

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.



A MESSAGE FROM BRUCE



I have the honour of serving our Jewish Community as the President of Calgary Jewish Federation. I have just had the privilege of undertaking a significant personal challenge – I rode my bicycle across the United States, over 6,000 kilometres in 40 days of riding. 6,019.98 kilometres to be exact, plus another 45.12 k of vertical gained.

Once I'd committed to the cycle trip, I determined to use the event as an opportunity to encourage people to donate to charities. Carolyn and I, and many of you, accepted, and together we've raised meaningful dollars for our United Jewish Appeal Campaign and for many other worthy charities, from Magen David Adom (Israel's Red Cross) to Calgary Jewish Academy, to a fund to bring doctors to a rural community, to an organization helping people recover from depression.

The cycle trip was a great experience, a wonderful adventure. I saw America from sea-to-sea, some incredible vistas – like the Columbia River Gorge and the fall landscape in New England – and some disturbing sights – like the homeless under bridges in Portland, Oregon and in front of city hall in Madison, Wisconsin. I'm happy to bore you with tales of the undertaking – but at another time.

For now, I want to focus on inspiration, on what it means to be a community. I took inspiration from our cycling group and from individuals within the group. One cyclist was not used to riding in groups and was about to quit after he'd caused a minor fall. The guy who fell took it upon himself to befriend this cyclist. Simple acts, chatting over breakfast and riding together the next day, took this guy (who, by the way, is bi-polar) from depression to delight. I'll bet he's never enjoyed himself more from then on;

I praise the man who did the Mitzvah of helping someone in need. My most emotional moments were seeing cycle friends in family moments:

There was my friend from Toledo whose family had endured multiple serious health issues (23 surgeries in all), including his wife's fight with breast cancer. When our ride passed near his home, Dan wore a pink jersey in honour of cancer survivors and each of us wore a pink ribbon lapel pin on our jerseys. More than 70 people showed up to show their love and support for him and his family. I was moved to watch his face as he was greeted by his wife and daughter.

My cycling buddy from New Jersey: he wasn't really a cyclist but undertook this extreme challenge as part of acknowledging his daughter's struggle with depression. I took a side trip with him to Ithaca, New York, the town where he'd been a college baseball star. Unexpectedly, his daughter met us at the baseball field. I had tears in my eyes watching him cry when he saw her.

Another side trip, in pouring rain, took me to a cemetery in rural Ohio, where one of our group laid flowers at the graves of her grandparents.

One more: Stacie, from Phoenix, has been living with her guy Tom for 20 years. She's 55 or so, he's 60. They're not married, though only in the formal sense. Tom, not on our trip, came up to Clear Lake, Iowa to see Stacie. He was only able to stay one night. The next day, Stacie was riding with a group of us late morning when Tom drove past us and yelled something about seeing her up ahead. When we got to where he'd stopped, he went down on the road on one knee and proposed. She said yes – without getting off

her bike – and then clipped back in and rode off to catch up with the rest of us. He got in his car and headed back to Phoenix. That night our group celebrated her engagement.

These moments, these vignettes, are part of what brought our group of cyclists together – we formed a community – which means we looked out for each other, we cared for one another, we helped those with problems, those in need. We shared in moments of joy and moments of sorrow.

Our United Jewish Appeal Campaign provides each of us the opportunity to show our solidarity with our Calgary Jewish Community. In coming together we acknowledge the need to look out for the members of our Community, to care for one another, to help those in need.

Let's each of us, as individuals, as a Community, do our part to inspire all to live generously, to give generously. As a Community we must meet our goal of supporting growing needs, of sustaining Jewish life in Calgary and around the world – despite the economic and political challenges that face us.

I encourage everyone to lead by example, to make this year's campaign the great success it needs to be. To be inspired to be a proud member of our Jewish Community.

Bruce Libin, President
Calgary Jewish Federation

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.

FREE EVENT



Smoothies in the Sukkah



The brisk autumn air on October 4 did not deter from the celebration of PJ Library's annual Smoothies in the Sukkah event, co-hosted by Beth Tzedec Congregation.

The atmosphere was warm and inviting as a large group of young families and grandparents enjoyed smoothies enthusiastically prepared by the shul's Rabbi Osadchey, President Maxine Fischbein and Chloe Corber. Also included in the program were songs with Rabbi Corber, stories, crafts and a horah out the door and through the sukkah. Thanks to Beth Tzedec Congregation for another successful partnership and enjoyable event.

Attention Israeli Citizens

The Israeli Consulate in Toronto is sending a representative to Calgary November 29 and 30 to provide services which cannot be completed through the mail and where the applicant must appear in person. If you are interested in scheduling a meeting, please contact Judy Shapiro as soon as possible at jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org or 403-444-3153.



Mazel Tov

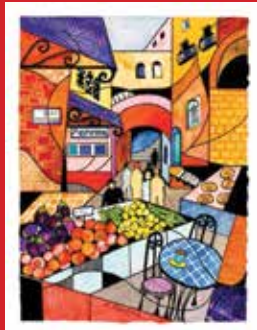
to the winners of our tribute card art contest!



