It’s Not Too Late to Donate

We’ve raised over $3 million so far – but we’re not done yet!

Donate online at www.jewishcalgary.org
or call Janene Puffer at 403-444-3157

Thank you to our generous donors!

The strength of a people.

The power of the community.

Our names are Rich and Cynthia. We were fortunate to have grown up in families who were always involved in volunteer efforts which ensured the long-term well-being of the local Jewish community and Israeli. So “Giving Back” and maintaining the link ofidoror – from generation to generation – comes naturally to us. It was an amazing experience to be chaperones to both Jewish and non-Jewish students as part of Calgary Jewish Federation’s Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program. We are certain that the trips to Washington to visit the US Holocaust Memorial Museum and the weeks of education beforehand made a difference in our students’ lives. We are proud that our students will honour the memory of the past by defending human rights in the future.

Your UJA dollars support community relations programs, including the Asper Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program.

Working on Behalf of UJA is Meaningful to Me Because...

Geeing up in a family connected to kedushah and healing stories of how my grandparents raised funds for Jewish Calgary has always been an inspiration to me. Whether it was my grandfather Ralph’s buddies going to his office so he could call donors for them, or my grandmother Ann attending the Mitzvah Women’s Division Luncheon. I know it is my responsibility to carry on their legacy. I also want to maintain that legacy for my children, Joseph, Micah, who are growing all the advantages of the community that was built for them.

When I come back to Calgary after living overseas for many years, I go to a call to careness for UJA. I remember going to a meeting and making my donation. Little did I know that a few years later, I would have the privilege of working with UJA and Calgary Jewish Federation.

I see that our community continues to grow, day in and day out through our generous donations of time and money. I am always reminded how UJA affects each and everyone of us locally, nationally and internationally.

With the strength of our people and the power of our community, we are doing extraordinary things.

– Rich Kalef

A MESSAGE FROM BRUCE

Fellow Community Members,

Our community continues to thrive, to be vibrant, to offer much for Jewish children, families and adults. Reading the Jewish Free Press, our Calgary Jewish Federation e-News, the many signs, posters and announcements at Calgary Jewish Community Campus – one can only be impressed with all our community has to offer. We can, of course, do more and it is better. We must not be complacent; however, we have much to offer.

Complacency is certainly not a word to be used to describe the leadership, volunteer and professional, of our United Jewish Appeal Campaign. Innumerable hours of dedicated effort have produced our most successful UJA campaign ever – and we’re not yet done. Many, many thanks to our donors – recognizing and acting upon the needs of our Jewish community is a wonderful milestone. Our slogan of ‘I AM COMMUNITY’ was fulfilled with the support of all Toda Raba.

And while UJA goes on, look at some of our other initiatives: Community Campus: Efforts continue and a visit to the land renewable as needed. While we have a focal point for our community now, we continue our long-term goal of a significantly enhanced integrated Community Campus with facilities and services for seniors, for recreational and cultural pursuits, for a community living room, for Jewish education (formal and informal).

Jewish Day Schools: Thank you to the over 750 respondents who completed the survey. The results have been compiled and are being used as the basis for focus group sessions to be held in the next weeks. These sessions will be critical components in the process, so please respond favorably if you are asked to participate. With the receipt of all inputs, our Task Force will then provide recommendations to the board of Calgary Jewish Federation. We hope to be reporting to our community on the learnings from this process in April.

Crisis Communication: Federation is hosting sessions in mid-January with community leaders and organizations to enhance our overall awareness and to establish appropriate protocols for responding to crises and for communicating to our community and with the public media.

PJ Library® and Shalom Baby: These Federation programs continue to expand their numbers and their reach, providing wonderful learning sources and important connections for young families to our Jewish community.

Turning the page on the calendar from one year to the next is an opportunity to reflect on what we have and where we are going.

The notes above relate to what we have: our community continues to thrive, to be vibrant, to offer much for Jewish identity, Jewish continuity, Jewish life.

Let us work, as a community, to ensure that what lies ahead is ever better for all of us, family and friends, seniors and babies, those who are comfortable and those who are in need.

On behalf of the board of directors and the staff of Calgary Jewish Federation, very best wishes to all for 2014, and beyond.

Bruce Libin, President
Calgary Jewish Federation

Pomegranate is produced by Calgary Jewish Federation.