A MESSAGE FROM BRUCE AND ADAM

You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it.” (Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Fathers): Chapter 2

In success anything begins with a first step; a concept, a meeting, a first dollar raised, a volunteer “let me do it.” And then the work continues, embedding Jewish communities acknowledges that the necessary work, and resources comprise a rarely ending continuum. Dedicated members take up the work of community building, often with the understanding that leadership, projects, and responsibility for completion will be passed on.

Acknowledging that continuum, we can proudly report responsibility for completion will be passed on. The Community. Observances, celebrations and Community are offering safe and engaging opportunities for Jewish communities acknowledge that the necessary work, time and resources comprise a rarely ending continuum. Jewish communities are pleased to share a snapshot of interesting findings from the survey in this edition of the Pomegranate. We hope you will find value in reading them.

While we are not obligated to complete the work, we cannot step away from it. As a Community, we must maintain our commitment to ensuring Jewish Calgary has every opportunity to thrive, for now, tomorrow and for our future. Please continue to engage, continue to inquire, continue to support Community. It continues to be proud. We have much still to do; equally as much to celebrate.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer,

Bruce Lohn, President
Calgary Jewish Federation

All programs on these pages are funded in part by your donation to United Jewish Appeal.

2015 CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION SURVEY

Thank you to those who took the time to answer Calgary Jewish Federation’s 2015 UJA Campaign Survey! We are pleased to share the results of the survey – and the answer is: Yes!

Our goal in sending out the survey was to assess how much our community members know about our activities and programs, and to find out how we are doing at sharing information and at informing and educating our constituents. Several people commented that filling in the survey actually made them aware of how well we do this!

So over the next months, we will try to bring some clarity to our activities – and we hope you will continue to share your thoughts with us going forward.

Meanwhile, a few significant survey results:

- Calgary Jewish Federation is perceived as a strong entity. Not a huge sample, but the answers seem to reflect a cross-section of the community.
- Questions to the answer:
  - The Calgary Jewish community is...
  - Thriving and engaging
  - Engaged and active
  - Thriving and innovative
  - Engaged and active

This tells us that our community is doing well - but there is always room for improvement. An equal number of respondents agreed and disagreed with the saying: ‘We are all in this together’

In looking at various questions where respondents were asked to define their involvement in the Jewish community, many were correct in identifying our role as the “central address” and representative voice of the community. Despite our challenges, the survey was surprisingly positive about our direct service. Federation funds several community agencies but does not oversee the operations of the subcommittees or Jewish Family Services or the CC, all of which are independently governed. Although we fund recreational programs and courses, we do not directly manage or sponsor those activities. To find out more about the achievements of the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta, we cannot take credit for other organizations. We offer a wide variety of programs, services, and activities, many of which are beyond the scope of this survey.

lt is only natural for women to encourage their daughters and granddaughters to define themselves as women with the same opportunities.

Clear, these two answers are related - and we’ve got work to do!

In terms of ranking community priorities:

- Jewish identity and affiliation programming (i.e. camp, day school, educational/senior services) ranked highest, followed by Israel and Jewish Advocacy. Fund-raising and Support for the Vulnerable locally.

Who do we fund:

- At least 85% of respondents knew that Federation funds Akiva Academy, the Calgary Jewish Academy, Camp BB-Ribak, Calgary ACC, Calgary Kollel, and Jewish Family Service Calgary. However, many people mistakenly identified those non-profit organizations as local agencies, such as the United Jewish Appeal Campaign. Including Hadassah-WIZO, JF, the Jewish Family Loan Program and the Calgary Jewish Community Foundation.

Comments:

- Write-in comments offered some very positive feedback, plus suggestions for more programming for young people, seniors, and university students; praise for Holocaust Education, PJ Library® and the Integrated Bursary Program, and a suggestion for more tuna on the tuna melt in the café!

To those who answered the survey – Thank you again for communicating with us. We hear you – we need to communicate more effectively with you! Please continue to share your thoughts with us. Feel free to be in touch with our CEO directly at asher@jewishcalgary.org.

Your help in shaping the community’s future is very much appreciated.

Leaving a Legacy

Our voice is no longer heard after we’re gone, but our actions will live on forever.

For more information please contact Diana Kafel at 403-444-3154 or dkafel@jewishcalgary.org.

Calgary Jewish Federation wants you! To make sure our philanthropy supports the Jewish community, in addition to other worthy causes. Your background working in the Jewish community gives her the same that there is then donating support for Israel and Jewish causes. By leaving a legacy, you hope to have an impact and contribute that impact. Over 30 years ago, Sandy’s father set up a charitable foundation, knowing his philanthropy would go on in his death at an early age. This ensured sustained and evolving for our community as a benefit of his own good fortune. This reasonated with her as a young woman and had a profound affect on her future choices. Sandy came to understand that her own actions could ensure a secure future for her children and for others that did not have the same opportunities.

Marlyn, Sandy and Donna all agreed that it is only natural for women to encourage their daughters and grandchildren to define themselves as women with the same opportunities.

Please consider leaving a legacy gift to Calgary Jewish Federation. To find out more, please contact Diana Kafel at Calgary Jewish Federation at 403-444-3154.

An Intimate Chat

Innovative Philanthropy: A Lion of Judah Event
Marlyn Libin
Tuesday, September 29, 2015
5:30-7:00pm
Calgary Jewish Federation

JEWISH, SHMOOZE & CANOES

For the last over 50 years, the Calgary, Edmonton and Winnipeg Hillels joined together for a weekend of celebration and leadership development at Camp BB-Ribak. The second annual Jewish, Shmooze and Canoes had 30 students participate in camp rotations and student led programs. The relaxing weekend of reflection and learning was a success to the community and a great way to meet the new people on our board. We follow the example of these women, the long-term stability for our community and the future of our community in is good hands. Please consider leaving a legacy gift to Calgary Jewish Federation. To find out more, please contact Diana Kafel at Calgary Jewish Federation at 403-444-3154.

The Calgary Jewish Federation wants you!
For more information please contact Diana Kafel at 403-444-3154 or dkafel@jewishcalgary.org.

Contact Diana Kafel at 403-444-3154 or dkafel@jewishcalgary.org or Irina Kusmenbaum at 403-537-8394 or irinakusmenbaum@jewishcalgary.org.

Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing you soon!