

**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 ADAM

Leading into the recent lunar eclipse on *Erev Sukkot*, the internet was full of chatter about the rarity of such an occurrence, about the splendor of NOT seeing something that is typically present (if unnoticed) every evening, and about how awesome the moon would look (red, bright, large) when it reappeared after a short period of hiding. The more I heard about it, the more I wanted to see this rare Lunar Super Blood Moon Eclipse. Or, more technically, NOT see it. We were with friends in their *sukkah*, sharing some good company and good food, when the children went out of the *sukkah* to NOT see the moon. They waited and waited. We joined them, at one point, and waited as well. I think we possibly saw a bit of the eclipse through the cloudy sky, but the fact that I'm uncertain suggests that I probably missed it. Regardless, it was good fun yelling to the kids through the *sukkah* "can you NOT see the moon yet?" To which they giggled and answered "We don't know... we think it's still there."

That evening got me thinking about our complete fascination with something's absence, and our total apathy, often, with that very thing's presence. Jewish Calgary is ripe with active Jewish institutions, opportunities to celebrate Jewish and Israeli culture, to embrace and perform ritual practices, to lean on community in times of need, and to give of our time, talent, and treasure. Yet, days, months, and years pass without many of us availing ourselves of

some of the amazing opportunities in front of us. However, in the same breath, if any of the services, programs, or opportunities ever went missing... were eclipsed... the darkness left behind would certainly garner significant attention.

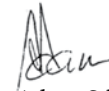
It is all too common that we don't really appreciate what is around us – until it is gone. We live with the comfort of knowing something or someone is THERE, but don't always include that thing or person in our lives. We may recognize the value of that very something or someone, but lack of urgency or immediate need makes us apathetic. But when those people or things are gone – the apathy lifts and regret sets in. I am proposing we open our eyes, and appreciate all that we do have. That we embrace and make use of the opportunities in front of us, and that we don't wait for an eclipse to cause us to notice absences, especially of key elements.

Interestingly, as a contradiction to the lunar eclipse, *Sukkot* actually announces itself through what is newly present – the *sukkah*. Where there once was a parking lot, a driveway, some grass, or a deck, we now see a *sukkah* – temporarily constructed for dining, entertaining, sitting, and even sleeping. We gather to celebrate what is, not what is NOT, and appreciate the temporary nature of the *chag* (holiday). Besides the ritual and cultural components of *Sukkot*, I associate the *chag* with autumn, with family, with

community, with hot apple cider, and with the comfort of discomfort. All of these things lead me to a sense of renewal for the year, on the heels of the High Holidays, and allow me to share even more special times with my children. We participate in *sukkah* building and decorating, even if not our own. We purchase a *lulav* and *etrog* to share. And, we enjoy things like squash soup and apple crumble to stay in harvest theme. All of these things ensure we are present in the holiday and aware of the things around us, making the disappearance of the moon recently, that much more of a contrast.

As we move out of a month filled with Jewish holidays and reminders of repentance and renewal, I am hoping that all of us will stop and take stock of what IS in Jewish Calgary, not what is missing. I am inviting you to choose to notice, choose to participate, choose to support, and choose to celebrate all that we do have. If something is eclipsed or missing, please be certain to let me know ([asilver@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:asilver@jewishcalgary.org)) – however, I think if we all seek out the bounty in front of us, we will be pleasantly surprised by what we find!

Wishing you all a continued good start to 5776,



Adam Silver, CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation

**SAVE**  
*the*  
**DATE**

**Kristallnacht**

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10  
 7:00PM • BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION



**Special guest**  
**Nick Winton**

Son of Sir Nicholas Winton, who saved over 600 Jewish children from perishing in the Holocaust.

## Attention Israeli Citizens

The Israeli Consulate in Toronto is sending a representative to Calgary November 29 and 30 to provide services listed below, where the applicant must appear in person.

The visiting consular representative can only assist with the following services (which cannot be completed through the mail with the help of a notary public):

- Application for issuance of a first passport - for a person who has never held an Israeli passport;
- Application to renew/extend a minor's passport (the minor's presence is required);
- Application for issuance of a travel document in lieu of a lost/stolen/damaged travel document;
- Notification of birth (the minor's presence is not necessary if a passport is not requested);
- Notification of change in marital status;
- Application for a name change;
- Application to revoke Israeli citizenship.



