We have a wonderful vibrant Jewish Community. Programs and groups; participants, volunteers and staff – cumulatively add up to create a Jewish Calgary of which, deservedly, we are proud.

Could we do more, do better? Of course. June is the traditional month for Community evolution. School graduations, annual general meetings, board renewals and changing of the guard. It is not so much a time to say goodbye as to look forward to next rounds, new events, reaching greater heights. These thoughts have me wanting to a time to say goodbye as to look forward to a future where we have the opportunity to provide further needs with dignity and respect; volunteers galore – with a special tip of the yarmulke to our dedicated board of directors. The future: UJA: Federation’s mandate is to support Jewish Calgary, to broaden participation and affiliation. We can do this only with continued generous support for our Community’s operating needs through Federation’s United Jewish Appeal campaign. Please give generously.

Leadership: As a Community, we are fortunate to have Yannai Segal take on the role of President of Federation. Yannai and the Federation Board bring energy and enthusiasm to help address our Community’s issues and future. I look forward to working with them and of course to the continued professional leadership of Adam Silver and our A-1 team at Federation.

Challenges: With a difficult economy and a somewhat stable Jewish population, we must make the necessary effort to drive ourselves forward. We cannot be complacent – we must not take our wonderful vibrant Jewish Community for granted. I fear for the loss of commitment to a better Community, a Jewish Calgary that will retain our population and attract Jews from other locations. We must be bold; we must be courageous. “Courage is not the absence of fear, it’s carrying on despite it.” – Mark Twain

I am deeply appreciative of the opportunity our Jewish Community has given me to serve as President these past four years. It is an honour to help lead and to help represent Jewish Calgary and a privilege to work with so many dedicated Community members, lay and professional. I thank Carolyn for her support and encouragement and all of our Community for always striving for a better Jewish Calgary. We may not always agree on tactics; we all have the best interests of our Community in our minds and hearts.

Respectfully,

Bruce Libin
Immediate Past President
Calgary Jewish Federation
SURVIVING AND THRIVING

A lecture series for parents and guardians of children, youth, and adults with disabilities.

TRANSITIONING TO ADULTHOOD
TUES JULY 25 • 6:30PM • CALGARY JCC
Lorna Selig from The Children’s Link will discuss funding, guardianship, and other issues to consider in planning for the future.

LIVING WITH AUTISM
WED AUG 23 • 6:30PM • CALGARY JCC
Anne Morgan and Maria Vial from Autism Calgary will share information to help family, friends, and neighbours better relate to children with autism.

For info contact Karina Szulc at karinas@jewishcalgary.org • 403-444-3158

THE SIX DAY WAR

The Six Day War was undoubtedly a seminal event in Israeli and Jewish history. Federation marked the 50th anniversary of that event with a panel discussion on June 5. Dr. David Bercuson and Shaiel Ben-Ephraim explored the military victory and subsequent diplomatic challenges from an academic point of view. David Busheikin and Riki Heilik shared personal reminiscences of the time from a local and Israeli perspective respectively. It proved to be an eye-opening event that shed light on the complexity of that time in the Middle East and its impact on the situation today. Thank you to all the participants.

HILLEL HAD A GREAT YEAR
and is planning even better for the next!

Jew-do
Avi Shabbat
Bagel Lunches
Tikkun Olam
Jews, Schmooze and Canoes
Israel Advocacy
ShabbatShabbatHop
Regional Conference

If you’re going to be on campus next year or if you know someone who will be, contact Jordan Waldman at 403-444-3146 or jwaldman@jewishcalgary.org.

ISRAELI MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGH

Almost 110 people came to hear a talk by Dr. Menashe Zaaroor on groundbreaking technology for movement disorders. Dr. Zaaroor, who helped pioneer non-invasive neurosurgery, is the Director of the Department of Neurosurgery at Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa and Associate Professor of Neurosurgery at the Faculty of Medicine at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

Held on June 7 at the JCC, Dr. Zaaroor spoke about how MRI guided focused ultrasound is now being used to treat various movement disorders, and in the future will be used to treat a myriad of ailments in the body including breast and prostate cancer. Dr. Zaaroor has played a key role in bringing this technology to Calgary, which is now available through the Movement Disorders Clinic at the Foothills Hospital. Thank you to Dr. Zaaroor for your fascinating presentation!