



Memo

To: Jewish Federation of Ottawa Board of Directors
From: Andrea Freedman, President and CEO
Date: January 15th, 2014
Re: President's Report

I am pleased to provide an update to the Board on activities and issues that have taken place since our last Board of Directors meeting on December 18th.

DEVELOPMENT

- The 2014 Annual Campaign remains active as we strive to complete outstanding canvasses. At present, the campaign stands at **\$3.9M**, which represents a **6.5%** increase on a gift-by-gift basis over last year. There remains approximately **\$410,000 in pledges** from last year left to secure. It should be noted that approximately \$115,000 of these pledges, are typically not made until the fall (and then paid immediately).
- There are now three simultaneous campaign processes taking place:
 - Successful conclusion of Campaign 2014
 - Setting up Campaign 2015
 - Beginning 2 new off-campaign season initiatives:
 - Arrears
 - Corporate sponsorship

COMMUNITY BUILDING

HILLEL ON CAMPUS

- **Jews & Java** - University of Ottawa (December 9th) and Carleton University (December 10th) students came together to study for their upcoming exams while enjoying a hot beverage on us.
- **Israel Action Committee Bar Night** - On December 12th, the IAC planned an interactive Bar Night to help relieve exam stress; 12 students participated.
- **Shabbat Dinner** - On Friday December 13th, 35 students participated in Shabbat dinner. Due to exams, the dinner was smaller and more intimate than normal.
- The student executive is now meeting to plan an exciting schedule of events and programs for the upcoming semester.



Community Programming

- Planning for **Mitzvah Day** (February 9th) is ramping up. Activities include: writing letters to lone soldiers in Israel, sandwich making for the Ottawa Mission, and an Extreme Football Challenge to raise funds for the Pulmonary Hypertension Association of Canada. The Emerging Generation division will be visiting the Shepherds of Good Hope to help prepare and serve a meal and we are partnering with NCSY to prepare meals for those individuals and families supported by Ten Yad. We will also be collecting hockey equipment for the Canada Israel Hockey School in Metulla, as well as toys and books for the Make A Wish Foundation and Neighbourhood Services.
- **Supplementary schools:** In partnership with the schools, we are organizing a joint Havdallah & Movie Night on January 25th for all families involved in their school and for prospective families.

Grants and Evaluations

- The Federation received 36 applications for funding from 17 agencies and organizations. Five of these organizations are applying for funding from the Federation for the first time. The Grants and Evaluation Committee is currently reviewing applications and will present its funding recommendations to this Board at our May meeting. In January, the committee will be meeting with each agency that submitted an application to review their application and learn more about their funding needs.

Social Action Mission

- 13 young adults from Ottawa were in Israel from December 26 - January 5, as part of our Partnership 2gether program. They were home-hosted by Israelis their age, and worked alongside Israeli young adults to restore a youth club in Metulla. They also visited the Hanadiv elementary school which is twinned with the OJCS and other Partnership projects. A new collaboration with the Glebe Shul was developed as both Shabbats in Israel were spent in Jerusalem and included meaningful and interesting programs led by Rabbi Goldstein. The feedback from participants has been excellent!

Federation Staff have taken advantage of the slower activity in December and beginning of January to plan for the next 6 months and ensure that we can appropriately balance our organization's on-going responsibilities with new and exciting initiatives.