If you are interested in one or more of the services mentioned above, contact Judy Shapiro by email or 403-444-3153 as soon as possible.



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.



## MARCH OF THE LIVING SPRING 2016



The March of the Living application form is now available for all Jewish students grades 10-12 and will remain open until October 23.

Visit [marchoftheliving.org](http://marchoftheliving.org) to register.

**THE MARCH OF THE LIVING WILL NOT BE OFFERED AGAIN UNTIL 2018.**

Students are encouraged to register before the deadline to avoid disappointment.

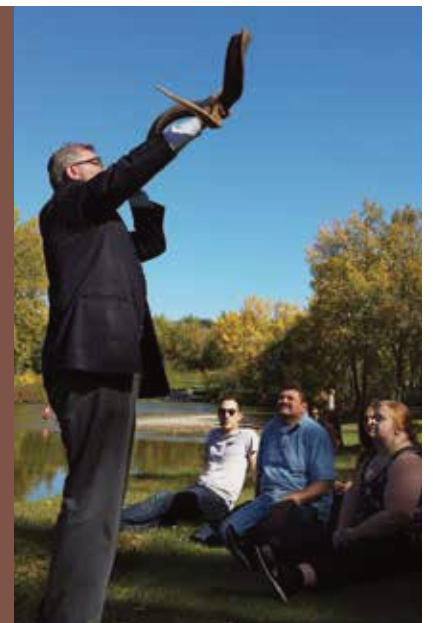
Contact Ilana at 403-444-3162 or [ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org).

## KESHER KLUB

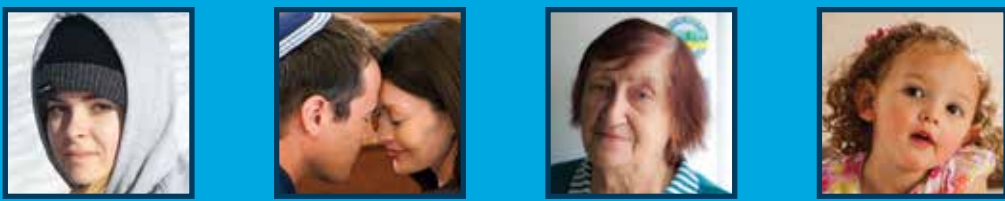
Cantor Russell Jayne of Beth Tzedec Congregation led a meaningful Tashlich service for Keshet Klub, overlooking the Elbow River on a sunny afternoon. The Cantor brought a couple different kinds of Shofarot, making an analogy between their unique sounds and the uniqueness of Keshet Klub members.

Keshet Klub provides inclusive, enriching experiences for developmentally challenged adults.

For more information please contact Karina Szulc at [kszulc@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:kszulc@jewishcalgary.org) or 403-444-3158.







# 2015 UJA Campaign



## A Message from UJA 2015 Volunteers Rabbi Chaim Greenwald and Michael Ullman



*Because...* we are ensuring the Jewish future.  
*Because...* we are educating the Jewish leaders of tomorrow.

For 35 years, Akiva Academy has been providing our community with high-quality educational experiences. We are grateful that our school is a partner agency of Calgary Jewish Federation and a beneficiary of funds raised through the United Jewish Appeal Campaign.

Akiva and Federation share key values – the *raison d'être* of both agencies is to ensure the continuation of Jewish tradition and community. We both strive to be inclusive in opening the proverbial doors that allow Jewish children to develop and maintain Jewish identity. Together with Calgary Jewish Federation, we believe that no child should be denied a Jewish education – and with the support of funds raised through UJA, we are able to actualize that dream.

Federation's primary financial support of Akiva Academy comes through the Integrated Bursary Program which allows our school to welcome students whose families can't afford tuition. In addition, we receive program funding to help integrate students with either English or Hebrew as a second or third language in older grades so that no Jewish Child is denied a Jewish education.

