

**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 Elliott Steinberg at 403-252-5801 or [esteinberg@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:esteinberg@jewishcalgary.org).



# Pomegranate

NEWS, VIEWS AND SCHMOOZE WITH THE CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY



## A MESSAGE FROM ADAM

**S**halom! Some of the most special memories I have of Jewish ritual practice involve the Sukkah – times spent eating hot soup on a cold night, sleeping outside with my siblings in our family Sukkah, reciting “T’shev ba Sukkah,” enjoying some good conversation and dinner with friends, shaking the lulav with my children under the starry sky, and certainly the sense of accomplishment felt in both erecting and taking down the Sukkah. As Jews, much of what we do to express ourselves ritually and culturally ultimately begins and ends with DOING. We take action. No matter how large or small, a step of faith, an outstretched hand to others, recitation of a prayer, preparation for a holiday, acknowledging the grief or happiness of others – we take action.

The Sukkah is meant to be striking in terms of its sudden appearance on our property out of nowhere, its seasonal beauty, the historical link to our heritage, and the songs and laughter that emanate from it over the days of Sukkot. And although the sukkah is something that brings much joy, it is also meant to be impermanent, something that is temporary, that must be deconstructed and then rebuilt the next year.

Please indulge me, then, if I draw a connection between the building of a Sukkah and our community’s annual UJA Campaign. Each year, our dedicated volunteer canvassers and staff, and especially our Campaign Co-Chairs (this year’s, in case you don’t know, are Larry Katz and Yannai Segal) work diligently and with passion to ensure our community attracts enough support to provide the amazing programs and services that make Jewish Calgary the envy of many other communities across North America. For a temporary period of time, much like building, celebrating

in, and taking down a Sukkah, the campaign is developed and launched, there is an appeal to the generosity and compassion of the community, events are held to garner support and raise awareness, and before one realizes it... the campaign is over.

Sukkot is a season of temporary celebration that produces lasting memories. The UJA Campaign also has a limited time frame, but the impact lasts the whole year. The critical funds raised support those who are vulnerable in our community, make sure we can celebrate and commemorate events throughout the year like Yom HaShoah, Yom Hazikaron, and Yom Haatzmaut, provide support to our schools in their efforts to serve the diverse learning needs of our students, provide assistance to many families through our internationally recognized Integrated Bursary Program, support inclusion of those with physical or mental challenges, provide mikvah and kashrut support, enable PJ Library to be the leading program it is, make sure the community’s “Living Room” at the Calgary JCC stays active, and so much more.\*

Just as we prepare for the holiday of Sukkot, we anticipate the arrival of the UJA Campaign season, build to acknowledge its arrival, celebrate a bit, and then equally quickly begin to contemplate its end. The process is not without some trepidation – what happens if our community is not able to raise enough to support essential services or create a funding envelope for new, innovative programs?

I am very pleased to share with you that this year, for only the second time ever, our community raised \$1.1 million in September, the first month of the campaign – a true sign of the compassion and generosity of our donors, people who have recognized that there are many others in Jewish

Calgary who are experiencing difficult times, and see the many challenges in front of us, and the many opportunities to embrace and celebrate being Jewish. We are so grateful to have reached this milestone, but we have much more work to do, and we need all of you to help. If you’ve not yet made a contribution to the campaign, please consider making a donation today. If you have, please let me thank you on behalf of all of those who will benefit. Really, we all benefit in one way or another.

As you shake the lulav and smell the incredible fragrance of the etrog remember that we are a people of action and doing. Know that there is a place for you in our community; there are ways to engage no matter your background, and that although short-lived, the UJA Campaign leads to critical impact that lasts for many months. We need each of you to be active in our campaign and in our community.

**Because... each voice and each gift matters. Because... together we are better. Because... together we are stronger.**

Wishing you and yours a meaningful and festive Sukkot season – Chag Sameach,

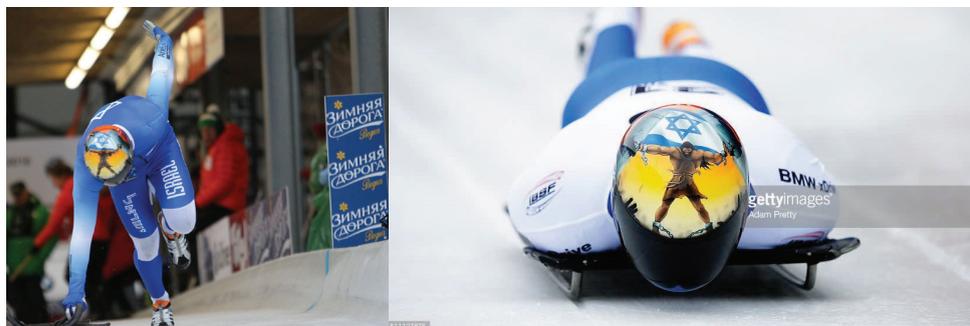
Adam Silver, CEO

\*If you have questions or concerns about how community dollars are allocated, the programs and services supported by the campaign, or anything else, please contact me at 403-444-3151 or [asilver@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:asilver@jewishcalgary.org)



