

Students from Canada visiting the high school in Maków Mazowiecki

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Once again, Canadian students visited Maria Curie-Skłodowska high school. Young Canadians were travelling in the framework of the intercultural educational programme – March of Remembrance and Hope.

The visit took place on Tuesday, May 23. Students came under the care of Eli Rubenstein, a religious leader from Toronto. Eli is also the director of the Canadian March of the Living and the creator of March of Remembrance and Hope. The coordinator of the group was Carla Wittes. A special participant of the trip was Pinchas Gutter, a Jew born in Łódź, former prisoner of concentration camps in Majdanek and Buchenwald.

Foreign visitors were welcomed by Robert Kluczek, the principal of the school. Then, everyone held a minute of silence in honour of the victims of the terrorist attack in

Manchester and girls from the high school sang the song "Biały krzyż" [English: "White Cross"]. Eli Rubenstein spoke about the participants of the March and the principles of the programme. Pinchas Gutter also gave his speech. He spoke in Polish, because, as he stressed, he still feels to be a Pole. A high school student, Michał Nienałtowski, presented to all the gathered people the profile of David Azrieli – a Jew with roots in Maków Mazowiecki whose family settled in Canada.

After the meeting in the classroom, the guests along with a group of high school students moved to the lawn in front of the school's building. There, divided into small teams, they talked about the main ideas of the March of Remembrance and Hope. For the high school students from Maków Mazowiecki, it was a great opportunity for working out their language skills.

The visit in Maków Mazowiecki was completed by a short tour around the town. Then, the Canadians along with the group of high school students went to the former extermination camp in Treblinka to pay tribute to Jews that had been murdered there.

The meeting in the high school in Maków Mazowiecki was one of the cooperation parts of the school with the Azrieli Foundation from Canada. The Foundation also supports financially the Canadian programme of March of Remembrance and Hope.