

TECHNION NEWS

Newsletter of Technion Canada
Fall 2013



Technion
CANADA

OUR NAME

Technion CANADA

MAY BE NEW BUT OUR

HEART AND SOUL

REMAIN THE SAME



OUR NEW WEBSITE

www.technioncanada.org

OUR NEW TRIBUTE CARDS



WHILE SOME THINGS MAY HAVE CHANGED,
our mission to support technion-israel institute of technology
REMAINS SOLIDLY UNCHANGED



Message from
Doreen Green, & Marvin Ostin,
National Chair & National President



*Thank you
 Merci
 Toda Raba*



Notice of Meeting

The Annual General Meeting
 of Technion Canada
 will be held
 Sunday, November 10, 2013 at 10:00 am
 Lunch to follow
 at the Park Hyatt Hotel
 4 Avenue Road
 Toronto

Now that the holidays are over and we have all gone back to our everyday world, we wanted to take a moment to say thank you. Because really and truly, we are grateful. We're grateful to each and every person who dedicates his/her time, energy, money, and passion to supporting Technion - Israel Institute of Israel. We're grateful that because of the collective action of the passionate, Technion is able to continue to be a major source of the innovation and brainpower that drives the Israeli economy, and a key to Israel's renown as the world's "Start-Up Nation." Technion people, ideas and inventions make immeasurable contributions to the world including life-saving medicine, sustainable energy, computer science, water conservation and nanotechnology.

Yes, we're especially grateful—for you! We're grateful that for 70 years you have helped Technion Canada be there for Technion. We're grateful for your time, your involvement and your financial commitment.

In short, what we want to say is just thanks.

We look forward to our continued partnership working together for Technion and hope that you, the Technion Canada family of supporters, alumni and Generation NEXT will continue to help us reach out to many more Canadians to share our pride in Technion and invite them to join us in visiting and supporting Technion.



**INNOVATION FOR
 A BETTER WORLD**

Technion Canada 2012-2013 Board of Directors

PRESIDENT Marvin Ostin

CHAIR Doreen Green

VICE-PRESIDENT Marvin Ostin

TREASURER Harold Garfinkle

SECRETARY Edward Nagel

HONOURARY LIFE PRESIDENTS David Azrieli & Sydney Cooper

HONOURARY VICE CHAIR Morley Blankstein

HONOURARY BOARD MEMBERS Sheva Honig, Eugene Riesman, Alex Magil

Jack Bensimon
 Harry Bloomfield
 Julian Brass
 Neil Closner
 Sydney Cooper
 Pearl Sperber Gameroff

Harold Garfinkle
 Rose Goldstein
 Doreen Green
 Ronnie Kaplan
 Eric Levy
 Steve Merling

Edward Nagel
 Marvin Ostin
 Eliot Phillipson
 Arnold Recht
 Barrie Rose
 Harry Sheres

Melissa Singer
 Irwin Taubien
 Bill Wiener
 Ben Wygodny

NATIONAL OFFICE
 970 Lawrence Avenue West, Suite 206
 Toronto, ON M6A 3B6

MONTREAL OFFICE
 6900 Decarie Boulevard, Suite 3435
 Cote St. Luc, QC H3X 2T8

The People of Technion Canada

“Technion Alumni”



Israeli born, **Ahron (Ronnie) Kaplan** is a graduate of Technion – Israel Institute of Technology. He obtained a B.Sc. (1969), and M.Sc. (1973) in Chemical Engineering. He is a life member, as a Professional Engineer (PEng), in the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGGA). He has 38 years of career experience in the plastics & petrochemicals industries working for Israel Petrochemical Enterprises Union

Carbide Canada and NOVA Chemicals.

After his retirement in 2010 Ronnie graduated with Master of Engineering (MEng), Specialization Project Management, University of Calgary.

Today Ronnie is a member of Technion’s Board of Governors, Technion Canada’s Board of Directors and serves voluntarily as Alberta Director.

“Generation NEXT”



Edward Nagel CPA, CA-IFA, CBV became involved with Technion Canada through Generation NEXT. After participating on the 2011 Israeli Mission, he became a staunch supporter of Technion – Israel Institute of Technology. Currently, Ed is an alternate member of the Technion Board of Governors and an Officer (Secretary) of the Technion Canada’s Board of Directors.

