skillful propaganda and the strong arm tactics of the Gestapo, opposition was eliminated or cowed into silence.

In September 1935, Germany enacted the Nuremberg Laws which declared that Jews were no longer citizens of Germany, and prevented Jews from marrying members of the Aryan race. For nearly a decade before the start of WWII, Hitler had already shown himself to be a fanatical racist.

The plan for the thousand-year Reich was beginning to unfold – at its centre was the purification of the Aryan race and the need for lebensraum . . . space for the German people to expand.

One of the first steps in March 1938 was Anschluss with Austria, bringing this German-speaking country under Hitler's rule. All of Germany's anti-Semitic polices were immediately applied to Austria.

Later that year in September, Germany occupied the Sudentenland, followed six months later when German troops occupied large parts of Czechoslovakia.

Throughout the course of this naked German aggression and despite the pleas of various nationalities in Europe, England and France remained docile. It was not until September 1939, when Hitler invaded Poland, that the two nations declared war on Germany and full scale fighting began on a number of fronts throughout Europe.

Hitler’s contempt for the Jews was well known, as evidenced by his writing in 1926 of “Mein Kampf” and his policies as chancellor of Germany in the mid-1930’s. But few had any inkling of the fate that would befall the Jews of Europe at the start of WWII.

That quickly changed when the German army took control of Poland. Almost immediately, Jews were forced into ghettos in Polish cities. Soon, Austrian and Czech Jews were being transported to these Polish

“…the Jews of Canada remember the six million of our European brethren who were murdered by the Nazis and we vow ‘Never Again.’”
ghettos. Jews in German-occupied areas were forced to wear an arm band or yellow star to identify themselves.

Hitler’s “Jewish problem” became even larger in the spring of 1940 when, on May 10, German armies wheeled into western Europe in a 500-kilometer arc stretching from the Netherlands, to Belgium and to France. Within five days the Dutch government capitulated. Within five weeks of that springtime onslaught, Hitler controlled Paris.

Now, in addition to some three million Jews in Poland, the Nazi occupiers controlled hundreds of thousands of more Jews in western Europe. As Hitler’s military conquests expanded through Greece, Yugoslavia and beyond, many more Jews were targeted by the Nazis.

In 1941, with the appointment of Adolph Eichmann as head of Jewish affairs of the Reich security office, the massacre of Europe’s Jewish population began on a large scale.

June of that year witnessed the first wave of Einsatzgruppen killings – death by special mobile squads. In two days of September, 34,000 Jews were massacred at Babi Yar in today’s Ukraine. In December, the Chelmo extermination camp killings began.

The scale of Jewish killing escalated dramatically in 1942 with large-scale exterminations at Belzec, then at Sobibor, Auschwitz, Treblinka, Majdanek, Buchenwald, and other death camps.

For four years, from 1941 to 1944, the Nazis systematically murdered millions of European Jews. In the concentration camps, Jews were forced to labour until many died of starvation. Many more became victims of unimaginable cruelty through bizarre medical experiments.

But at the height of the Nazi killing spree, the tides of war were starting to turn against the Axis. Hitler’s ill-fated campaign against the Soviet Union in 1941 ultimately ended in defeat for the German army and the loss of valuable military assets. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, in December 1941, brought the United States into the global conflict. From their bases in England, the Allies started getting the upper hand in the air war over Europe and gave them time to mount an invasion force to repel the German armies.

The beginning of the end came on D-Day June 6, 1944 with the Allied invasion of Normandy. Now, two mighty armies – the Allies from the west and the Russians from the East – turned their full fury on the Nazis.

But even as German forces were retreating, the Nazis continued operating their extermination camps almost to the last minute.

When Soviet troops liberated the first of the camps - Auschwitz in January 27 – they were horrified at the condition of those few remaining Jews. Further evidence of Nazi atrocities emerged when U.S. forces liberated 20,000 prisoners at Buchenwald on April 11 and then again at Dachau on April 29, when 32,000 more Jews were set free.

Although the end was not quick, it was complete. On April 30, 1945, Hitler committed suicide and a few days later came V-E Day, Germany surrendered, the Third Reich expired.

Each November on Remembrance Day, Canadians of all faiths pay tribute to the thousands of men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice to free the world of totalitarianism.

