A MESSAGE FROM BRUCE AND ADAM

The summer, for many, is often a slower, more relaxed time of the year. Not so for Calgary Jewish Federation. We have been busily planning for the coming year, recruiting volunteers and leadership for our Community’s 2015 United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Campaign, developing meaningful community commemorations and celebrations and mapping out our PJ Library®, Holocaust Education, Inclusion, Hillel, and Community Relations initiatives.

We are very pleased to announce this year’s UJA campaign leadership team: Larry Katz, Debbie Ryder and Yannai Segal. Our Community is very fortunate to have such energy leading this year’s efforts alongside a talented, committed cadre of division chairs and canvassers. A key theme this year is “engagement”. Larry, Debbie and Yannai, with the support of their team and in collaboration with our talented staff, are hoping to share our Jewish story with more people.

Last year, 1,650 people donated to the campaign; this year’s goal is to engage 2,000 individual donors. There is a place for everyone: as a volunteer, a leader, a canvasser, a donor – or all of these. If you are interested in participating, Larry, Debbie, and Yannai will find a role for you.

Generally, Jewish Calgary has been very supportive and work without your support, interest and generosity. Please remember this when being asked to contribute to this year’s campaign. During the month of Elul, which leads us into Tishrei and the High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we stop, reflect and plan for the coming year. The shofar (ram’s horn) is blown during weekday services, announcing the rapidly approaching High Holidays, and causing us to stop mid-prayer to reflect. Some scholars note that Elul is comprised of the letters aleph, lammed, vav, and lammed. They posit that one might associate the letters with the phrase “Ani l’ dodi, v’ dodi li” – Familiar to many of us from the Jewish wedding ceremony and translated as “I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine.” A loving, reciprocal relationship. We like to think of our Community as a loving, reciprocal relationship – the more one engages in and embraces community, the more one is embraced, and the more one derives from the relationship.

As Elul leads us into Tishrei, let us all reflect on how we can be our very best in the coming year, as individuals and as a collective. Let us make certain that those who will need us throughout the next year are able to rely on us; let us make sure we celebrate the legacy and beauty of our Jewish heritage and do not take it for granted; and let us ensure that we chart a bold, meaningful and supportive path for Jewish Calgary, this year and beyond.

Wishing you and yours a Shana Tova U’Metuka – A sweet and happy New Year,

Bruce Libin
President Calgary Jewish Federation

Adam Silver
CEO
Calgary Jewish Federation

Nisiya Tova – Safe Cycling

To Federation President Bruce Libin

Who has embarked on a physical and philanthropic bicycle journey. Bruce will be riding from Oregon to Maine – 5,816 kilometers over 40 days from August 23 to October 6. The ride combines two of Bruce passions – cycling and support of Community.

To sponsor Bruce’s ride with a donation (over and above your UJA gift!), go to our website at www.jewishcalgary.org.

BIKUR CHOLIM VISITORS

We’re looking for new members for Federation’s Bikur Cholim committee to visit patients in the hospital. Time requirement is approximately 2-3 hours a week, according to your own schedule. Please contact Community Chaplain Sari Shemsotzky for more information at 403-251-6507.

MARCH OF THE LIVING SPRING 2016

The March of the Living program to Poland and Israel is open to Jewish students in grades 10-12.

Parents and students are invited to come learn about this meaningful program.

INFORMATION SESSION: Tuesday September 15 • 7:00pm • Calgary JCC

For more information please contact Ilana Sari Shernofsky for more information at 403-251-6507.

Shalom Baby Play Group: For the Under Twos

Thursday Mornings

9:45am - Noon  |  Calgary JCC

2015 Meeting Dates

September 17  
October 1  
October 15

For information, contact Kathie at kwainer@jewishcalgary.org or 403-537-8592.

September 3, 2015  |  5:00pm  |  Anejo, 2116 5th Street SW

Drinks After Work

Schmooze on the rocks

First Thursday of Every Month

For more information contact Jordan Waldman at 403.444.3165 or jwaldman@jewishcalgary.org.

The Strength of a People. The Power of Community.
2015 UJA Campaign

Save the Dates

**Women's Canvassing Event**

**Thursday September 3**

7:00pm - Calgary JCC

Wine and hors d’oeuvres will be served. We’ve selected a vintage that pairs beautifully with schmoozing. Bring your notebook, canvasser stouts will be provided.

**Men's Canvassing Event**

**Tuesday September 8**

7:00pm - Calgary JCC

Although pickled herring and Matzah ball soup seemed more appropriate for this event, we’ve settled on beer and pizza to help loosen your canvassing muscles.

**Major Contributors Dinner**

**Thursday October 15**

An expert in crisis management, conflict resolution and anti-terrorism policy, Hoffman founded the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism at the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya.

**Lion of Judah and Women's Philanthropy**

**presents Amanda Lindhout**

Sunday October 18

Amanda Lindhout is a Canadian humanitarian and journalist, who was kidnapped by Islamist insurgents in southern Somalia and held hostage for 15 months. Amanda will share her story of survival in the face of lost hope and will illustrate the remarkable strength of the human spirit.

**JAC presents Black & Gold Gala**

**Saturday December 5**

Penthouse, International Hotel

*The Lion of Judah event has been moved from September 10 to October 18.

Because...

Education is the building block of our Jewish tradition.

2015-16 Allocation of Funds

The allocations depicted here do not include: Federation administrative overhead, annual campaign (UJA) expenses, designated gifts, special campaigns.

Because we care.
Because we love this community.
Because we want our children and grandchildren to enjoy a vibrant, engaging Jewish Calgary.

For all those reasons, and maybe a few more, we are thrilled to be the Chairs of Calgary Jewish Federation’s 2015 United Jewish Appeal campaign! We invite you to join us in supporting our community’s UNITED fund-raising campaign, which sustains many of the most important initiatives in Jewish Calgary.

The importance of the campaign on the health of our community can’t be overstated, especially in today’s challenging economic times. For many of us, there is an ever-present need for even the basics required for a secure life. Jewish Family Service Calgary has many clients who have been laid off or had their hours significantly cut back. More people are asking for help with tuition for Jewish education and camp through the Integrated Bursary Program. Jewish continuity can’t “take a break” until better times. We need to ensure that our community programs continue to thrive — and that means we need everyone to do what they can to support the campaign.

When canvassers contact you, please remember that they are volunteers, working in the best interests of our community. If they leave you a message, please call back. Please embrace being canvassed and ask, because your donation is the fuel that runs many of the programs and services that keep our community vibrant and inclusive.

We’re pleased to increase our UJA donations this year, because those who can, must – because many of us simply can’t. Won’t you join us?

Because...