Ed Nagel is a forensic accountant with over 16 years of combined experience in forensic accounting, investigation, anti-fraud consulting/training and auditing. Mr. Nagel is recognized as a specialist in investigative and forensic accounting by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and has testified before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. Mr. Nagel is also a Chartered Business Valuator and licensed private investigator. Mr. Nagel is a principal and founder of nagel + associates inc.

“Leadership”



Doreen Green is Chair of Technion Canada’s Board of Directors and has been active in Technion since 1986. She is also a member of Technion’s Board of Governors and was awarded an Honorary Fellowship from Technion in 2000.

Doreen received her BCL from the Université de Montréal (1977) and became a member of the Quebec and Canadian Bars in 1978. She is a practicing attorney at Green Glazer Nadler and Associates

specializing in family law, adoption, reproductive technology and civil litigation.

Doreen has served in many roles in support of Technion and Technion Canada, on the Montreal Council and at the National level. This year she was elected co-chair of the Technion Board of Governors’ Student Relations Committee. Doreen’s involvement has been a testament to the lessons she learned from her parents, “to look after our community and to support Israel”.

“Loyal Supporters”



Harry Sheres was born in Vilna, Lithuania and remembers his mother as his inspiration for his involvement with Technion as she was a member of the Yiddish Technion. His parents were strong supporters of Jewish causes.

Harry remembers his early life as being “wonderful”. However his life took a dramatic turn when the Germans invaded Vilna in 1941. His mother

perished in the Holocaust, but Harry, his father and brother were liberated in 1944 and in 1946 he and his family went to Italy. There he studied Civil Engineering and Land Surveying. It was then that the Sheres made their new home in Montreal. Harry spent the majority of his years in real estate development in both Montreal and Ottawa.

In 1952, Harry met Eugene Stearns, who was actively involved in Technion Canada as Chairman of the Board of Directors. The two became close personal friends and Harry also became involved in Technion Canada. In 1989 Harry was awarded an Honorary Fellowship from the Technion and later was named an Honorary Life Member of Technion’s Board of Governors.

Harry has been a frequent participant in the Board of Governors’ meeting in Haifa and has supported Technion in many areas including the Churchill Auditorium, Chemical Building, Aeronautical Building and also the Canadian Dormitory. This year Harry has honoured his late wife Tibby’s memory with the purchase of the Technion Emergency Response Vehicle.



Edward Leonard Wolfman, B.A., LL.B. has been a long-time friend of Technion.

In a 1983 article in the Calgary Jewish Star, Mr. Wolfman was reported as taking over the helm as the President of the Calgary Chapter of Technion and just this past winter he attended a Technion Canada program in Calgary featuring Professor Yeshayahu (Ishi) Talmon, Director of Technion’s Russell

Berrie Nano-Technology Institute.

At that time, Mr. Wolfman together with his sons David and Aaron generously endowed the Key Punch Terminal Facility of the Technion Computer Training Centre. “The \$50,000 project, included equipment and scholarships and was dedicated in memory of Jean Ruth Wolfman, M.D., and also honoured Mrs. Lily Wolfman.” Advancements in the computer world have made leaps and bounds since that time.

Technion has been at the forefront in many areas of computer technology. What Mr. Wolfman was quoted as saying in that 1983 article still stands true today, “Technion is essential to the continuing development of sophisticated industry and defence, the building of new towns, the expansion of agriculture production, and the striving for new sources of energy.”

Generation NEXT

A new generation has come of age, Generation NEXT, the young adults who have grown up with personal computers, cell phones and the internet. Technion Canada welcomes Generation NEXT, future Canadian leaders, to get connected to Technion and Israel and the heart of its High-Tech Sector.

ReWalk™ Comes to Montreal

ReWalk is a bionic walking assistance system, utilising powered leg attachments to enable paraplegics to stand upright, walk, and climb stairs. It was developed by Dr. Amit Goffer, an electrical engineering graduate from Technion and manufactured by Israel's ARGO Medical Technologies.