In addition to that, the Jews of Canada remember the six million of our European brethren who were murdered by the Nazis and vow “Never Again.”
A Timeline of the Holocaust and World War II

1933
- January 30: Adolf Hitler appointed Chancellor of Germany
- March 22: Dachau concentration camp opens
- April: Boycott of Jewish shops and businesses; Jews barred from holding civil service, university and state positions; Gestapo established
- May 10: Public burning of books written by Jews
- July 14: Nazi party proclaimed sole legal political party in Germany

1934
- August 2: Hitler proclaims himself Fuhrer and Reichskanzler

1935
- September 15: Nuremberg Laws enacted – Jews no longer considered citizens, Jews cannot marry Aryans

1938
- March 13: Anschluss (incorporation of Austria); all anti-Semitic decrees immediately applied to Austria
- June 13: Evian Conference held in Evian, France on the problem of Jewish refugees (No country agrees to open borders to Jews)

1939
- September 1: Beginning of World War II: Germany invades Poland

1940
- April 9: Germany occupies Denmark and southern Norway
- May 7: Lodz Ghetto sealed: 165,000 people in 1.6 square miles
- May 10: Germany invades Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and France
- May 20: Concentration camp established at Auschwitz
- June 22: France surrenders
- November 16: Warsaw Ghetto sealed: ultimately contained 500,000 people

1941
- March: Adolf Eichmann appointed head of the department for Jewish affairs of the Reich Security Main Office
- April 6: Germany attacks Yugoslavia and Greece
- June 22: Germany invades the Soviet Union
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<td>Adolf Eichmann appointed head of the department for Jewish Affairs of the Reich Security Main Office</td>
<td>Wannsee Conference in Berlin: Heydrich outlines the Final Solution to the Jewish Problem</td>
<td>Warsaw Ghetto revolt begins; Jewish underground fights Nazis until early June</td>
<td>D-Day: Allied invasion at Normandy</td>
<td>Soviet troops liberate 8,000 prisoners left behind at the Auschwitz complex</td>
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<td><strong>June-December</strong></td>
<td><strong>First wave of Einsatzgruppen; mobile killing force</strong></td>
<td><strong>September 28-29</strong></td>
<td>34,000 Jews massacred at Babi Yar outside Kiev</td>
<td><strong>October</strong></td>
<td>Establishment of Auschwitz II (Birkenau) for the extermination of Jews and others</td>
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**1943**
- **January 20** Wannsee Conference in Berlin: Heydrich outlines the Final Solution to the Jewish Problem
- **March 19** Germany occupies Hungary
- **May 15** Nazis begin deporting Hungarian Jews to death camps
- **June 6** D-Day: Allied invasion at Normandy
- **July 20** Group of German officers attempt to assassinate Hitler
- **July 24** Russians liberate Majdanek death camp
- **November 8** Beginning of death march of approximately 40,000 Jews from Budapest to Austria

**1944**
- **January 17** Evacuation of Auschwitz, beginning of death march – other camps to follow
- **January 27** Soviet troops liberate 8,000 prisoners left behind at the Auschwitz complex
- **April 11** U.S. troops liberate 20,000 prisoners at Buchenwald
- **April 29** U.S. troops liberate approximately 32,000 prisoners at Dachau.
- **April 30** Hitler commits suicide
- **May 8** V-E Day: Germany surrenders, end of Third Reich
- **August 6** Bombing of Hiroshima
- **August 9** Bombing of Nagasaki
- **August 15** V-J Day; Victory over Japan proclaimed
- **September 7** Japan surrenders; end of World War II
- **November 22** Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal commences. Trials end on October 1, 1946, with sentencing of 12 to death, 3 to life imprisonment, 4 to various prison terms and 3 acquitted.
Anne Frank
In the World Today

“Founded in 1977, the Anne Frank Center, USA is a non-sectarian, educational organization that promotes the universal message of tolerance.”

The Anne Frank Exhibit we are privileged to help sponsor is but one of several exhibitions and other materials that are available from the Anne Frank Center, USA, a not-for-profit organization based in New York.

Founded in 1977, the Anne Frank Center, USA is a non-sectarian, educational organization that promotes the universal message of tolerance.

The Center has three broad program areas:

- the North American Travelling Exhibit Program;
- the Exhibition and Education Center in New York City;
- the Annual Spirit of Anne Frank Awards.