Our aim at Akiva is to produce literate Jews fluent in reading, writing and speaking Hebrew, comfortable in all Jewish life cycle events and services. A Jewish day school education challenges students to set their goals high, producing active, passionate and articulate citizens who represent the Jewish community admirably. We can't think of a better investment for your philanthropic gift! Please give generously when your UJA canvasser contacts you.

Rabbi Chaim Greenwald – Director, Judaic Studies  
Michael Ullman – President, Akiva Academy



**JAC presents**

**Gold&BlackGala**

**Saturday December 5**  
Doors open at 7:30PM

Penthouse at  
International Hotel

JAC invites you to get dressed to the nines and join in this elegant casino soiree to support UJA.

**Gamble for a good cause!**

\$36 Early Bird Admission • \$45 at door

J&C CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION UJA

For information contact Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154.

## Because... Today's Jewish youth are tomorrow's leaders.



Growing up in Northwest Calgary, Kira Blumer was the only Jewish student in her school. She sometimes experienced overt anti-semitism but more often witnessed a profound ignorance about Jewish people and Judaism. She enjoyed summers at the YMCA's Camp Chief Hector. She was the only Jewish camper there, but at the time that didn't feel significant. One summer, a scheduling glitch forced her to look for a camping alternative and she landed in Camp BB Riback's Leadership Training Program. This accident of fate altered her perspective completely. "The trajectory of my life suddenly changed, and nothing would be the same ever again after being exposed to an organized Jewish community." With the addition of BBYO in her life, she now had new best friends who understood her.

The March of the Living gave Kira the confidence to speak to her classmates about the Holocaust. Many of them had never heard of it. At school she became a de facto representative of the Jewish people, and her leadership training and staff positions at Camp BB Riback, her BBYO and March of the Living experiences empowered her to play that role more comfortably.

Kira's own experiences exploring Jewish life and finding a home in the Jewish community convinced her to embark upon a path where she could facilitate such positive encounters for other young people. She began a successful career as a Jewish community professional, most recently as the Regional Director for Northwest BBYO. "There is no way I could have been a BBYO Director if I hadn't gone to Camp BB that summer. It changed everything."

**Calgary Jewish Federation's annual campaign funds life-changing programs and experiences for Jewish youth.**

## You're Invited... **NEW LOCATION**

Sunday October 18 • 7pm • Beth Tzedec Congregation

Lion of Judah and Women's Philanthropy present

### Amanda Lindhout

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. Open to all.

Tickets: \$25 Purchase at: [jewishcalgary.org](http://jewishcalgary.org)

For info contact Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154 • [dkalef@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:dkalef@jewishcalgary.org)

**The value of a dollar**

**Because...**

**A week's worth of lattes can buy a week of JCC day camp for a family in need.**

## Live Generously Donate Now

Support your community by giving generously to the 2015 UJA campaign.

Online  
[www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org)