**If you see something, say something.**

Our greatest security is our own eyes and ears. If you see something suspicious, **report immediately to police.** Also report to leadership of the institution involved and contact Judy Shapiro at [jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org) or 403-444-3153.



Meet the

## ISRAELI SKELETON TEAM

*(really there is one!)*

Four Israeli athletes are trying out to represent Israel at the Olympic Games in Korea in 2018. Come hear the crazy stories of how they are bringing a winter sport to a warm-weather country. See an Olympic skeleton sled up close and find out what makes these athletes want to race head first down a track going more than 100km/hr.

**Thursday, October 20 | 7pm, Calgary JCC**

For more information, contact Judy Shapiro at 403-444-3153 or [jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org).





PJ Library®  
JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES & SONGS FOR FAMILIES

Presents

Temple  
B'nai Tikvah  
900 47 Ave SW

Sunday  
November 27th  
@3pm



children's concert featuring

# SONSHINE & BROCCOLI

Jewish singing sensation from Toronto.

fun  
family  
concert

children  
of all ages  
welcome

**Tickets:**  
**Online at [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org) before November 25th: \$8 adult / \$4 child**  
**At the door: \$10 adult / \$5 child (children under two free)**

For more info contact Kathie Wainer  
Email [kwainer@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:kwainer@jewishcalgary.org)  
or phone 403-537-8592





## What would you do if you were given **Up to \$150** to create a do-it-yourself Jewish experience?



How about something with your kids, like learning how to make challah? Or an event tailored for adults, like an Israeli wine and cheese night, Jewish movie marathon, or book club get together?

PJ Library families in Calgary who have ideas for Jewish experiences are eligible for a grant of up to \$150 to make their ideas happen, courtesy of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

To find out more about the program, visit [pjlibrary.org/GetTogether](http://pjlibrary.org/GetTogether)



**JAC presents the 3rd Annual Casino Gala**  
Saturday November 5 | Doors at 7:30pm  
Rotary House, Weadickville, Stampede Park  
(Victoria Park Entrance)

Inquire about **FREE** admission

**Tickets: \$36 in advance, \$45 at the door. Cocktail Attire**  
Tickets include: A beverage, appetizers, tax receipt and fun money to start your night!



JAC (Jewish Adult Calgary) is a division of Calgary Jewish Federation aimed at young professionals under 40.

Tickets on sale **ONLINE** at [jewishcalgary.org](http://jewishcalgary.org). For Information contact **Jordan Waldman** at 403-444-3146 or [jac@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jac@jewishcalgary.org)



Calgary Jewish Federation is proud to co-sponsor two films at the Beth Tzedec Jewish Film Festival

**My Hero Brother – Sunday, November 13, 4pm**

**Germans and Jews – Sunday, November 27, 3pm**  
(This film will be followed by a panel discussion)

Film Festival passes available at [www.calgaryjewishfilmfestival.com](http://www.calgaryjewishfilmfestival.com) or at the Beth Tzedec office 403-255-8688. Individual tickets available at the door.

## Do you need to see the Israeli consul?



To renew a child's passport, record a name change, apply for army exemption?

The Israeli Consul will come to Calgary in November if there is sufficient demand.



To get on the list to see the consul, email Judy Shapiro at [jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org)

## HELLO FROM HILLEL

Hillel enjoyed a strong start to the year by tabling, enjoying an opening BBQ and hearing Gil Troy speak on campus. Thanks to everyone who came out. Watch out for our next events!



For questions contact [jwaldman@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jwaldman@jewishcalgary.org)



## Hana's Suitcase

**Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 2:00 pm**

**On sale now!**

Join Calgary Jewish Federation and Storybook Theatre for a special presentation of Hana's Suitcase. In this inventive, multi-media staging of a true story, we discover a tale of family love, tragedy and hope for the future.

Recommended for ages 10+. This performance will be followed by a Q&A session about the play. Special ticket price: \$25 for adults and \$18 for children – Tickets are limited and seats will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

For information please contact: **Ilana** at 403-444-3162 or email [ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org)

Buy admission at [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org)



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 Karina Szulc at 403-389-6994 or [karinas@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:karinas@jewishcalgary.org).