The Spirit of Anne Frank Awards are designed to honour those who have taken significant initiatives to fight discrimination and to teach tolerance. Among its internationally-renowned patrons is the Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson.

A major focus of the Anne Frank Center, USA is to educate young people and communities about issues of intolerance and prejudice in the world today. It does this by preserving the legacy of Anne Frank and through the creation of inspirational and educational tools that are made available to schools and to the general public.

Since it was first published in 1947, Anne Frank’s diary has been translated into more than 67 languages. Its message of hope and courage has become one of the most widely read books in the world. Because she was a teenager herself, Anne Frank’s story is especially meaningful to contemporary young people.

The Anne Frank Center, USA maintains extensive resources and links that are designed to be accessed directly by school-age children. In addition, there are numerous aids that have been developed over the years to assist professional educators.

The Anne Frank Center, USA also has an extensive on-line store which houses an excellent collection of books about Anne Frank – the diary and her other writings, commentary and analysis, biography, and history.

This particular exhibit on view in Saskatoon, entitled Anne Frank in the World 1929-1945, is intended to inform visitors about the history of the Holocaust from the perspective of Anne Frank and her family. It is based on historical facts and events which severely impacted the lives of this German-Jewish family.

This exhibit is a useful way to provide people with an understanding of the basic events of World War I and World War II. It shows how the ideas of Nazism developed from the first gradual steps of stripping away the civil rights of Jews and the disabled, to grow into an unprecedented campaign of savage genocide – a government policy of killing Jews, Gypsies, disabled people, homosexuals and Slavic people.

One of the purposes of the Anne Frank Center, USA is to encourage visitors to take a more active role in understanding current events in their own community, and around the globe, to be more
aware of current issues of prejudice, discrimination, violence, and genocide.

“The 20th century has been one of repeated genocides from the Armenians in World War I to the Holocaust in World War II to post-1945 Cambodia, Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia and today in Kosovo, East Timor and the Darfur region of Sudan,” states a guide to the Center. At the same time, we must try to work to prevent future genocides and be informed, committed citizens who are unafraid to take personal responsibility and leadership positions in our communities to further a just, inclusive society.

Other independent but related Anne Frank institutions are centred in several world capitals and accessible online.

Perhaps the most important of these is the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. Located adjacent to a canal, the building at 265 Prinsengracht was the home of Anne Frank for the 25 months she, her family and friends were hiding from the Nazis until they were betrayed by an unknown collaborator.

The canal-side house consists of two sections, where visitors will see where Otto Frank carried out his business, and the Secret Annex, where the Frank family hid.

Over the years following the war, the Annex remained in its authentic state. In 1998, the front part of the house was restored based on historical photographs and blueprints.

It is here where Anne Frank's diary papers were left behind the day Karl Silberhauer of the Sicherheitsdienst (German Security Service) supervised the arrest. Later, two family employees – Miep Gies and Bep Voskuijl – gathered up some 300 pages of Anne Frank's writings and gave them to Otto Frank after the war.

There are three other important venues, in addition to the Anne Frank Center, USA and the Anne Frank House and museum in Amsterdam.

- The Anne Frank Zentrum in Berlin houses materials related to war-time Germany and is very proactive in encouraging German school children to gain an accurate understanding of the horrors inflicted by that country's National Socialist movement (unfortunately its website is only available in the German language).
- The Anne Frank-Fonds located in Switzerland was established as a foundation by Otto Frank and the Swiss government to help educate and promote the values of tolerance and understanding in the world.
- The Anne Frank Trust - UK is a similar organization based in London dedicated to the values of mutual respect, compassion and social justice.

All these centres encourage visitors, individual correspondence, and maintain extensive on-line information and resources.

For further inquiry:

Anne Frank Center, USA
www.annefrank.com

Anne Frank House
www.annefrank.org

Anne Frank Zentrum
www.annefrank.de

Anne Frank-Fonds
www.annefrank.ch

Anne Frank Trust-UK
www.annefrank.org.uk
“Nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world”
- Anne Frank

ANNE FRANK
IN THE WORLD 1929 - 1945

Anne Frank in the World: 1929 - 1945 was developed by the Anne Frank Foundation in Amsterdam and is supplied in the United States and Canada by the New York based Anne Frank Centre USA, Inc.