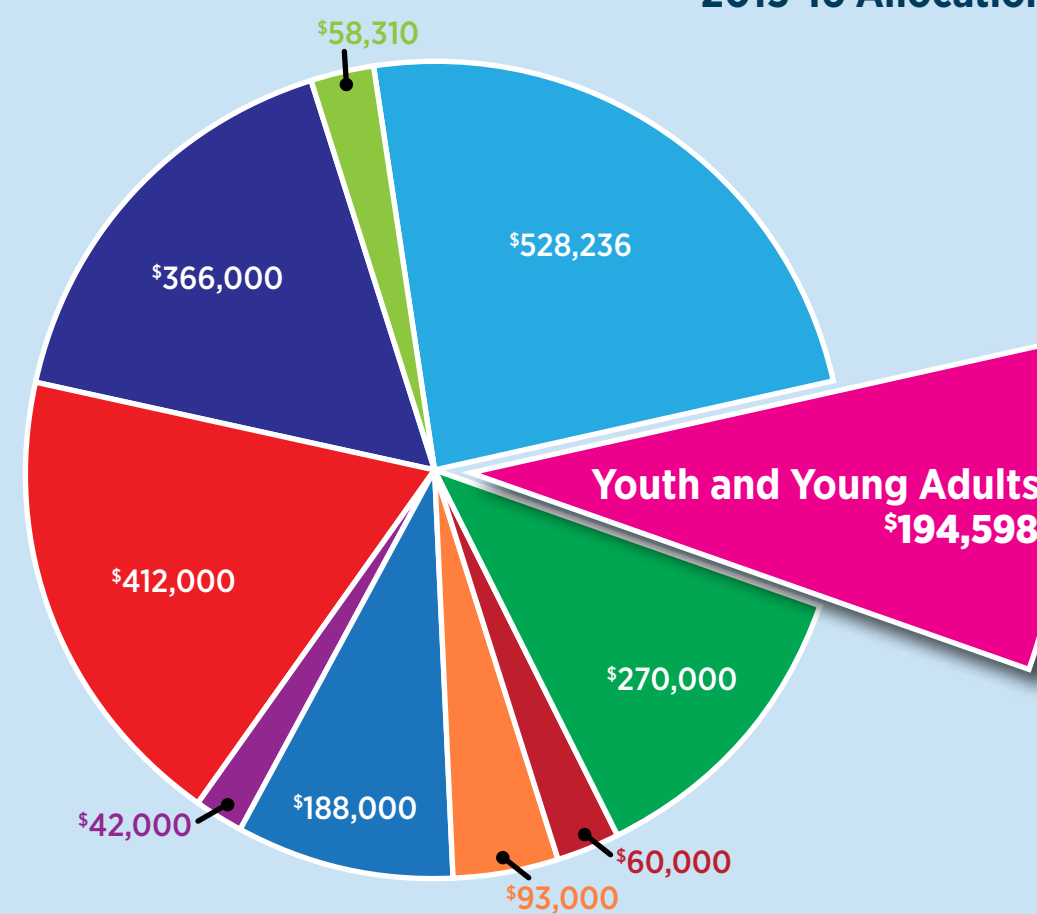
In person  
Aviva Kolotinsky at the Federation Office

Mail  
Calgary Jewish Federation / UJA  
1607 90 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2V 4V7

Phone  
403-444-3157

Calgary Jewish Federation is planning to raise an estimated \$3,000,000 this year through the annual United Jewish Appeal Campaign. Estimated campaign costs are 12 percent of funds raised. UJA charitable gifts will be allocated to programs described in Federation publications including our Annual Report, Pomegranate, E-Pom and [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org). For more information, contact Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154. Our address is Jerusalem Road, 1607 – 90 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2V 4V7. We are incorporated in the Province of Alberta.

## 2015-16 Allocation of Funds



Allocations are recommended to the Federation board by a committee of community volunteers who carefully review applications for funding. Requests always far exceed available funds.

- Mikvah and Kashrut
- Jewish Education
- Youth and Young Adults
- Support for the Vulnerable
- Jewish Culture
- Holocaust Commemoration and Education
- Outreach, Engagement, Community Relations
- Active Seniors
- National, Israel and Overseas
- JCC Community Living Room

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

### An Amazing Kick-Off!

A warm late summer day was the backdrop for UJA's campaign launch event "The Amazing Race," and amazing it was. Adults, kids and whole families raced from station to station, completing 14 fun tasks at 14 different stations hosted by Calgary Jewish Federation and its partner agencies. Among other activities, participants had to "Ride with Bruce (Libin)" on a stationary bike, sing along at the Kollel booth, work out IDF style with recently returned soldier Daniel Birnbaum, make friendship bracelets with Camp BB Riback, try Crazy Bowling, Israeli dancing, colouring, reading, quizzes – whew! Congratulations to the winners and to all the racers for making this a fun and energetic way to start the UJA campaign!

Thank you to Federation's partner agencies – Akiva Academy, Calgary JCC, Calgary Kollel, Camp BB Riback, Jewish Family Service Calgary, and The Calgary Jewish Academy for their enthusiastic support for the launch.

## UJA Plus Giving

When you increase your Federation UJA Campaign gift, you may designate 50% of the increase to one of our partner agencies or funded programs. Ask your canvasser or see the online donation form at: [www.jewishcalgary.org/waystogive](http://www.jewishcalgary.org/waystogive), and click on "give now".

Calgary Jewish Federation and UJA Partner Agencies