Generation NEXT welcomed Inbal Pezaro, Israeli Paralympian Swimming Champion. The ReWalk™ technology is helping Inbal, who became paralyzed in her lower limbs at the age of three months, to walk long distances, and even climb certain types of steps.

Toronto's Generation NEXT at their launch party held at Toronto's Hockey Hall of Fame

The event introduced a great Technion innovation IntelliGym®. The IntelliGym® technology is a breakthrough product, proven to improve the performance of athletes on the court and on the ice by more than 30%. Working with national teams and elite athletes, the Basketball IntelliGym and the Hockey IntelliGym improve those crucial skills, perceived as untrainable until recently.



Networking with Montreal



Generation NEXT at the "Why have Wine and Cheese when you can have Wine and Pie Event".



Technion's SciTech Summer Research Camp for International High Schoolers Concludes.



SciTech, an annual international summer research program and a Technion highlight since 1992, brings together talented teenagers, with a love of science, to conduct high-level projects at Technion's top labs, under the supervision of Technion researchers.

This year's 27 international participants came from Bulgaria, Canada, Italy, Serbia, Spain, UK, and the USA and they were joined by 17 from Israel. In addition to getting a taste of "real science" the teens explored many facets of Israeli's varied social, cultural and geographical landscapes.

SciTech closing ceremony featuring Michal Coret (Burlington, Ontario) being congratulated by Technion President Peretz Lavie and Professor Dan Zilberstein.



You and Technion

Technion Canada gives you the opportunity to support the Technion as it develops Israel's greatest resource, the brains of its people. Whether you give your time, your experience or your philanthropic support there are many ways to get involved. Join Generation NEXT, become involved with your local Technion Canada Council, network with fellow Technion Alumni in Canada, send a Technion Canada tribute card in memory or in honour of a friend or family member or experience for yourself the dynamic energy that you will derive from a visit to Technion.

Together we have the power to make a difference and the world becomes a better place.

Just click onto the **DONATE NOW** icon on our newly re-designed website

<http://www.technioncanada.org/>



Montreal Hosts Cornell Professor



Professor Andre Bensadoun, of the College of Human Ecology of Cornell University was the guest speaker at the Aldo Corporate Offices in Montreal.

Professor Bensadoun began his presentation by sharing his excitement at the Cornell Technion partnership in the new Technion Cornell Innovation Institute to be built on Roosevelt Island in New York. Professor Bensadoun then gave a succinct overview of his research of how lipids are transported between various organs in the body.



Edmonton Hosts Technion Canada

Early in September an intimate engagement was held at the Fantasy Land Hotel in Edmonton to hear about the latest Technion innovations. Past President, Arnie Recht wowed the assembled with his knowledge of the Technion and especially his insights into the Institutions contribution to the Israeli Aerospace industry.



101 NEW FACES



Witness the Technion of tomorrow. Young, empowered and holding a torch to the future, these new faculty members come from the world's four corners. They are global thinkers generating the multidisciplinary science that will shape the future of our planet

In the 101st year since Technion's cornerstone was laid, Technion is proud to have recruited highly gifted young scientist who will create Israel's future and define the possible within tomorrow's world.

In the past four years 101 new faculty have been recruited to Technion; wonderful candidtaes who will garantee the continued excellence of Technion for many years.

In Honour of the Lady Davis Fellows



The Lady Davis Fellowship Trust offers Fellowships at the Hebrew University and at the Technion to Visiting Professors, Post-Doctoral Researchers and Doctoral Students. The Trust recently celebrated 40 years of activity from its inception in 1973 and to the present date.

At the 2013 Technion Board of Governors' Meeting, Harry Bloomfield carried on his family's tradition of hosting the Canadian Delegation at the Technion Lady Davis Fellows Luncheon.





The future of Israel is in high-technology and the future of high-technology in Israel is at Technion.

TECHNION TRIUMPHS

Technion goes to China following a \$130 million gift from the LiKa-shing Foundation



The gift is the largest ever to the Technion and one of the most generous in the history of Israeli higher education. A new era of research and innovation in science, engineering, and life sciences is opening in China with a joint venture between Israel's prestigious Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

– and Shantou University (STU) to build a new academic facility in Guangdong Province.

