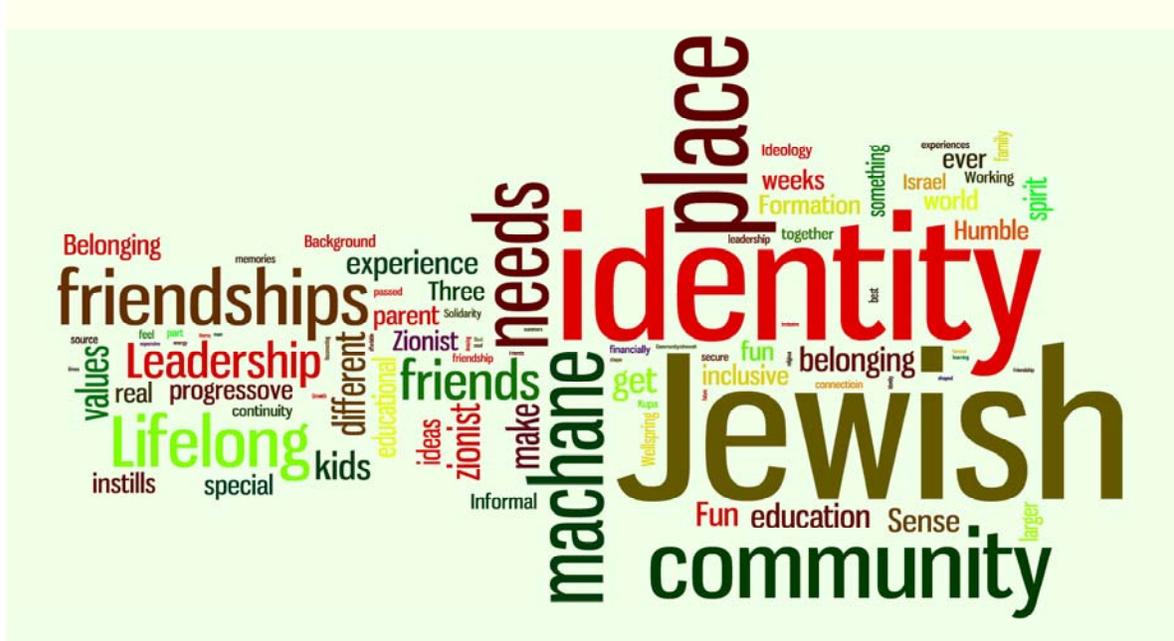




# Habonim Dror Camp Miriam

GABRIOLA ISLAND, BC

## Impact on Camp Alumni



Most frequently used words by Alumni answering the question "What does Camp Miriam mean to you?"

### Steven Cohen's National Study of Habonim Dror Alumni

Authored by Prof. Steven M. Cohen and Steven Fink, the study explores the lifelong impact that North America Habonim Dror camps has had on campers. The report draws upon a survey of nearly 2,000 alumni, aged 18 to 83. The study was released in New York in Dec 2013.

**The authors observe "In general, the Habonim Dror alumni outscore the NY comparison group on measures of Jewish engagement"**

- 93%** remain connected to their Habonim Dror friends
- 25%** of married couples have a 'Habonim' spouse
- 85%** visited Israel more than once
- 70%** lived in Israel for at least 5 months
- 75%** consider themselves politically progressive
- 19%** currently hold leadership positions in Jewish or Israel-related organizations
- 49%** contribute to a Jewish-sponsored or Israel-related social change organization



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## Impact on the Community

***Supporting Camp Miriam provides great return for the Jewish community - developing Jewish identity, values and leadership***

### **65 years of successful operation, creating strong Jewish Identity and social connectedness**

- Year round Jewish programming for youth in the city
- Major experience in forming campers' Jewish identity and making "friends for life" (see survey)
- Progressive Jewish value-based ideology and education, creating connection to Israel.
- Member of the North American Habonim Dror youth movement

### **Engaging families and children that may otherwise be lost to the Jewish community**

- Many campers come from unaffiliated families, remote communities, and from a low household income demographic
- Camp has "No child turned away due to lack of funds" policy

### **Developing young Jewish leaders**

- A "Youth Leading Youth" approach creates an empowering environment for developing leadership skills
- An effective leadership training program based on "Dugma Ishit" (leading by personal example)
- Youth leaders have remained engaged as leaders in Jewish communities through adulthood (see survey)

### **Cost-effective volunteer based management**

- Volunteer leadership effectively manages operations of the camp year round
- Unique cooperation of youth leaders and older adult volunteers
- Results in most affordable Jewish camping experience (33% less expensive than NA Habonim Dror camps)