

## Canadian Immigration in the Early Thirties: Reflections of a Changing National Idea

The period from the mid-1930s to the beginning of World War Two is well-known to scholars because of the impact of *None Is Too Many: Canada and the Jews of Europe, 1933-1948*. This talk will focus on the previous era – from roughly 1926 until the first years of the Depression. These years are in part distinguished by the fact that for some of them Canada was governed by the Conservatives under R.B. Bennett. In the late twenties and early thirties the role of “New Canadians,” of immigration, and the idea of a “mosaic” competed in advance of the country’s “None Is Too Many” moment. The talk will highlight photographs and archival documents from the period.

## If Yiddish Were the Dividing Line: A Guided Tour of Canadian Jewish Literature

Many are the frames that have been applied to appreciate the relationship between Canadian Jewish writing and the country’s mainstream tradition. This talk will highlight language by considering an array of authors’ relationship to Yiddish, as well as their responses to the challenge of writing in English with an eye to the place of Yiddish in Jewish identity and history. Writers under consideration will include Yaacov Zipper, Henry Kreisel, Mordecai Richler, Leonard Cohen, Adele Weisman, and Lillian Nattel.