**Calgarians Discover Joys of the North...In Israel**

Ethna Hagalil is the narrow strip of land in the far north, wedged between Labrador and Fort Chipewyan and long been the target of Israel's enemies. The area was pounded by heavy missile attacks from the Islamic militant group Hezbollah in 2006, during a 34-day conflict during which 185 Israelis were killed and as many as 500,000 wounded. Despite the unique beauty and history of this region, the attacks – coupled with its distance from Israel’s centre and loss of funding from the government – have led many Calgarians to relocate to other parts of the country, leaving Ethna Hagalil with high unemployment and an overall poor economy. The total population of the region is about 70,000.

Both Calgary and its reciprocal region, the two-way mifgash as they stay with the Diaspora are a partnership and, as in any partnership, you are stronger together. “We feel needed and valued and stand together,” said Karen, who has connections in the Diaspora.

Karen’s friendships were perhaps even more fortifying. She had two children, had part of her master’s degree at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She also married an Israeli, Yakov Behar, in Haifa in 1975.

Karen’s younger son, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She also married an Israeli, Yakov Behar, in Haifa in 1975. Karen had connections in the Diaspora. Cathy nor Karen could have dreamt of the recognition they would gain from their involvement in an international program that connects 45 regions in Israel with 45 regions in the Diaspora. Through Partnership2Gether, six Coast Canadian Federations – Calgary, Ottawa, Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Atlantic Canada – are linked to Etzba Hagalil, the Galilee Panhandle, which includes two regional councils – the Upper Galilee (Kibbutzim) and Mevo’ot Hamevo’ot (Moshavim) – and the towns of Kfar and machtesh Yehuda.

“This project has validated the belief that Calgary and its Diaspora are a partnership and, as in any partnership, you are stronger together,” said Karen. Cathy and Karen had both been part of the P2G program for three years. “We feel needed and valued and stand together,” said Karen.

**Premier Former Redford Launches Women in Politics**

Two weeks after her resignation as Premier of Alberta, MLA Alison Redford spoke candidly about the challenges of being a woman holding political office. The first in a “Women in Politics” series co-sponsored by Calgary Jewish Federation, Calgary Jewish Community Council, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs and CIJA (Canadian Jewish Political Affairs Committee), the April 10 event drew an enthusiastic crowd of close to 90.

The largely supportive audience was interested in MLA Redford’s comments about the importance of engaging in the political process, persistent sexism in politics and media, and the challenges of work and family life.

**Calgary Jewish Federation wants you!**

There is no charge for this program, but registration is requested by May 1 by contacting Kathie at 403-612-6604 or kathie@jewishcalgary.org.

For more information, contact Judy Shapiro at 403-739-2714 or judyshapiro@jewishcalgary.org.

**Employment Opportunity**

Calgary Jewish Federation

**Campaign and Accounting Assistant**

Diana Kalef at dkalef@jewishcalgary.org.

This new team member will be responsible for recording all revenue for the Calgary Jewish Federation, maintaining the community database, issuing charitable tax receipts, preparing and sending pledge statements, reconciling revenues with the accounting system and serving as the UJA / Federation event coordinator.

The Campaign and Accounting Assistant will report to both the Campaign Director and the Director of Finance.

Please submit your resume and cover letter by Friday May 9, 2014 to Diana Kalef at dkalef@jewishcalgary.org.