

community calendar

Want to know what's going on in Jewish Calgary? Check out the Community Calendar at jewishcalgary.org

Have an event? Click on "Suggest an Event" to add it to the calendar



A MESSAGE FROM ADAM

There is often a discussion as to whether the Jewish People really had a choice in choosing the Torah and becoming the People of the Book. That is, were the Jews coerced into assuming all of the commandments and obligations, risking death with a declination, or did the Jews accept our beautiful heritage from G-d with open arms and enlightened minds? What are the implications and lessons learned by grappling with this question?

At this time of the year, right around Shavuot, I often wonder about choices. The choices we make and the choices we avoid making. I also wonder about responsibilities and about obligations which, in my mind, are not the same. Perhaps it's semantics, but feeling obligated to do something versus owning a responsibility to do something are two different things. In the first case, we might feel as though something has been foisted upon us, where in the second case we might make a conscious decision to care for or protect something because we feel it is important to do so.

Our amazing Jewish Calgary was built for us by previous generations and involved many choices along the way. Leadership choices, funding choices, timing choices, and

choices of priorities. Many of those choices were driven by feelings of obligation – the feeling that Jewish Calgary must have its own educational facilities, must have a mikvah, must have its own central gathering place like the JCC, must have diverse synagogue offerings, and so on. As choices were made and plans were executed, the obligations turned to responsibilities. Many of us now feel compelled to maintain and enhance the level of programs and services provided in our community. We feel responsible for stewarding our community's rich palate of opportunities while protecting its assets. It is my sense, though, that we do so with a bold future in mind, one that is aspirational and meaningful, instead of going through motions to 'babysit' resources and maintain what we have simply because someone else built something and it would be a shame to let it disappear. Our commitment is more focused and more inspirational than that.

To link our assumption of collective responsibility with the concept of choice as it relates to Shavuot: We should not only live our Jewish lives and maintain the agencies, services, and programs that are personally important to us out of a sense of obligation, but rather, we should actively

embrace the opportunities ahead of us in the years to come, through a sense of responsibility and commitment to what might be – to a dream we might form. If we are aspirational and intentional in our efforts, we will not only be ensuring our Jewish future, but doing so by honouring our past.

Choices are everywhere, even if it seems as though a choice is not really a choice. Much like our ancestors, sometimes making what seems like a forced choice is actually the beginning of a transformational journey. Pirkei Avot, *Ethics of our Fathers*, notes: "We are not obligated to complete the work, nor are we free to desist from it." I am hopeful that many in our community will work together in choosing to embrace the collective responsibility required to ensure future generations can live rich, meaningful, Jewish lives. Our past is a solid foundation and our future can be even better.

Wishing each and all of you a safe and enjoyable summer!

Adam Silver, CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation

PJ Library Goes to Camp BB!
Sunday July 14

Bring the family and experience a fun-filled day at Camp BB Riback with the staff and campers. Camp lunch and snacks provided!

There is no charge but registration is required by Tuesday, July 9

10AM-4PM | Camp BB Riback, Pine Lake

To register and for more info (including meeting at Camp BB) contact: Kathie at kwainer@jewishcalgary.org or Dani at daniu@edjfed.org

JOIN OUR ANNUAL **FANTASTIC, FABULOUS, AND FORMIDABLE BBQ**

TO CELEBRATE THE BIG "F" OF **FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND FATHER'S DAY!**

SUNDAY, JUNE 16 • 12:30 - 4:00PM

CELEBRATE **INCLUSION**, FRIENDSHIP, AND COMMUNITY! EVERYONE IS WELCOME: INVITE YOUR SIBLINGS, PARENTS, FRIENDS, AND BRING YOUR DOGS!

KESHER JEWISH ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

FOR INFO CONTACT KARINA AT 403-389-6994 OR KARINAS@JEWISHCALGARY.ORG

PJ Library® and The Little Synagogue on the Prairie are Celebrating their 10th Birthdays!

We have a fun morning planned in The Little Synagogue followed by a special birthday surprise!

Child under 10: Free*
 Adult: \$18*

Stay for the day at the park and enjoy a musical concert at 1PM.

Sunday, June 23 | 10:00AM | Heritage Park

Registration and payment required by Wednesday, June 19 at: kwainer@jewishcalgary.org

You are welcome to join us without pre-registration and pay full admission at the gate: \$27⁷⁸ adult | \$14⁹⁵ child

Note: There is a parking fee at Heritage Park. Please dress for the weather.

AGM
 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND COMMUNITY SHEM TOV AWARDS

THURSDAY JUNE 20
 CALGARY JCC 1607 90 AVENUE SW

6:45PM CALGARY JCC YEARLY UPDATE MEETING
7:00PM CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION AGM

FEDERATION AGM AGENDA INCLUDES: ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS, COMMUNITY UPDATES, AND SHEM TOV AWARDS.

ISRAEL
 Consulate General
 Toronto and Western Canada

POWERED BY CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION

All activities on this page are made possible by your gifts to Federation's annual UJA campaign

A representative of the Israeli Consul in Toronto will be back in Calgary on **July 17 and 18**. For questions or to start the booking process, contact Amy Glassman Boiko at aglassmanboiko@jewishcalgary.org or 403-444-3153.

BE A PART OF LIFE & LEGACY™



CELEBRATING A TOTAL OF

\$4.217 million

RAISED IN ESTIMATED GIFTS (AS OF MAY 30, 2019)

Each partner organization has a yearly goal to secure letters of intent (LOI). Visit us online to learn more about partner organizations and complete your own LOI today.

jewishcalgary.org/life-and-legacy

AS OF MAY 30, 2019, MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY HAVE MADE A PROMISE TO LEAVE A LEGACY TO JEWISH CALGARY

Anonymous (5)
Ben Zion Be'eri
Marnie Besser
Judy & Ron Bing
Rachel & Jerrad Blanchard
Amy Bondar
Charbonneau Family
Gertrude Cohos
Kim & Peter Cohos
Steve Eichler & Tracey Rumig
Joy Feldman

Max Feldman
Milt & Maxine Fischbein
Peta Glezerson
Debbie & Nelson Halpern
Josh Inhaber
Susan & David Inhaber
Diana Kalef & Elliott Steinberg
Bonnie Kaplan & Richard Conte
William M. Katz
Tibor Kaldor & Megan MacFarland
Ron & Barb Krell

Mel Ksienski
Malka & Stan Labell
Bruce & Carolyn Libin
Susan Light
Lister Family
Stuart & Elaine Myron
Daniel & Roslyn Oppenheim
Joe & Robyn Oppenheim
Rob & Beth Ordman
Jane Paterson
Lynne & Ralph Preston

Dr. Stuart & Irene Ross
Shaikin Family
Robert Shiell & Cheryl Baron
Cheryl & Morley Shore
David Silver
Deborah & Adam Silver
Beth & Craig Steinberg
Shauna L. Switzer
Joseph Tappenden
Helen & Leonard Zenith
Tamar Zenith & Blair Laven



LOI received
3



LOI received
11



LOI received
11



LOI received
14



LOI received
10



LOI received
4



LOI received
11



LOI received
6



LOI received
12



LOI received
13

OTHER*

LOI received
5

*Legacy gifts can be left to any community organization even if they are not listed above.



For more information on how you can ensure our Jewish tomorrows today, contact Director of Development, Diana Kalef at dkalef@jewishcalgary.org 403-444-3154.