

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

For many of us, a favourite part of the Passover Seder is singing the raucous song, *dayenu!* After reciting a good portion of the “order” part of the Seder, and just before the *Hallel* and the meal, we finally reach a part that is familiar to most, especially the children. We begin to sing. Everyone has his or her own way of reciting it – some of us say each and every word, and skip the odd *dayenu*, while others of us sing primarily (or only) those words of appreciation – *dayenu* – “it would have been enough” or “it would have sufficed.” Often we engage in speed singing, loud singing and, certainly, familiar singing.

But why? Why do we acknowledge, over and over, that it “would have been enough.” In fact, within the song, we express our gratitude for fifteen different acts of kindness that G-d did for us in our exile, each one in and of itself worthy of thanks. Each one, even without the following one, presents a case to be appreciative. In aggregate, all of them surely warrant our thanks. However, we can also ask “is sufficiency enough?” If G-d had led us to Mount Sinai, it wouldn’t have been enough. G-d had to give us the Torah. And so on. Is sufficiency really enough?

We are incredibly fortunate to live in Canada, a home that provides us with the freedom to live our lives openly, to practice religiously as we wish, to challenge and / or support our governmental systems, and to build the lives we want to live. We could say *dayenu*. It’s enough. But if we were to say *dayenu*, we would be selling all of that opportunity short. To say we are free is not enough, when so many are not.

Although we must certainly be grateful for all that we have here in Calgary, in Canada, we must also recognize that each act and opportunity leads to, and builds on the next. The fact that we are free to live, to vote, to voice our opinions, and more, provides us with the strength and opportunities to do more, to be more, to create more.

Because we have the freedoms we do, we have the ability to build on those freedoms to make our society a better place. When we sing the Passover *dayenu* song, we see that

This is the bread of affliction that our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt. Whoever is hungry, let him come and eat: Whoever is in need, let him come and celebrate the Pesach. This year we are here; next year may we be in the Land of Israel. This year we are in slavery; next year may we be free people. (Haggadah)

sufficiency is not really enough – there is always more to do, more to achieve. We live in a country, a province, a city, that has excellent programs to support the vulnerable. We could say *dayenu*, what the government provides is enough. But for the Jewish community it is not sufficient to help people access government services. We also need to ensure that our less fortunate families are able to live Jewish lives. When that is achieved, we can say – *dayenu*.

At this time of the year when we commemorate *Pesach* (Passover), we are reminded of the challenges we have faced,

the successes we have had despite great adversity, and the bold journey that ultimately brought the Jewish people to the land of Israel. We read and learn about the actions of less than likely leaders, and about miracles. During Passover, let us all reflect on the rich story of the Exodus, on the many challenges and successes our ancestors have had over thousands of years, and our own personal challenges in today’s current era. While being grateful is incredibly important, there is no *dayenu* without actions or events that follow. Let us be mindful of all that we have, the freedom afforded to us by living in Canada, and the very bright future we are building for ourselves and each other, but let us also be aware that without perpetual action and motion, sufficiency becomes mediocrity. If we do not actively exercise our freedom, are we truly free?

We are a tremendous Jewish community, with even more to accomplish in the coming years. Let us continue to support one another, inspire Jewish living, and ensure the story of *Pesach* continues to be shared from generation to generation.

Chag Pesach Kasher V’Sameach – on behalf of the board and staff of Calgary Jewish Federation, I wish you and yours a happy and kosher Passover.

Adam Silver, CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation





CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION
The strength of a people.
The power of community.

YOM HASHOAH

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

GUEST SPEAKER
Dr. Mark Celinscak, PhD
Allied Forces and the Liberation of Bergen Belsen

WEDNESDAY MAY 4, 2016 26 NISAN 5776

6:30PM - Observance begins at Memorial Wall, Calgary JCC
7:30PM - Observance continues at Beth Tzedec Congregation

Proud Community Supporter

2016 CENSUS

Please make sure to participate in the Census beginning Monday May 2. The demographics are vital to our community planning.

For more information please visit www.census.gc.ca



Attention Israeli Citizens

The Israeli consul is coming to Calgary May 15.
If you need to renew passports for children, change marital status, or anything else that requires a personal appearance, please email **Judy Shapiro** at jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org with the following information: full names of children or other applicant, teudat zehut numbers, phone and email contact info, and reason you are requesting a meeting.

ON CAMPUS



ISRAEL MOVIE NIGHT

On March 30, Hillel hosted an Israel Movie Night on the UofC campus. Fifteen Jewish students watched a challenging movie – *The Invisible Men*, engaged in a thoughtful discussion and ate excellent Israeli food (thanks Karen!). Watch out for the next Hillel event!



PYJAMA DRIVE

From April 4-7, Hillel and AEPi partnered together for a Pyjama Drive, collecting warm clothing for those in need. Thirteen extra large bags of pyjamas were donated, with clothes going to Children’s Cottage Society, Safe House Youth Shelter, Young Women Christian Association, GoodWill and the Mustard Seed. The organizers hope to make the drive a tradition after the success of this year.



