

**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](mailto:akolotinsky@jewishcalgary.org).

# Pomegranate

NEWS, VIEWS AND SCHMOOZE WITH THE CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY



## A MESSAGE FROM BRUCE



Shalom Chaverim,  
I continue to marvel at the breadth, depth and variety of our Jewish community, at the passion of those in volunteer leadership roles and of the many in our Community who participate and make Calgary a wonderful place to be Jewish. To be strong, our Jewish Community must ensure viable, well-subscribed educational programs are in place; that programs and initiatives supporting vulnerable populations are comprehensive; that Community members can celebrate, commemorate and pray with meaning; and that kosher food is available for those who observe the Jewish dietary laws.

**Kosher Food:** Calgary Jewish Federation supports and supervises *Calgary Kosher* (CK), the local supervisory body for kashrut. It has always been our policy to be as inclusive as possible and to provide a high standard of kashrut to meet the needs of our constituents. In our quest for continuous improvement, we looked for ways we might offer even more support to kosher service provision to our Community.

I am pleased to announce we have entered into a relationship with Kosher Check (formerly BC Kosher) placing them in charge of kashrut supervision in Calgary and other parts of Alberta as of June 2015. We have been working with them, seamlessly, for the last few months in terms of support for local special events and dinners and support of our current *mashgiach* (on site supervisor), Philip Wolf. Mr. Wolf will continue to serve as *mashgiach* with increased training and support from Kosher Check. For those of you who are unaware, Kosher Check is a globally respected certification and associating with them will ensure continued consistency of service, as well as appealing to a broader consumer base. We are most excited to be able to offer this service to the community. All kosher food providers

currently under CK will be transitioned to Kosher Check's supervision, possibly under a different certification mark, and certainly part of the Kosher Check family.

This has been a long process and we thank you for your patience. The results, I believe, demonstrate Federation's commitment to engaging with the right partners to ensure Jewish Calgary is ever stronger, even if it takes a little while to align those partnerships. We believe that this relationship will enhance our Community, possibly even resulting in more kosher options for those who are kashrut observant. Calgary Jewish Federation will continue to provide updates, and we also welcome feedback from the community, so please do not hesitate to be in touch with our CEO, Adam Silver at [asilver@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:asilver@jewishcalgary.org) regarding kashrut, or any other item.

**Funding Issues:** Our committed lay leadership teams have recently undertaken the tasks of determining allocations to our partner agencies and adjudicating ever increasing subsidy applications for our Integrated Bursary Program (IBP) – both very difficult, extremely meaningful responsibilities. Many hours of preparation by agencies, families and our dedicated volunteers regularly result in processes that are respectful, dignified and serve the many needs of our Jewish Community as a whole, and of its individual members.

As Calgary experiences difficult financial times, Calgary Jewish Federation is very cognizant of the growing financial and service needs of our Community, and we know that we will be there for each other when it matters most. Our agencies tell us they are already experiencing increased requests for assistance, and that even greater support from Federation's upcoming 2015-16 United Jewish Appeal (UJA) campaign will be required.

We have also experienced a spike in our IBP applications to virtually double what we had received last year at this time, submitted by families who hope to send their children to Akiva Academy or Calgary Jewish Academy, to Camp BB Riback, to JCC day camp, to the Asper Holocaust and Human Rights Program and more. These are families who have made a commitment to engage their children in Jewish experiences, without being in a financial position to fully support the expense. Many of them need a helping hand; our community is so very generous and supportive in enabling a significant number of children to engage in these experiences. The decisions made by the volunteers are extremely difficult given that the funds available are finite. Let's recognize that despite our Community's generosity there will be children who are not able to participate. We will need to generate more resources to satisfy our Community's growing needs.

I wanted to share a glimpse of the hard work, the generosity of spirit, and the can-do nature of Jewish Calgary and our Community members and volunteers. I cannot stress enough: through both good and challenging times, we are one Community; we will continue to thrive. We have the ingenuity, the dedication and the *koach* (strength) to ensure we remain vibrant, inclusive, and strong.

