



Edgar M. Bronfman

Because the program described in this brochure reflects my deep concerns and convictions, I would like to add a personal note about the Youth Fellowship enterprise.

I am greatly troubled by what I -- and many of my friends and colleagues -- perceive as spreading fragmentation within the Jewish community; a disharmony that is too often accompanied by stridence and even vilification. This disturbing phenomenon is especially dangerous for a people that lost so huge a proportion of its members only a generation ago and that represents so tiny a minority in the world community.

I am also distressed by a dearth of young men and women with the training, commitment and knowledge necessary to hold leadership roles on behalf of a unified Jewish community -- and not merely in support of a single Jewish cause or organization, however worthy.

I realize that no one venture can solve the serious problems which face us all as Jews. But I am hopeful that the Youth Fellowship project will over time prove a significant contribution to the well-being and strength of our people.

I hope you share my view and feel as I do the determination to help achieve it. I would highly value your help as we move forward. I am convinced that together we can make of the Youth Fellowship program an experience of lasting value to many of our best young people and, therefore, to the wider Jewish world we hold so dear.

*Edgar M. Bronfman*