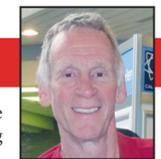


Calgary Jewish Federation wants you!
We have lots of exciting information to share about upcoming programs and events. If you are not already receiving our publications, please send us your contact information and we will be sure to bring you up to date on happenings in Jewish Calgary. To sign up today, please contact Janene Puffer at 403-444-3157 or jpuffer@jewishcalgary.org.

Pomegranate

NEWS, VIEWS AND SCHMOOZE WITH THE CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY



A MESSAGE FROM BRUCE

Fellow Community Members,
Our community continues to thrive, to be vibrant, to offer much for Jewish identity, Jewish continuity, Jewish life. Reading the Jewish Free Press, our Jewish Federation's ePom, the many signs, posters and announcements at the Calgary JCC – one can only be impressed with all our community has to offer. We can, of course, do more and do it 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 mitzvah. Our slogan of I AM COMMUNITY was fulfilled with the support of all. Todah Raba.

And while UJA goes on, look at some of our other initiatives: **Community Campus**: Efforts continue at planning and at having the land rezoned as needed. While we have a focal point for our community now, we continue to pursue 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 are a critical component in the process, so please respond favourably 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 a wonderful learning source 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
Bruce Libin, President
Calgary Jewish Federation

The strength of a people.
The power of community.

UJA Campaign 2013

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

RAISED TO DATE: **\$3.033 million** 2012: \$2.925

Thank you to all our generous donors!



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 Israel. So "Giving Back" and maintaining the link of dor l'dor – 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 trip 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...

UJA has granted me the gift of being a witness. In more than three decades as a leader of Federation/UJA, I have discovered it to be inclusive, egalitarian, passionate, pluralistic, constantly evolving and relevant.



UJA practices Tikkun Olam 365 days a year. I have witnessed acts of loving kindness directed towards literally hundreds of members in our Jewish community, especially the most vulnerable.

I have seen UJA assist the families of Jewish children with funds to attend schools, camps and special programs.

I have witnessed needy Jewish families in our city receive food and shelter, women protected from abuse, seniors cared for, respected and appreciated. But the breadth of Calgary's Jewish Federation extends far beyond the city's borders. I have seen UJA campaign funds support social service and educational programs in Israel's often-dangerous northern region (Etzvah HaGali).

UJA is not about one person or program. It is about our community making everyone's life better, every day, year-after-year-after-year.

I know Canadians will always keep this sacred tradition.

I know that I will witness this with my own eyes.

– Drew Staffenberg

Growing up in a family committed to tzedakah and hearing stories of how my grandparents fundraised 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 1968 Women's Division luncheon, I knew it is my responsibility to carry on their legacy. I also want to maintain that legacy for my children, Jonah and Micah, who are enjoying all the advantages of the community that was built for them.

When I came back to Calgary after living overseas for many years, I got a call to canvass 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 one of us locally, nationally and internationally.

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

– Diana Kalef



PJ Library® and Temple B'nai Tikvah invite you to celebrate

TU B'SHEVAT – NEW YEAR FOR TREES

Sunday January 12
3:30pm • Temple B'nai Tikvah

Join us for a unique, child-friendly Tu B'Shevot Seder. We'll eat, sing and celebrate the miracle of trees and nature. Create a new family tradition.

There is no charge, but registration is required by January 10. Contact Kathie at 403-612-6604 or kwainer@jewishcalgary.org. Space is limited.



Singing with Seniors

A group of PJ Library® families gathered at Trinity Lodge to brighten up the morning with song, on Sunday December 15. Voices, the Jewish Community Choir, under Director Karina Szulc with accompanist, Arlein Chetner, led the little ones, along with parents, grandparents and some great-grandparents in a medley of children's songs, Hebrew favourites and some Yiddish folk songs. It was a morning to remember. "It was so special to see three, and sometimes four generations, singing together," said Kathie Wainer, PJ Library® Program Coordinator. "I can think of no better way to teach our children the mitzvah of *Hiddur P'nai Zaken* (honoring the elderly)."



KESHER KLUB IS BACK!



Keshet Klub is a program for Jewish adults with special needs. We welcome new members. Join us the first and third Sunday of each month and meet other wonderful people!

Do YOU have the X-Factor?
Come and share your talent with the Klub!



To join Keshet Klub or for more information and to volunteer, contact Hila Maydar, Inclusion Coordinator at 403-389-6994 or hmaydar@jewishcalgary.org.

Israel in a Changing Middle East: New Threats, New Opportunities

Monday January 27 • 7:00pm
Calgary JCC

Dr. Jonathan Spyer, a senior research fellow at the Global Research in International Affairs Center in Herzliya, will present his analysis of the Middle East situation.

Spyer is author of *The Transforming Fire: The Rise of the Israel-Islamist Conflict*. He served in an IDF tank unit during the 2006 Lebanon War. He holds a PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics and a Masters Degree in Middle East Politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. Between 1996 and 2000, Spyer was at the Israeli Prime Minister's Office.

Tickets to the event are \$5 and free for students. For more information contact Kathie Wainer at 403-612-6604 or email kwainer@jewishcalgary.org.



Calgary Jewish Federation welcomes and supports children and adults with special needs. If you or a loved one needs special accommodations to participate in any of our events, please contact Hila Maydar, Inclusion Coordinator, at 403-389-6994 or hmaydar@jewishcalgary.org.

Your Generous UJA Contributions Support Calgary Jewish Federation's Partner Agencies



Calgary Jewish Federation is planning to raise an estimated \$3,300,000 this year through the annual United Jewish Appeal Campaign. Estimated campaign costs are 12 percent of funds raised. UJA charitable gifts will be allocated to programs described in Federation publications including our Annual Report, Pomegranate, E-Pom and www.jewishcalgary.org. For more information, contact Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154. Our address is Jerusalem Road, 1607 – 90 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2V 4V7. We are incorporated in the Province of Alberta.

Pomegranate is produced by Calgary Jewish Federation.

All events on this Pomegranate page are supported by UJA dollars.