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## This annual report is green:

This document is available online as part of Jewish Federation's commitment to both strategic cost-cutting and preserving the environment.



## Message from the Board Chair and CEO

# Seizing Opportunities to Foster Change

While our region has fared relatively well compared to much of the world during the past three years of economic turmoil, our community has not been immune to the impact of this volatile environment. Your Jewish Federation has worked hard to navigate through these uncertain economic times, reducing and controlling costs, and maximizing our efforts to raise funds to meet Jewish needs.

While our Annual Campaign has seen some ups and downs over the past few years, we have been generally stable in the \$7.5 million range, contrasted with many communities and organizations that have faced steep declines. The Endowment Fund at our Jewish Community Foundation continues to grow and at our year end held net assets of approximately \$31.7 million.

We have continued to remain focused on meeting Jewish needs through a variety of creative approaches. We have grown the support we receive from corporate donors and sponsors, and have worked with individual donors on supplementary gifts to help introduce new projects such as Moishe House, The PJ Library, and the soon-to-be launched Richmond Jewish Seniors' Services Hub. With strong annual participation in Taglit-Birthright Israel and the launch of Moishe House as a foundation, we are investing in expanded staffing capacity to develop new opportunities to more fully engage young adults—our next generation of community members and leaders.

This past year saw the reorganization of national advocacy agencies funded by Jewish Federations across Canada. Along with that, we facilitated the launch of a new Pacific Region office for The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, which is a new face and voice for our community that represents us on issues of importance.

In Israel, we were proud to see the opening of the Bar-Ilan Medical School in Tsfat, close to our partnership region. Funds from our 2006 Israel Emergency Campaign played an important catalytic role in supporting the research and government approval process that enabled the project to come to fruition. The project has tremendous potential to foster the growth and development of Israel's north, and it is quite amazing to know that we and the other Coast-to-Coast Canadian Federations were instrumental in its first stages of development.

When Jews first came to the Lower Mainland, they found a beautiful physical environment that challenged

them to build community in ways that were often different from the many places from which they came. That adaptive challenge is no different today. While we face the same general trends and issues all Jewish communities face, our community has its own unique challenges resulting from the dispersal of Jews throughout the region, and a continued influx of new people. Your Jewish Federation is committed to continue galvanizing, convening and facilitating our community's growth and evolution in the years to come. We invite you to join us, with your generous contributions and your time, as we build a stronger and more vibrant community.



Mitchell Gropper, Board Chair



Mark Gurvis, CEO



## Our Mission

Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver is committed to building a strong, vibrant and enduring Jewish community in the Lower Mainland, in Israel and throughout the world by nurturing the values, practices and traditions which sustain and enrich Judaism and Jewish culture.

## How Jewish Federation Works

### Planning for Community Needs

Through our collaborative community planning process, Jewish Federation works closely with partner agencies to identify needs in our community, in our partnership region in Israel and in overseas Jewish communities in need.

### Developing Financial Resources to Meet Community Needs

Jewish Federation develops the financial resources to fund the programs and services that address our community's current, emerging and future needs.

This is done through our community's central fundraising initiative, the Federation Annual Campaign, through endowments at the Jewish Community Foundation and through special giving opportunities outside of the Annual Campaign.

### Allocating Funds to Programs and Services

Through the allocations process, funds are distributed to various programs and services offered by our partner agencies. The Allocations Planning Committee, is comprised of a cross-section of community members, and prepares local agency funding recommendations for the Board. It ranks applications based on priorities, goals and partnership opportunities, and conducts periodic reviews to ensure accountability, efficiency and effectiveness. Recommendations for Israel and Overseas allocations are prepared by our Israel and Overseas Affairs Committee.





# Financial Resource Development

Jewish Federation generates the financial resources to support community needs, and to build programs and services on which thousands of community members rely. Through collaborative community planning we identify our community's needs, and through financial resource development we raise the funds to make possible the programs and services that address those needs.

## 2011 Federation Annual Campaign

Our community, and indeed the world, continued to feel the pressure of ongoing economic uncertainty as markets experienced volatility during the slow climb out of the recession of the past three years. A remarkable \$7.6 million was generated by our community through the 2011 Federation Annual Campaign, and more than \$585,000 was generated in supplemental gifts from donors, which fund specific programs identified through consultation with partner agencies as part of our community planning process. While the campaign result represented a drop of 2% compared to the year before, given the economic climate this was a remarkable achievement.

Despite the decrease, the amount that the Allocations Planning Committee (APC) had available for local distributions remained the same as in 2010 by accessing the Agency Stabilization Fund—funds set aside to stabilize allocations in down years. The APC continued its work to determine how campaign funds will be distributed to local programs and services, and they recently completed the adjudication process that they go through at the start of every new allocations cycle.

