A MESSAGE FROM YANNAI

In my spring letter, written three months ago, I referred to the imminent budding warmth of spring. Although I was optimistic by a few weeks, we are now entering summer vacation season enjoying Calgary’s long days of warm sunshine and just enough rain to keep our lawns and gardens green. In our Jewish tradition we set aside three weeks throughout our history including the sin of the spies and resulting forty years of wandering in the deserts. Thinking about the challenges faced by and overcome by our ancestors and our brothers and sisters in Israel helps to put our own problems into perspective. A temporarily depressed economy, a challenging UJA campaign, construction traffic at the corner of 14th Street and 90th Avenue – in the big picture these are speed bumps and not mountains to overcome. Individual needs will always exists, good work will always need to be done, thoughtful planning will always be necessary. But, we can be confident that as a community, if we have the will, then we also have the capacity to achieve our goals in building a strong and vibrant Jewish community for ourselves, for each other, and for our children.

Happy Summer,

Yanna Segal
President, Calgary Jewish Federation