B'Shalom,

Bruce Libin  
President, Calgary Jewish Federation

*Celebrate Sunshine with friends and family*

# Popsicles IN THE Park

AT THE SIXTH ANNUAL

SUNDAY JUNE 7 • 11:00AM - 2:00PM • CALGARY JCC

**FREE FAMILY EVENT**

**Pleasing Polar Popsicles**  
(Kosher, of course!)

**Cuddle the Critters**  
(from Butterfield Acres Petting Zoo)

- Blow some bubbles
- Pack a pareve picnic
- Slather on sunscreen
- Fiddle with a firetruck
- Paint your punim (face)
- Bounce & bound & bellow!

**For more information:**  
Kathie Wainer at 403-537-8592 or [kwainer@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:kwainer@jewishcalgary.org)  
or Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154 or [dkalef@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:dkalef@jewishcalgary.org)

*This program is funded in part by your generous donation to UJA.*

# Because... Volunteers live longer!

Federation's annual UJA Campaign is a crucial vehicle for ensuring Jewish continuity, but it wouldn't function without the support of volunteers. Volunteering is a selfless donation – money can be recouped, time cannot.

**Please help our community and Jewish communities abroad by giving of yourself in one of the roles listed on the signup form online at [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org).**

*For any questions about how you can help, please contact Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154 or [dkalef@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:dkalef@jewishcalgary.org).*

## ON APRIL 15, OUR COMMUNITY GATHERED TO COMMEMORATE YOM HASHOAH, HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY.

The ceremony was moving and particularly significant because of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of both Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps. Guest speaker Leslie Meisels' poignant address reminded the 500-person audience of the important lessons of the Holocaust, particularly the need to stand up to injustice. Special thanks to the Azrieli Foundation for its support of the Yom HaShoah commemoration.



Federation was honoured to welcome special guests from the Armenian community, in recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Lusine Harutyunyan brought words of greeting and spoke about the commonalities in our peoples' experiences. Our connection was further strengthened by the invitation of Federation president Bruce Libin to speak at the commemoration of the Armenian Genocide on April 24.

*Photo: Members of the Armenian community with Federation president Bruce Libin, and staff member Irena Karshenbaum.*

# DRINKSAFTERWORK

SCHMOOZE ON THE ROCKS

FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
5:00pm | LOCATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED

QUESTIONS? CONTACT  
IRENA KARSHENBAUM at 403.537.8594  
or [ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org)  
JORDAN WALDMAN at 403.444.3146  
or [jwaldman@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jwaldman@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](mailto:jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org).

*All programs on these pages are funded in part by your donation to United Jewish Appeal.*



## THEY SEE FUN & FRIENDSHIP WE SEE THE JEWISH FUTURE

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

Visit [OneHappyCamper.org](http://OneHappyCamper.org) to find your camp and apply.

For information, contact Judy Shapiro at 403.444.3153 or [jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org).

\*Some conditions apply



## ISRAEL 101 The History of Tel Aviv

Thursday May 28 • 7:00PM • Calgary JCC  
 Guest Speaker: Eran Eldar

Professor Eran Eldar is the Visiting Israel Studies Scholar at the University of Calgary. His areas of research are urbanization in Israel and Israeli society and politics in the 50s and 60s. Dr. Eldar received his PhD in Jewish History at Tel Aviv University and is the author of *By its own efforts - The urban development of Tel Aviv in the twilight of the British Mandate and the first decades of the State of Israel.*



CALGARY  
 JEWISH FEDERATION



## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Calgary Jewish Federation / UJA Tribute Cards

Calgary Jewish Federation invites submissions from visual artists! We are designing new tribute cards and want to showcase works by talented community artists willing to volunteer cover art. We are looking for a variety of images (original paintings, photographs, etc.). Preference is for Jewish themes, particularly if they are local or regional.

For details visit [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org). For more information contact Irena Karshenbaum at [ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org) or 403-537-8594.

### NEW DUE DATE - MAY 14

Calgary Jewish Federation tribute cards can be purchased online at [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org) or by contacting Irena Karshenbaum at 403-537-8594 or [ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org). Minimum donation: \$18.

SHABBATUNEUP

REGISTRATION  
 CLOSING SOON

REGISTER ONLINE. SPACE IS LIMITED

[www.jewishcalgary.org/calgary-yld-the-young-leadership-division](http://www.jewishcalgary.org/calgary-yld-the-young-leadership-division)

Canmore JUNE 12-14