



CORPORATION OF  
**Spanish & Portuguese  
Jews**

Shearith Israel of Montreal

ב"ה



The First Synagogue in Canada founded in 1768  
La première synagogue établie en 1768

**Canada's Oldest Synagogue Launches its 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibit at  
Library & Archives Canada in Ottawa**

\*\*\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\*\*\*

October 31, 2018

Canada's first synagogue, the Corporation of Spanish and Portuguese Jews Shearith Israel of Montreal, continues to celebrate its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in cooperation with Library and Archives Canada.

On Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, Library and Archives Canada will open an important public exhibit of artifacts in its collection illustrating this rich history. The launch will be followed by a presentation by McGill Professor James Archibald on the history of social engagement in Western Sephardic communities including the Montreal synagogue.

A display of archival materials – some dating back to 1768 – including photographs and rare documents, will be exhibited. These give life to the Spanish's history and the many well-known individuals and families who played and continue to play a significant role in Canadian Jewry. This unique exposition will take visitors back to the Congregation's humble beginnings on Saint James Street and then to its current home on Saint Kevin Avenue. Before going to Ottawa, parts of this exhibit have already been on display in several venues including Montreal's City Hall.

This event commemorating the history of Canada's oldest Jewish congregation in Canada's National Capital is a wonderful opportunity for all Canadians to learn about the country's first synagogue, its rich history, and its valuable contribution to the life of Montreal, Quebec and Canada.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Contact information: (514) 737-3695 or [250@thespanish.org](mailto:250@thespanish.org)**

<https://www.thespanish.org/>

November 18, 2018

2:00-4:00p.m.

Library & Archives Canada

395 Wellington St.

Ottawa, ON

K1A 0N4



Honouring the past  
*Tournés vers le futur*  
1768-2018