### Special Giving Opportunities

In addition to the Annual Campaign, Jewish Federation works with donors throughout the year to connect them with special giving opportunities that generate support for new programs and services.

### Emergency Campaigns

When disaster strikes, Jewish Federation takes action through our trusted rescue and relief partners, the Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency For Israel. In 2011 our community contributed more than \$10,000 to help victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

### The Jewish Community Foundation

At the Jewish Community Foundation, Federation's endowment program, our team of financial, legal and philanthropic experts work with both individual donors and community organizations to build lasting Jewish legacies. Through bequests, cash donations and gifts of life insurance, donors support in perpetuity the organizations and programs that are most important to them.

Grants are distributed from the income generated by the investment of funds and provide permanent resources to support a broad range of community programs and services.



# 2011-12 Highlights

The following programs, events and services are but a snapshot of the work our Jewish Federation focused on in 2011-12.

## Social Services

Transitioning from high school to post-secondary or the work force is a time of momentous change for most young people. For teens with diverse needs, this process is only amplified. Recognizing the need to provide youth and their families with an array of post high school options, Jewish Federation partnered with the Jewish Community Centre and Jewish Family Service Agency to organize our community's first Transition Fair, which showcased community support services, mini-workshops and resource materials.

At the event, a panel of youth with diverse needs discussed their own transition experiences, and shared their successes and challenges. This initiative created the foundation for new programs and services to support these youth and their families.

## Jewish Education and Identity

Many families choose one of our community's eight supplementary school programs offered by local synagogues for their children's Jewish education. Educating our children is a cornerstone of Jewish continuity, and Jewish Federation supports both formal and informal education options. Recognizing the importance of families in reinforcing their children's learning, \$20,000 in Family Education Grants was distributed in 2011-12 to offer Shabbat and holiday programming for parents and young children.

An example of this innovative programming is the highly successful *havdallah* sleepover that was offered by several synagogues. Multiple studies have shown that family education programs that accompany children's learning enhance students'



retention and help them maintain their connections to Jewish culture and community. These programs are an important means to reach out to Jewish families, many of whom live in the Lower Mainland's regional communities where access to Jewish resources is limited.

### Young Adults

Since 2010 we have renewed our focus on engaging young adults, and on creating new pathways for them to connect to community. We funded a new full-time position for a young adult program manager, and launched programs like IdeaSlam and Moishe House. This past year we continued to focus on young adults with Federation NextGen, and we ramped up events for our local Birthright alumni community, including a Chanukah party and a Tel-Aviv-themed beach BBQ. The Federation Annual Campaign continued to fund one-third of all Taglit-Birthright

trips to Israel for local young adults. And we helped send a delegation of 20- and 30-somethings to join more than 1,500 of their peers from across North America at TribeFest - an entertaining, interactive and educational celebration, which offered presentations by dynamic leaders in politics, entertainment, music, art, food, religion and other aspects of Jewish life.

### The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs

Changes to the national advocacy model made since the summer of 2011 resulted in the development of a single organization across Canada that handles Israel and domestic advocacy issues on behalf of the Jewish community. The new organization is called The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (The Centre), which is the advocacy agent for Jewish Federations of Canada-UIA, including

our local Jewish Federation. A new Pacific Region office has opened with new regional staff. The Local Partnership Council, appointed by Jewish Federation, provides local input into the work of the regional office. The Pacific Region council (the advisory group that guides this regional office) is appointed jointly by The Centre and Jewish Federation.

Key functions of The Centre nationally and locally are to build and advance Canada's relationship with Israel, and to strengthen ties among business, civic and political leaders at the provincial level. Recognizing the important role that the Jewish community can play in the public life of Canada, The Centre establishes and strengthens positive and mutually beneficial relations with other faith and ethno-cultural communities, and it identifies public policy issues that have impact on the Jewish community.





# 2011–12 Highlights

The following programs, events and services are but a snapshot of the work our Jewish Federation focused on in 2011–12.

## Families and Children

Connecting families, children and teens with community is one of the ways we fulfill our mission to nurture and sustain vibrant Jewish life in Greater Vancouver, and our 2011–12 highlights reflect this.

This year marked the first anniversary of The PJ Library, the program that sends free Jewish children's books and CDs right to homes. We are proud to continue to support The PJ Library, which now has close to 500 participants.

In partnership with the Jewish Film Festival, we launched the inaugural Teen Short Film Contest, providing a unique creative outlet designed to motivate and inspire Jewish teens to illustrate through film what being Jewish means to them.

