

### 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



## AN ISRAEL SOLIDARITY VISIT TO REMEMBER



On Thursday August 28, I received an email from our Partnership 2Gether (P2G) chair in Vancouver, telling me that three committee members were departing the following week on a solidarity visit to Israel and he wanted to invite others along. Monday morning, I was at the airport ready to go!

I chair Calgary Jewish Federation's P2G program which builds bridges between Calgary and Israel, particularly to the far northern region of Etzbal Hagalil. After the very difficult summer, I felt compelled to go at this time.

This was actually my third visit to Israel this past year. The first was for the annual P2G meetings, the second time was to visit my daughter Rachel who was on a six-month Masa program teaching English at an elementary school in Tel Aviv. This most recent journey was an eye-opening experience, a roller-coaster ride of emotions.

We began our trip with a visit to the Soroka Medical Centre in Beer-Sheva. This hospital was the major medical and trauma centre during Operation Protective Edge this past summer. The hospital treated over 1116 citizens, including 740 IDF troops. The staff worked nonstop during this period. Fortunately, the ICU had undergone a complete renovation six months earlier to make it a secure unit protected from rocket fire. While visiting the hospital we had the opportunity to meet two soldiers. The first was a 20 year who has undergone 10 leg operations, with more to come. His prognosis is good and his leg will eventually heal. He was so happy and emotional that we had come to visit. He told us that his greatest wish after his recovery would be for a scholarship to attend university.

The second soldier experienced a severe head injury on August 1 and remains in the ICU. His wife, who has not left his side, gave birth to a baby boy shortly after he was

wounded. The brit took place in the hospital, near the ICU where the father remained in a coma. The soldier's mother was so appreciative of our visit. The Soroka Medical Centre was the recipient of funds raised in Canada for the Israel Emergency Relief Fund

From the hospital, we continued on to Sderot, the community closest to Gaza, which has endured Hamas rocket fire for many years. Throughout the town, we saw rocket debris that was turned into public art sculptures of flowers and other decorative pieces. We met the mayor who described to us the resiliency and determination of the citizens who live there. We then met a group of 15-year-old kids who have grown up with constant rocket fire and who volunteered this past summer to help people in other communities cope. One amazing young girl described how she helped a single mother bathe her children. The mom was afraid to shower or bathe her kids for fear that she would not hear the siren indicating incoming rockets.

The following day, we travelled up north to our partner region of Etzba Hagalil which includes five communities, including Metulla and Kiryat Shmona. We support many programs in the region that vary in scope from social service programs, to education and high tech. It is a true partnership of which we can all be proud.

The Ziv hospital in Zefat is on the edge of our region. The hospital staff is one third Jewish, one third Arab and one third Druze – all Israeli citizens. Since last March, they have treated over 350 Syrian patients with quite severe blast injuries. They are brought to the hospital by the IDF which has a field hospital set up at the border. One of the doctors we met, an orthopedic surgeon, described to us the lengths he goes to in order to save these patients from having amputations and having to return to Syria, where he

believes they will not get the help they would need with prosthetics.

We met four of the Syrian patients including a 12-year-old boy with multiple injuries who arrived at the Israeli Syrian border on a donkey. Through an interpreter, we asked the patients how they were treated and how they felt about being cared for in Israel. They all shared with us how grateful they were to have been taken to Israel, where they believe they are receiving the best medical care. It was an amazing experience seeing how Israel comes to the aid of civilians fleeing a hostile neighbour.

Every trip to Israel brings new information, and new experiences, but for me, this was one of the most emotional trips I've ever taken. I am so proud that our Calgary community plays a part – a very small part – in the success of our national homeland. Our support of Israel, particularly of the Etzba Hagalil region, makes a significant difference in the social fabric of the country.

Since taking on the position of chair of the Calgary P2G program, I have learned that Federation and our counterparts nationally and in Israel are excellent stewards of our funds. Each and every project we fund is vetted, monitored and scrutinized. Not a penny is spent without extensive research and discussion.

As donors, you can share my pride in all the Calgary Jewish community does – here and in Israel.

Chag Sameach,

Cathy Cole  
Chair, Calgary P2G

## You are invited to a Jewish Community Campus Open House

Hear about plans for the new  
Jewish Community Campus  
(JCC, Seniors' housing, schools)

New  
Date

Monday October 20 • 7:00pm • Calgary JCC

- Learn about rationale for "Land Use Amendment for the Centre Lands to accommodate future development of a new campus"
- Meet the Campus Development Leadership team and Consultants
  - Hear the Plans for Land Use Amendment
  - How the Land Use / Development Process works and timing
    - Public Engagement Process
    - Q & A

Please note: A second session for residents of Palliser, Bayview and Pumphill will be held: October 22 at 6pm at the PBP Community Centre.



### ASPER FOUNDATION HOLOCAUST AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM INFORMATION NIGHT FOR GRADE 9 STUDENTS & PARENTS

Thursday October 30, 2014 • 7:00pm • Calgary JCC

Grade 9 students from in and around Calgary are invited to attend the Calgary Jewish Federation's Asper Foundation Holocaust and Human Rights Program information evening. The Asper program is an incredible educational opportunity that culminates in a trip to Washington, DC from April 26 to May 1, 2015 to visit the Holocaust Memorial Museum and other Human Rights exhibits and Memorials. All are welcome.

