



Embrace Winter with JACfit: Nordic!

Don't hide from the cold! Make the most of the outdoors! JACfit Nordic is a great opportunity to have fun on the snow (or ice) and get some exercise:

March 25

Cross Country Skiing at the Canmore Nordic Centre, time TBD

Please dress appropriately for the sport and weather. Dates may change or be cancelled due to weather.

Questions? Contact Diana at jac@jewishcalgary.org or 403-444-3154



avi shabbat

Breaking bread is a wonderful way to bring people together and this year's Avi Shabbat did just that. Hillel Calgary hosted over 60 people of different faiths and backgrounds at a warm, welcoming evening with Rabbi Mark Glickman at Temple B'nai Tikvah on February 23rd. Avi Shabbat is an international interfaith relations program that brings young people together to affect change. The night included a tour, services, and thoughtful conversation among students. Thanks to the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) for helping to make the event possible.



Tribute Cards

The perfect way to strengthen the Jewish community while showing someone you care.

Honour someone special by supporting important funds that help strengthen Jewish life and our future.

Order online at jewishcalgary.org under *Ways to Give*. For info or to purchase by phone, contact Irena Karshenbaum at 403-537-8594.

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 Elliott Steinberg at 403-252-5801 or esteinberg@jewishcalgary.org.



A MESSAGE FROM JARED

Shalom Friends, Worldwide, Jewish communities are reported to be experiencing a rise in antisemitism in all its forms. So it should come as no surprise that we are not immune from that trend, even in Calgary.

Two weeks ago, Calgary Jewish Federation received a piece of antisemitic, white supremacist hate mail celebrating "Expulsion History Month." Through our partners at CIJA (The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs), we learned that several other Federations had received the same hate mail. The week before, Chabad Lubavitch Calgary received a different hate mail message. It matched letters sent to several synagogues across Canada in December which featured a swastika and blood-soaked Star of David. In both cases, Federation notified Calgary Police, who are investigating in collaboration with their counterparts across the country. We appreciate the continuous support we receive from our local police.

When any Jewish organizations are the targets of hate mail, graffiti or any other

threat, it is common practice to notify Calgary Jewish Federation and we, in turn, notify other local Jewish organizations. We want synagogues, schools, and agencies to be aware of the event and to remember to follow guidelines if they too are targeted. Community members receive training and security factsheets so they know how to handle hate mail safely and how to preserve any evidence.

Hate mail is one form of antisemitic intimidation—but a far greater problem is posed by the abundance of hate posted on the internet. Much of the hateful messaging on the internet is not new, however, digital media has exponentially accelerated the rate at which haters can publicize their propaganda. We may not be able to prevent online hate, but we certainly have a role to play in tracking and tracing the people and groups who post hateful material.

Prosecuting haters poses significant challenges. For example, offensive opinions which we would perceive to be "hateful," may not meet the very high bar set in our

criminal code defining hate speech. In a democratic society, there is a fine balance between protection of minorities from hate and allowing freedom of speech. But even if prosecution is unlikely, it is important to track and monitor those who propagate hate. The Calgary Police Service records incidents motivated by hate, even when charges cannot be laid.

In addition to the hate mail received recently, Federation has been working with Calgary Police on one local website which has published several antisemitic diatribes. From that experience, we learned that it is important to record and report before publicizing the hate material in order to give the police time to properly investigate.

If you see hate online, take a screenshot or photo and record as much information as you can about the account. Avoid sharing the post or flagging the offensive nature of the post with the person posting—the post could be removed and publicizing the post prematurely can jeopardize an investigation. Together in our local community and

across our partnerships we will continue to identify and address hate, denounce discrimination and promote respectful, truthful, and supportive dialogue in both our private and public conversations.

For more information about Federation's Community Relations work or to report incidents of hate—be it graffiti, mail, online messages, or harassment, contact me or Kara Goodwin, Community Relations Director at kgoodwin@jewishcalgary.org.

B' Shalom

Jared Shore
Chair, Community Relations Committee
Calgary Jewish Federation
Local Partner of CIJA



CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION INVITES YOU TO THE COMMUNITY COMMEMORATION OF

YOM HASHOAH

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

SAVE the DATE

WEDNESDAY APRIL 11

Our evening begins **6:30PM**
Holocaust Memorial Wall, Calgary JCC

Our commemoration continues **7:30PM**
Beth Tzedec Congregation

Contact Ilana for information at 403-444-3162 or ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org

Room at the Table?

PASSOVER IS AROUND THE CORNER!

DO YOU NEED A PLACE TO GO FOR A PESACH SEDER?

DO YOU HAVE A PLACE AT YOUR TABLE FOR A GUEST?

If you answered 'yes' to either of these questions, contact Karina Szulc, Shalom YYC Coordinator before **Wednesday March 21 at:** 403-389-6994 or karinas@jewishcalgary.org

PJ Library® invites you to join us for a

Preschool seder

AT THE CALGARY JEWISH ACADEMY
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 | 10:30AM

Join PJ Library® at The Calgary Jewish Academy's Preschool Seder and celebrate Passover with students and families at their annual event.

There is no charge, but registration is required by March 16 to Kathie Wainer at kwainer@jewishcalgary.org or 403-537-8592

JOIN US FOR THE NEXT IN OUR FAMILY HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING SERIES GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY SAM AND IDA SWITZER

PJ Library® CHAG SAMERCH PESACH

SUNDAY MARCH 18
10:30AM-12:00PM OR 2:00-3:30PM | CALGARY JCC

We will learn and celebrate this important holiday with educator Amy Goldberg! Everything you need to know for a meaningful Pesach celebration, including Pesach stories, songs, crafts, and special treats.

There is no charge but registration is required by Thursday, March 15. Please indicate which time you would like to attend, 10:30AM OR 2:00PM.

Please note that PJ Library® programs are geared to children under the age of eight.

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

NEW! \$700 grant for 12-18 day sessions!

THIS WAY TO AN UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER

Discover Jewish camp.

Up to \$1000 grant* towards a first-time camp experience. Apply at: onehappycamper.org

For more information contact Judy Shapiro at 403.444.3153 or jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org

*Some conditions apply

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

IBP opens doors

Calgary Jewish Federation's Integrated Bursary Program can help you, if you find it's a financial struggle to participate fully in Jewish life in our community.

With one application followed by a discreet, personalized session with a Federation volunteer, you can access subsidies for day schools, summer camp and recreational activities, depending on your need. Applications available at jewishcalgary.org or at Jewish Family Service Calgary, Akiva Academy, Calgary JCC and The Calgary Jewish Academy.

• • • Application Deadline: April 1, 2018 • • •

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