**Message from  
Wynne and Harvey Thal,  
Lion of Judah Chair  
and UJA Men's Campaign Chair**

We both devote a significant amount of time to supporting the campaign as volunteers, in leadership positions, and of course, as donors. We do that because we think our UNITED Jewish Appeal has tremendous impact on the health of our Jewish community - and we'd like to tell you how.

First and foremost, there's no denying that Jewish Calgary wouldn't be the dynamic, inclusive and thriving community it is without the financial investment of community members. Our ancestors built this community, established its institutions and assembled its leadership structure so that we would all benefit, generation after generation. It is our responsibility to build on that, to add to the framework that provides critical services and programs and allows us to live Jewishly in Calgary.

Second, we are motivated by the age-old Jewish tradition of 'Kol Yisrael Arevim ze l'ze' (Jews take care of one another). For some in our community, life is a struggle to keep a roof over their heads or fill their pantries. Not only does your gift to Federation's UJA campaign help cover basic needs, but it also ensures that Jews in Calgary (and around the world, for that matter) can live full Jewish lives and are treated with dignity and respect.

Our gifts to UJA are aiding Jews of the Ukraine, helping French Jews make Aliyah, and supporting the Galilee Panhandle in Israel. We help by addressing the trauma experienced by those who live in 'rocket zones', and by having a hand in building capable leadership to take Israel from strength to strength.

Actually, UJA takes care of all of us. Our collective generosity allows us to commemorate Kristallnacht, Yom Hashoah and Yom Hazikaron, celebrate Yom Haatzmaut and other Jewish holidays, enjoy cultural programs, maintain kashrut and the mikvah. Our gifts support youth, Hillel students and leadership development. The work of The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) makes us safer as a community, challenges our adversaries and builds relationships with influencers.

We have the power to make meaningful, positive changes in people's lives. We urge you to exercise that power for good, for the Jewish people, for today and tomorrow. Please join us in supporting the annual UJA campaign.

*Because... Together we are stronger.*

**UJA**  
2016



**Annual Campaign**

The UJA Major Contributors Dinner on September 19th was an evening of inspiring and informative speakers, and an opportunity to discuss the importance of Federation's UJA campaign to our community. Thank you to Ambassador Barak and Gil Troy for sharing their insights and Minnie Segal for sharing her community story.



Stuart, Harriet and Phil Libin



Gail and Brian Sidorsky



Christine Farrell, Sam Switzer and Jessica Miller Switzer



Eric, Gay and Bruce Libin



Riki and Don Heilik



Marg Semel and Adam Singer



Ambassador Rafael Barak and Miriam Barak



Sheila and Ralph Gurevitch



Ann and Morris Dancyger



Gert Cohos, Dave Chetner, Jenny Belzberg and Glenda Chetner

**The impact  
of your gift**

Growing up in Northwest Calgary, Kira Blumer was the only Jewish student in her school. She sometimes experienced overt antisemitism but more often witnessed a profound ignorance about Jewish people and Judaism. One summer, a scheduling glitch with the YMCA's Camp Chief Hector forced her to look for a camping alternative, landing her 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."

Her leadership training and staff positions at Camp BB Riback, and her BBYO and March of the Living experiences empowered Kira to speak to her classmates about Jewish life more comfortably.

Kira's exploration of Jewish life convinced her to embark upon a career where she could facilitate such positive encounters for other young people. "There is no way I could have been a Jewish community professional 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.



**UJA supports youth:**

- Teen Connect
- BBYO
- Kollel High School Program
- Hillel
- Camp BB-Riback
- March of the Living

**Live  
Generously  
Donate Now**

Support your community by giving generously to the 2016 UJA campaign.

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

In person  
Jessica Miller Switzer at the Federation Office

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

Phone  
403-444-3157



100 DAYS OF IMPACT

**UJA Cell-a-thons**

**You can make an impact...  
Volunteer for a Cell-a-thon!**

**Cell-a-Thon: Oct.27**

To RSVP call Irena at 403-537-8594

**JAC Cell-a-Thon: Oct.26**

To RSVP call Jessica at 403-444-3157

All at 6:00pm. A light dinner will be served.

Thank you to the 71 callers and canvassers who helped us raise our first \$1 million and closed more cards than ever in the month of September.

100 DAYS OF IMPACT

**And the winners are...**

**New donor prize from Hotel Arts**  
Evan Gelman



**Increased donor prize from Fairmont**  
Rochelle Rabinovitz



DAY  
18

**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 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.