In addition to our highly popular day school Public Speaking Contest, Jewish Federation also launched, in collaboration with the Jewish Book Festival, the Children's Writing

Workshop for students in grades four through seven. Participants had the opportunity to learn about the writing process from well-known Jewish authors of children's books, and they received individual feedback on their own writing.

## Israel—Major Awards for Federation-Funded Program

Mercaz Ma'ase—one of the programs Jewish Federation supports to help at-risk youth in Israel – was recognized with two prestigious awards in just four months this year. First, Mercaz Ma'ase was honoured for their contributions to Israel's social and economic security with the prestigious Social Affairs Prize from the Sderot Conference for Society. Then the Israeli Ministry of Defense honoured the program for its successful work empowering at-risk youth, and creating systemic change within this demographic.



Ma'ase operates volunteer frameworks for young people in Israel with the aim of promoting equal opportunity and social mobility. One of the volunteer opportunities that Ma'ase offers is the Eitan program, designed specifically for 18-year-olds from Israel's social and economic periphery who postpone their army service to spend a year volunteering. Through Eitan, participants upgrade their educational credentials while gaining valuable leadership experience by teaching in their own communities where students see them as positive role models. The volunteers gain leadership skills and further their own education and come out of the experience with tangible advantages.

### Israel and Overseas Affairs Committee

In 2011 members of our Israel and Overseas Affairs Committee traveled to Israel (at their expense) to learn about the challenges facing people in our partnership region of Etsba Hagalil—the Upper Galilee Panhandle—and to see first-hand how the programs we support there are making a difference.

They spent time touring the Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Medicine in the Galilee, which began accepting its first cohort of student in September 2011. The new medical school—the first to open in Israel in 40 years—is a prime example of the result of Jewish Federation's strategic investment of funds to strengthen the region. We funded the research study that established the need for a biotech hub in the Galilee, in which this medical school will play a major role. The ripple effects include stemming the area's current "brain drain," improving access to medical services, and creating jobs.

### Update on the former Soviet Union

The former Soviet Union is home to some of the world's poorest Jews, and as the closest Jewish Federation to them we take seriously our responsibility to help. At first they may seem far away, but in reality they are our neighbours, our extended Jewish family. Many are elderly and infirm, including the region's Holocaust survivors. Through the Joint Distribution Committee we provide much-needed welfare services including home care, medicine, food and winter relief like fuel and warm clothing. For needy children and their families we provide food, healthcare and child development services. In addition, through the JDC, we are helping them strengthen their connections with their rich Jewish heritage by opening Jewish community centres throughout the former Soviet states.



## Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver Condensed Statement of Financial Position and Operations

### Year ended March 31, 2012

This statement includes the results of the 2011 Annual Campaign and the activities of Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver and Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Vancouver for the period April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012, with comparatives for a seven month fiscal period ending March 31, 2011.

FINANCIAL POSITION	General Fund 2012	Foundation Fund 2012	Total 2012	Total 2011
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash	\$5,227,781	\$991,268	\$6,219,049	\$4,912,834
Pooled investments	–	30,742,800	\$30,742,800	\$27,907,808
Bonds and mortgages	–	696,826	\$696,826	\$2,197,102
Pledges receivable	1,743,424	–	\$1,743,424	\$1,601,024
Other receivables and prepaids	456,305	14,606	\$470,911	\$220,312
Interfund advances	542,137	(542,137)	–	–
Property and equipment	45,980		\$45,980	\$67,082
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,015,627</b>	<b>\$31,903,363</b>	<b>\$39,918,990</b>	<b>\$36,906,162</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>				
Payables and accruals	\$1,102,398	–	\$1,102,398	\$1,127,145
Grants and allocations payable	–	\$194,550	\$194,550	\$297,000
Due to other charitable entities	535,387	–	\$535,387	\$146,212
Deferred revenue	1,279,267	–	\$1,279,267	\$603,944
Net Assets	5,098,575	31,708,813	\$36,807,388	\$34,731,861
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,015,627</b>	<b>\$31,903,363</b>	<b>\$39,918,990</b>	<b>\$36,906,162</b>
<b>OPERATIONS</b>				
<b>Revenue</b>				
Annual Campaign pledges	\$7,520,243	–	\$7,520,243	\$7,728,575
Contributions	–	\$1,859,481	\$1,859,481	\$459,965
Grant income	421,554	–	\$421,554	\$325,791
Interest, dividends, and miscellaneous donations	2,399,795	968,087	\$3,367,882	\$1,759,050
Gain on sale of investments	–	74,161	\$74,161	\$193,667
Unrealized gain (loss) in value of investments	–	(25,643)	(\$25,643)	\$1,128,890
	<b>\$10,341,592</b>	<b>\$2,876,086</b>	<b>\$13,217,678</b>	<b>\$11,595,938</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Fundraising	1,535,660	173,311	\$1,708,971	\$1,180,572
Administration	218,035	115,541	\$333,576	\$211,076
Allocations and grants (local, national, overseas)	8,319,465	780,139	\$9,099,604	\$4,916,151
	<b>\$10,073,160</b>	<b>\$1,068,991</b>	<b>\$11,142,151</b>	<b>\$6,307,799</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>\$268,432</b>	<b>\$1,807,095</b>	<b>\$2,075,527</b>	<b>\$5,288,139</b>
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$4,871,261	\$29,860,600	\$34,731,861	\$29,443,722
Interfund transfers	(41,118)	41,118	–	–
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$5,098,575</b>	<b>\$31,708,813</b>	<b>\$36,807,388</b>	<b>\$34,731,861</b>

These financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2012 are derived from the audited financial statements prepared by our independent auditors, Wolrige Mahon LLP. The complete set of audited financial statements is available online at [jewishvancouver.com](http://jewishvancouver.com).



# Board of Directors 2011–12

## Officers:

Board Chair . . . . .	Mitchell Gropper
VC Allocations . . . . .	Stephen Gaerber
VC Financial Resource Development . . . . .	Karen James
VC Israel and Overseas Affairs . . . . .	Harley Rothstein
VC Planning and Community Development . . . . .	Jill Diamond
VC Young Adults . . . . .	Jeremiah Katz
Secretary . . . . .	Audrey Mehler
Treasurer . . . . .	Alan Peretz

## Executive Committee:

Board Chair . . . . .	Mitchell Gropper
Immediate Past Board Chair . . . . .	Michael Fugman
Jewish Community Foundation Board Chair . . . . .	Ron Rozen
Members at Large . . . . .	Stephen Gaerber, Jill Diamond, Karen James, Alan Peretz

## Board Members:

Sam Belzberg *	Karen James	Rick Schreiber
Jonathan Berkowitz *	Mark James	Joseph Segal *
Lisa Boroditsky	Jeremiah Katz	Herbert Silber
Robert Coleman *	Candace Kwinter	Diane Switzer
Harvey Dales	Audrey Mehler	Malcolm Weinstein *
Gordon Diamond *	Jason Murray	Bob Willmot *
Jill Diamond	Peter Oreck *	Ted Zacks *
David Emanuel	Daniel Pekarsky *	Vivian Zalkow
Arnie Fine *	Alan Peretz	Garry Zlotnik *
Dennis Frankenburg *	Robert Philipp	
Michael Fugman	Bernard Pinsky *	
Allen Gaerber	Neil Pollock	
Stephen Gaerber	Lois Raphael *	
Sondi Green *	Harley Rothstein	
Mitchell Gropper	Ron Rozen	

\* Honourary Life Member

## Partner Agencies

The organizations listed below received funding in 2011–12.

### Local Partners:

Beth Israel Hebrew School, Beth Tikvah Hebrew School, Burquest Jewish Community Association, Camp Gan Israel, Camp Hatikvah, Habonim – Dror Camp Miriam, Hillel Vancouver, Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, Jewish Family Service Agency, Jewish Historical Society of BC, Jewish Seniors Alliance, Kehila Society of Richmond, King David High School, North Shore Hebrew School, Or Shalom Religious School, Pacific Torah Institute, Peretz Centre for Secular Jewish Culture, Richmond Jewish Day School, TAG Community High School, Temple Shalom Religious School, Vancouver Hebrew Academy, Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, Vancouver Jewish Film Festival Society, Vancouver Talmud Torah Elementary School, White Rock / South Surrey Community Centre

### National Partners:

Canadian Council for Israel and Jewish Advocacy, Canada Israel Experience, Jewish Federations of Canada—UIA, Jewish Immigrant Aid Society,

### Israel & Overseas Partners:

Jewish Agency for Israel, Joint Distribution Committee, Keren Hayesod, Mercaz Ma'ase, Partnership2Gether (formerly Partnership 2000 – Galilee Panhandle), Rashi Foundation

## Corporate Support

Jewish Federation gratefully acknowledges its corporate sponsors.

### Sponsors

- BMO Harris Private Banking – Opening Night Sponsor
- The BMW Store – Annual Campaign Sponsor
- Bull, Housser & Tupper – Annual Campaign Canvasser Sponsor
- Executive Hotel Vintage Park – Yom Ha'atzmaut Sponsor
- The Jewish Independent – Media Sponsor
- Dr. Marcy Schwartzman Inc. – Choices Sponsor
- Wolrige Mahon – Annual Campaign Canvasser Sponsor
- Vancouver Podiatry – Choices Sponsor