Chabad of Richmond Jewish Centre #200-4775 Blundell Road Richmond, BC V7C 1H2



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For Immediate Release

Saved by an Angel: Youngest Oskar Schindler Survivor to Speak in Richmond

Richmond, British Columbia -- Chabad of Richmond -- For many decades Leon Leyson never found the words to describe what he endured and witnessed in Krakow's Jewish ghetto. But after Steven Spielberg's award winning movie "Schindler's List" detailing Oskar Schindler's heroic humanitarian act that saved the lives of 1,200 Polish Jews, Leyson felt obligated to tell his story.

Leib Lejzon (now Leon Leyson) was only 13 years old when his father convinced businessman Oskar Schindler to let his son work at his enamelware factory as a desperate attempt to escape the escalating terrors facing Jews in Krakow, Poland as religious discrimination had revealed planned assignment of Jews to the Nazi work camps.

Hosted by Chabad of Richmond, Leyson will deliver his highly acclaimed speech, "Saved by an Angel", at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel on May 10, 2010. Leyson is the youngest survivor of "Schindler's List", a list of workers who were kept off the trains to Auschwitz and employed by Schindler. Leyson will talk about Schindler, his experiences in Krakow Jewish ghetto and life in the Schindler factory.

Now 80 years of age, Leyson acknowledges that he speaks more often than he would like to about his Second World War experiences.

"I'm getting more and more requests to speak. I know the secret. It's something to do with supply and demand. Fewer and fewer people are still alive, and there's more and more interest in it."

Rabbi Baitelman, Director of Chabad of Richmond commented:

"We welcome Leon Leyson, whose courage to speak about horrors most of us would prefer to forget, to teach us how the shared humanity of individuals can prevail against those who construct systems of inhumanity."

As Chabad of Richmond will be hosting a course, offered by the Jewish Learning Institute, which coincides with Leyson's talk, registration for the course will include admission to the "Saved by an Angel" lecture by Mr. Leyson. The course title is: "Beyond Never Again: How the Holocaust Speaks to Us Today.

To purchase a ticket or for more information on Leon Leyson's "Saved by an Angel" speaking engagement, visit Chabad of Richmond website (Chabad Richmond.com/Leyson), the Chabad of Richmond Facebook page (events section) or call 604-277-6427.

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