PAC

[pak]

Program Allocations Committee of Calgary Jewish Federation

Funds raised by Federation’s UJA campaign are allocated for community programs and services by a volunteer committee with experience in many fields, including social work, finance, and Jewish community affairs. For more information please visit our website at jewishcalgary.org.



PJ Library®
CHAG SAMEACH
..... Pesach

Forty-eight lively children and 60 parents and grandparents celebrated Pesach early with PJ Library's Chag Sameach program on April 3. The first of the Chag Sameach programs sponsored by Sam and Ida Switzer was an overwhelming success. Not only did families have a great time learning with Amy Goldberg and singing with Karina Szulc, they went home with many ideas for a happy and fun Pesach holiday!



Join us for the second of our Family Holiday Programming generously sponsored by Sam and Ida Switzer

PJ Library®
CHAG SAMEACH
..... Shavuot

Sunday May 29
10:30am • Calgary JCC

Educator Amy Goldberg and musician Karina Szulc will help answer some of our questions:

1. Why do we celebrate Shavuot?
2. Why do we eat dairy?
3. How is it relevant to my family?



JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF CALGARY
The Sam & Ida Switzer Fund

PJ Library®
JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES & SONGS FOR FAMILIES

CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION
The strength of a people. The power of community.

There is no charge but registration is required.
Contact Kathie Wainer at kwainer@jewishcalgary.org or 403-537-8592.
Limited space - register soon to avoid disappointment.

SHALOM CALGARY NEWCOMERS

Meet & Greet

Shalom Calgary welcomed newcomers to our community on Sunday April 10 with a Meet and Greet party and information fair. Jewish agencies from throughout the community presented themselves, and guests schmoozed, ate and compared their experiences of moving to Calgary from all over the world.



Thank You

Toda Raba to the agencies for providing valuable information and a big thank you to these volunteers who helped make this event happen: Alina's Salon, Galit Abosh, Malka Balaban, Carriage House Inn, Jewish Free Press, Inessa Kessel, Malka Labell, Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta, Harriet and Phil Libin, Marci McQueen, Gaby Ruhr, Elliott Steinberg, and Robyn Winograd.

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 Karina Szulc at 403-389-6994 or karinas@jewishcalgary.org.

CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION PRESENTS

Dr. Jack Mintz

BEST ECONOMIC AND FISCAL POLICY FOR ALBERTA'S FUTURE

Tuesday May 3
5:00 - 7:00pm | Bennett Jones
4500 Bankers Hall East, 855 2 Street SW



CO-SPONSORED BY
Bennett Jones

Dr. Jack Mintz is the President's Fellow of the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary.

There is no charge to attend, however, guests must RSVP to:
Irena Karshenbaum, Calgary Jewish Federation
ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org
or 403-537-8594.

Stimulating Ideas | Business Networking



MUSIC AND REMEMBRANCE

Please join us for a special performance featuring music painstakingly composed in POW and concentration camps, as well as works by modern, Jewish composers.

WORKS BY VIKTOR ULLMANN, GIDEON KLEIN, OLIVIER MESSIAEN, SRUL IRVING GLICK, OSVALDO GOLLJOV, and KEVIN PUTS

2016 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CONCERT

Sunday May 15, 7PM
TEMPLE B'NAI TIKVAH
900 - 47 St SW, Calgary AB
\$25, \$18 Students/Seniors
Tickets on Eventbrite and through B'nai Tikvah



Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra's
Concertmistress Diana Cohen, violin;
David Lakirovich, violin; Virginie Gagne, violin;
Marcin Swoboda, viola; Johanne Perron, cello;
Esther Bing, piano; Erin Fung, clarinet;
Tim Borton, marimba

Profits to Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial Site
This concert is generously funded in part by David Lyons

SAVE the DATE

Association for Canadian Jewish Studies
Association of Studies Jewkes canadenses

COMMUNITY DAY

Sunday May 29
9:30AM - 7:30PM • Calgary JCC

Join us for:

- Panel discussions on Southern Alberta Jewish History and Montefiore Institute
- Book Launch: *A History of Antisemitism in Canada*, with author Dr. Ira Robinson
- 40th Anniversary Banquet with presentation of Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award
- Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta Photo Exhibit

For more information about Community Day and to register, contact JHSSA at jhssa@shaw.ca or 403-444-3171.

For more information about the conference and other events open to the public, go to acjs-aejc.ca/conference



A TRADITION OF SUMMER FUN

AN AMAZING SUMMER AND LIFE-LONG FRIENDSHIPS



One Happy Camper provides grants of up to \$1,000 to children attending Jewish overnight camp for the first time.*

Visit OneHappyCamper.org to find your camp and apply.

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

*Some conditions apply


