

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 Aviva Kolotinsky at 403-444-3157 or akolotinsky@jewishcalgary.org.

Pomegranate

NEWS, VIEWS AND SCHMOOZE WITH THE CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY



A MESSAGE FROM ADAM

One of the distinct advantages of being Jewish is that we get to celebrate the New Year twice – once at Rosh Hashana and once on January 1. It is true that the Jewish New Year is a more thoughtful holiday than the secular one, but as Jews, we are lucky to have two opportunities each year to assess the past and contemplate the future.

2015 marks a new era of professional leadership for Calgary Jewish Federation. December 31 was the end of the Drew Staffenberg era, and January 1 the beginning of my solo flight as CEO. I can only hope to build on the past successes of Drew and the other CEOs that came before me, who left a legacy of an engaged, thriving Jewish community of Calgary. Looking forward to the coming year, the staff of Federation

will work together with our partner agencies to provide opportunities for people of all ages to learn and express themselves Jewishly, to find comfort in community, to come together to remember and to celebrate.

For Federation staff, the fall months are dedicated to raising the funds we need to maintain the level of service this community has come to expect and deserves. Winter and spring are more program oriented, with speakers about Israel, Holocaust education and commemoration programming, and of course more PJ Library*, Shalom Baby and Tot Shabbat events. Watch the JFP for details of upcoming events and if you do not receive our electronic newsletter, ePOM, just ask Aviva at akolotinsky@jewishcalgary.org to put you on the email list.

On behalf of the Federation team, I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2015. May this be a fulfilling, energizing, meaningful, peaceful year.

If you have any questions or concerns about Calgary Jewish Federation, please contact me at asilver@jewishcalgary.org or 403-444-3151.

B'shalom,

Adam Silver

Adam Silver, CEO
Calgary Jewish Federation

PJ Chanukah Celebration

The JCC auditorium rocked on December 14 with the sounds and energy of Chanukah, as 88 children and their parents and grandparents celebrated the Festival of Lights at a party sponsored by Calgary Jewish Federation's PJ Library* program and the JCC. Activities included the painting of a gigantic chanukiyah wall mural and the ever-popular Chanukah cookie decorating. A highlight was a Chanukah sing-along led by DeDe Safren and Joel Zimmerman followed, of course, by latkes and other treats.



PJ Library* and Temple B'nai Tikvah invite you to celebrate our second annual

TU B'SHEVAT NEW YEAR FOR TREES

Sunday February 1, 2015
3:00pm • Temple B'nai Tikvah
900 47 Avenue SW

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 28, 2015.

Contact Kathie at 403-537-8592 or kwainer@jewishcalgary.org for information and to register.

Space is limited.



BILLETS NEEDED FOR ISRAELI HOCKEY PLAYERS AGED 10-14

Calgary Jewish Federation is excited to host a delegation from the **Canada-Israel Hockey School** March 10-15. CIHS is a unique program in Israel which brings together Jewish and Arab kids to play hockey as a means to bringing peace to the region. The delegation will include both boys and girls. Responsibilities of billeting families include:

- Host a minimum of two players.
- Drive players to and from central meeting point.
- Organize activities for Shabbat.
- The Israelis would love to play against local youth teams – so if your child is on a team, please help us set something up!



For information contact Judy Shapiro at jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org or 403-444-3153.

Making Mitzvahs the YLD Way

Sunday January 25
1:00 - 3:00pm • Beth Tzedec Congregation

Join Calgary YLD and Rabbi Osadchey as we make soup and learn some secrets from the great chef of Beth Tzedec. The soup will be donated to Jewish Family Service Calgary. \$18 per person. Limited spaces available. Register at www.jewishcalgary.org

For more information contact Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154 or dkalef@jewishcalgary.org.



Welcome Elliott!

Calgary Jewish Federation is pleased to welcome Elliott Steinberg as our Marketing and Communications Manager. With a background in exhibit and graphic design, and years of experience in our community in both professional and volunteer roles, Elliott brings a creative approach to this position. Among his many responsibilities, Elliott will edit Pomegranate and ePOM. He can be reached at esteinberg@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 Judy Shapiro at 403-444-3153 or jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org.

All programs on this page are funded in part by your donation to United Jewish Appeal.

What does UJA fund?



Subsidies for a summer of fun and friendship at Camp BB Riback

Holocaust education



Welcoming new babies



Holocaust survivor Fanny Wedro tells her story at St. Martha's School

Subsidies for Jewish day school education at Akiva Academy and The Calgary Jewish Academy



A Partnership 2Gether *mifgash* or exchange program between Calgary Jewish Academy and Har Vagai School in Etzba Hagalil

Cultural Arts programming at the JCC



Seniors outings organized by Jewish Family Service Calgary and JCC



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE!

Maybe it's a form of time travel, but you can still contribute to the 2014 UJA campaign even though we've crossed the threshold into 2015. The benefit of doing a mitzvah knows no time limit.

Online: www.jewishcalgary.org

In person: Aviva Kolotinsky at the Calgary JCC

Mail: Calgary Jewish Federation / UJA
1607 90 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2V 4V7

Phone: 403-444-3157

2015 tax receipts to be issued.

Live Generously Donate Now

Support your community by giving generously to the 2014 UJA campaign.

Your Volunteers' Words to Live By



בהתנדב העם, ברכו ה'
B'hitnadev ha'am, barchu hashem
When the nation volunteers, praise the Lord.
- Judges 5:2

This opening to the Song of Deborah celebrates those who heeded the prophetess' call and is the first explicit mention of volunteerism in *Tanach*. The Hebrew *l'hitnadev*, 'to volunteer' is a reflexive verb meaning 'to gift one's self'. Yannai Segal finds that while volunteering is ostensibly to the benefit of the cause one is giving to, the true benefit is the value of one's own personal growth. Yannai is a past-president of Akiva Academy, presently sits on the board of Calgary Jewish Federation, is an active volunteer for House of Jacob Mikveh Israel, and is a solid supporter of all things Jewish in Calgary. He says: "It's great to be part of a community with such a spirit of cooperation and of volunteerism. *Barchu Hashem*."



*Your beliefs become your thoughts,
Your thoughts become your words,
Your words become your actions,
Your actions become your habits,
Your habits become your values,
Your values become your destiny.*
- Mahatma Ghandi

Megan Zybytz's values and beliefs inform her actions as a long-time UJA volunteer. "I realize how fortunate I am and I feel that I have an obligation to help others," she says. While there are many worthy causes, Megan gives her time to the Jewish community in recognition of our small numbers and in appreciation of the breadth of services supported by UJA. Raising her children in the community in which she was brought up, Megan is committed to ensuring the future of Jewish life in Calgary. "I believe it is important to teach our children about *tzedakah* and community at a young age," she says. And what better way to teach than by setting a good example... something Megan does every day in working for a positive destiny for Jewish Calgary.

— Calgary Jewish Federation and UJA Partner Agencies —

