



Vivianne Silver

Vivianne was born in Cairo and emigrated to Canada in 1957. She began her post-secondary education at Sir George Williams University completing her Bachelor of Arts in French and psychology followed by a College Teaching Diploma from McGill with a specialization in teaching French as a second language. She then completed her MA in Administration and Policy Studies of Education at McGill.

Her impact on the education system was substantial. At Dawson College she taught French literature and French as a second language for 25 years. Then, at John Abbott, Vivianne taught Women's Studies and French literature for 18 years. At the same time, through an 11-year period, she was the Coordinator of Women's Studies and Gender Relations, playing an important role in the implementation of those programs.

Vivianne also taught a course on literacy in the Adult Education department of Concordia University and for three years was a member of the Board of the McGill Centre for Teaching and Research on Women. Most recently, after retirement from John Abbott, she taught French conversation to adults at Pointe-Claire's Stewart Hall Cultural Centre.

Commitment to her Jewish community has been an important feature of her life and she has played many roles:

- Chairperson of the Career Women's Network of CJA 1986-88
- Leader of Women's Mission to Israel in 1987
- Currently member of the executive of *L'Association des juifs originaires d'Égypte*
- Member of the Board of Temple Emanuel-Beth Sholom 1994-97
- Founder of Jewish Women's History Week Committee

Vivianne is an accomplished writer having published a book of poetry, "From the Foot of the Pyramids", and a memoir, "Forty Two Keys to the Second Exodus". For many years, and still today, has presented book reviews in numerous newsletters.

Most recently she has been a member of the Montreal Council of Women, for which she has held the Education Portfolio, been Vice-President and was named President during its 120th year. She has also participated in numerous projects on the Jews of Egypt, and is an active docent at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Vivianne's contributions were recognized when she received the Canadian Literacy Volunteer Award and also when she was nominated for the Women of Distinction Award of the Y.W.C.A. in the Education category.

AFFILIATIONS

- Canadian Congress of Learning Opportunities for Women
- Canadian Women's Studies Association
- Québec Writer's Federation
- International Women's Writing Guild

EMPLOYEE