Visit [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org) for more information or contact Ilana Krygier Lapidés at 403-444-3162 or [ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org).

Pomegranate is produced by Calgary Jewish Federation.

## New Program for Calgary Teens!

Two mini-workshops for Jewish teens, ages 12-18, on the topics of Bikur Cholim (visiting the frail, ill or disabled) and Jewish end-of-life beliefs and traditions.

### Bikur Cholim Workshop

Sunday October 26

2:00 - 5:00pm • Calgary JCC

This program will provide a foundation for our youth to encourage a lifelong practice of helping others.

- Teaching teens the values and traditions of bikur cholim and encouraging personal reflection.
- Creating ideas for bikur cholim activities and programs.

### Jewish End-of-Life Beliefs and Traditions Workshop

Sunday November 30

2:00 - 5:00pm • Chevra Kadisha

An understanding of the purpose and traditions related to funerals and shiva visits will enhance personal development and create a new appreciation for the importance of our life cycle events and tikkun olam.

- Presentations on Jewish end-of-life beliefs and traditions.
- Tour of the Chevra Kadisha.

Coordinated by Calgary Jewish Federation's Community Chaplain, Sari Shernofsky.

Please RSVP by Monday October 20.

Contact Sari Shernofsky at [sari.shernofsky@shaw.ca](mailto:sari.shernofsky@shaw.ca) or 403-251-6507.



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, Shalom Calgary and Inclusion Coordinator at 403-444-3158 or [karinas@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:karinas@jewishcalgary.org).

## BECOMING A CANADIAN CITIZEN

with Joe Woodard  
Citizenship Judge  
Western Region – Calgary CIC  
Citizenship and Immigration Canada



### IMMIGRANTS SESSION

Monday October 20  
7:00-9:00pm • Calgary JCC

### AGENCIES AND PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH IMMIGRANTS

Thursday October 23  
1:30-3:30pm • Calgary JCC

Limited space available. RSVP by October 13.  
For more information contact Karina Szulc at [karinas@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:karinas@jewishcalgary.org) or 403-444-3158.

Learn about changes  
in process and  
requirements  
for acquiring  
Canadian citizenship



# The Shabbat Project

A community-wide celebration of Shabbat  
October 24-25

### Calgary Shabbat Project Events:

Challah Braiding  
Shabbat Dinners  
Shabbat Learning  
Havdallah Service



Go to [www.jewishcalgary.org](http://www.jewishcalgary.org) for details.

If you are planning to host a Shabbat dinner, please email Marilyn Samuels at [mtsamuels@gmail.com](mailto:mtsamuels@gmail.com) – we want to keep track of all the Shabbat activities!

### Participating Organizations

- Beth Tzedec Congregation
- Calgary JCC
- Calgary Jewish Federation
- Calgary YLD
- Chabad Lubavitch
- House of Jacob-Mikveh Israel
- Kehillat Shalom
- Temple B'nai Tikvah

*"More than Jews have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jews."*  
– Ahad Ha'am



## REGISTRATION DEADLINE

ADULT AND STUDENT MARCHES: MONDAY OCTOBER 27



## MARCH OF THE LIVING

APRIL 12-27, 2015\*

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

\*dates subject to change



## Kristallnacht

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9

SCREENING OF FIFTY CHILDREN  
IN COLLABORATION WITH  
THE BETH TZEDEC FILM FESTIVAL

## TOT SHABBAT

Get Ready for Shabbat with PJ Library®

Starting Friday November 7  
9:45-10:30am • Calgary JCC

Our free half hour class will focus on the festive feeling of Shabbat and holidays through songs, stories, blessings and dance. At the end of the class we will join the regular JCC Shabbat Program. This program will be offered every other Friday.

There is no charge but please contact Kathie at [kwainer@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:kwainer@jewishcalgary.org) or 403-537-8592 and let her know if you are planning to come.

This class is suitable for tots three years and under, together with parents / grandparents / caregivers.

The PJ Library® Tot Shabbat Program is funded by Lion of Judah in honour of Jenny Belzberg, Myra Paperny and Faith Riback.



## Women in Politics, Part II



Danielle Smith, the leader of Alberta's official opposition Wildrose Party, was the second guest in Calgary Jewish Federation's "Women in Politics" series, which was attended by approximately 60 women.

Interviewed by Federation vice-president and Calgary Herald columnist Deborah Yedlin on September 16, Smith shared her perspective on the challenges and the importance of engagement in the political process.

Women in Politics is co-sponsored by Calgary Jewish Federation, The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs and CJPAC.

In the photo: Eleanor Miller of CJPAC, Danielle Smith, Judy Shapiro and Irena Karshenbaum representing Calgary Jewish Federation.

### Important Information for Israeli Passport Holders

The Israeli Consulate in Toronto is considering sending a consular representative to Calgary in November to provide certain services listed below, where the applicant must appear in person. **Such a visit will be held only if there is sufficient demand.** 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 and in order to allow us to determine whether such a visit will be held, please contact Judy Shapiro at [jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org) or 403-444-3153 as soon as possible.