I am delighted to announce that the Technion and China's Shantou University have agreed to establish the Technion–Guangdong Institute of Technology (TGIT).

This landmark collaboration was made possible by a \$130 million donation to the Technion by the charitable foundation of prominent Hong Kong entrepreneur and philanthropist Mr. Li Ka-shing, combined with a strategic investment of RMB 900 million (approximately \$150 million) by the Guangdong Province to develop and operate the new institute – for an overall total of about \$280 million. Moreover, a technological park will be built in close proximity to the TGIT campus that will serve as a bridgehead for Israeli companies interested in the Chinese market.

The \$130 million gift by the Li Ka Shing Foundation will be allocated to strengthening the Technion's home campus in Haifa, for the benefit of our students and researchers. This remarkable donation is the single largest gift ever to the Technion, and one of the most generous ever received by an Israeli institution.

We are proud that Mr. Li Ka-shing, the wealthiest man in Asia and a visionary entrepreneur who has made a major contribution to Israel's economy through his successful and diverse investments, has chosen the Technion as his partner for this historic undertaking.

Yesterday, as I signed this historic memorandum of understanding in the presence of Mr. Li Ka-shing, the Israeli Minister of Science and the Governor of Guangdong Province, I was reminded once again of you, Technion friends around the world, whose decades of generosity, friendship and hard work have built an institution on the slopes of Mt. Carmel in Israel that has become a beacon of knowledge and innovation, and a powerful magnet for visionary leaders and philanthropists the world over.

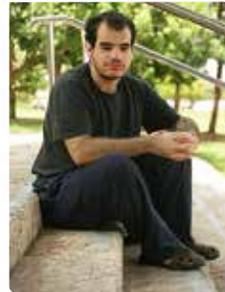
Excerpted from a letter written by Technion President Peretz Lavie on September 29, 2013.

Immaculate Conception



Research has revealed that certain embryonic stem cells may substitute for human eggs in conception. Scientists from the Ruth and Bruce Rappaport Faculty of Medicine found that cells in the amniotic sac membrane may be a source of

A Visually Impaired Technion Student Awarded the Google Scholarship for Students with Disabilities



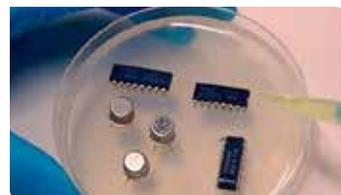
Ahmad Ziad Abasi, a third year visually impaired student in Technion's Faculty of Electrical Engineering, was awarded the 2013 Google Scholarship for Students with Disabilities. He will receive the special award, in the amount of 7,000 EUR, at the Google Office in Zurich along with 16 other recipients from all across Europe. The recipients of this scholarship were chosen from amongst dozens of candidates, for their demonstrated excellence in computer science and their

ability to lead technological processes. Abasi is the only Israeli student receiving this award, this year.

Ahmad Abasi, an outstanding student who speaks four languages (Arabic, Hebrew, English and French), has had low vision since birth. He was born in the United States to a Muslim family. "My parents always protected me," says Ahmad, "But also fought for my right to be able to do everything, for example to attend a regular school.

Ahmad graduated from high school with honors, and in the spring of 2012 he began studying computer engineering at Technion's Faculty of Electrical Engineering (a joint study track with the Faculty of Computer Science). Since he began his studies at Technion, he has received A's in numerous courses.

Technion Scientists Develop an Advanced Biological Computer



Technion scientists developed and constructed a molecular transducer, which is an advanced computing machine. This molecular computer was built entirely of biomolecules, such as DNA and enzymes that can

manipulate genetic codes. This unprecedented device can compute iteratively, namely, it uses the output as a new input for subsequent computations. Furthermore, it produces outputs in the form of biologically meaningful phenomena, such as resistance of bacteria to various antibiotics.

Let the Blind See



Technion scientists from the Faculty of Biomedical Engineering have developed a new approach for the artificial stimulation of blind retinas. The method is based on optogenetics - a newly developing area in neuroscience, and is a first step towards non-invasive sight restoration in cases of degenerative retinal diseases.