Tzfat
Sydney Switzer



Ancient Moonlight
Faigee Hashman Niebow



Jerusalem Market
Lily Rosxenber

These beautiful images are now available as tribute cards that can be ordered online or through the Federation office. Every card purchased is a charitable donation that helps support engagement, inclusiveness, continuity and other programs and services in our community.



For more information or to purchase by phone, please contact Irena Karshenbaum at 403-537-8594.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CALGARY

FROM THE KNESSET TO THE PAGES OF THE JERUSALEM POST:

GIL HOFFMAN

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015 - 7PM

JCC 1607-90TH AVENUE SW

Gil Hoffman is the Chief political correspondent and analyst for The Jerusalem Post. He has interviewed every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum and has been called "the most optimistic man in Israel". Hoffman's writing, television appearances and numerous speaking engagements provide a behind the scenes look at the intrigue and humor in the Israeli political arena. For more information please contact:

JNFCALGARY.CA CALGARY@JNF.CA 403.255.0295
JORDANWALDMAN@JEWISHCALGARY.ORG 403.444.3146

GIL WILL ALSO BE SPEAKING AT THE U OF C CAMPUS AT NOON • THE EMPTY SPACE, MAC HALL

All programs on these pages are funded in part by your donation to United Jewish Appeal.



2015 UJA Campaign



A Message from UJA 2015 Volunteers Dan Balaban and Lynne Preston



Because... every community is built around a village square.

The shtetl life of the Old Country, as romanticized in "Fiddler on the Roof," portrayed the tight-knit, self-sufficient but isolated communities of our ancestors. Jewish life was integral to daily living, part of the atmosphere. Modern Jews are so much more integrated into mainstream society and pulled in so many directions, that the need for a central Jewish gathering place, our own "village square," is arguably greater than it was for our ancestors. Jewish life isn't a given as it was in those days. It takes conscious effort and deliberate choices to make that happen.

Having a Jewish Community Centre creates a hub for Jewish activity, opening doors literally and figuratively for Jews in Calgary to develop a feeling of belonging, to express their Jewish identity in a welcoming, familiar environment. It's often the case that the lobby is buzzing with greetings, conversations, kvelling over babies, excited children heading to after-school programs and animated discussions over a nosh at Karen's. That's why Calgary Jewish Federation funds the "Community Living Room" aspect of the Calgary JCC, as well as cultural programs and senior's activities.

We are proud that the Calgary JCC is open to everyone - Jewish or not. However, some members of our Jewish community can't afford the membership fee. Thankfully, Calgary Jewish Federation offers membership bursaries through their confidential and anonymous Integrated Bursary Program. It truly allows the JCC to be open to all.

Your gifts to Federation's annual UJA campaign help put the "J" in "JCC" and literally help keep the lights on and the doors open. We are grateful for the generosity of our community and your commitment to ensuring that we're always going to be here. Please consider our message when your canvasser calls, and give generously.

Dan Balaban, President, Calgary JCC
Lynne Preston, Interim Executive Director, Calgary JCC



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

JAC **CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION** **UJA**

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

Because...

we take care of one another... everywhere.



Diana is a shy seventeen year old from Kiryat Shemona who finds it hard to communicate or create new relationships with her peers. Although she has been living in Israel for the majority of her life, she still feels more comfortable speaking Russian, and most of her friends are from the Former Soviet Union (FSU). Diana's parents work long hours and their daily struggle to make a living and navigate an unfamiliar social system means they can't help her integrate better. Diana does not participate in any extracurricular activities, so she often ends up wandering the streets.

In school, Diana was placed in an academic track where students are not expected to take matriculation exams. Since little was expected of her, she wasn't motivated to be at school very often in her final year. Consequently, she tested poorly in the IDF's psychometric exams and was exempt from placement in Israel's defense forces. Diana's self-esteem plummeted, because for Israelis, exclusion from service after high school can have a negative social and economic impact later in life.

Diana is one of many children helped by *Hafuch al Hafuch*, a project funded by Calgary Jewish Federation's Partnership 2Gether program which links Coast-to-Coast Canadian communities to Etzba Hagalil (the Galilee Panhandle) region of Israel. The *Hafuch al Hafuch* centre in Kiryat Shemona reaches out to teens like Diana who find themselves on the margins of Israeli society. It is there that teens with low socioeconomic backgrounds can find guidance, counselling and friendship.

The staff helped Diana with her feelings of rejection, allowing her to find her voice, gain confidence, and build new relationships. When the IDF exempted her from service, the Hafuch staff intervened because they knew that the test results did not reflect her true potential. They counselled her and arranged a re-evaluation, and ultimately Diana was accepted into the IDF in a special program for marginalized citizens.

Calgary Jewish Federation's partners in Israel and around the world provide services that ensure that Jewish people everywhere are supported.

Because... giving your time is a mitzvah.



When it comes to Cell-a-Thon, we don't discriminate - any cell can sell!

Questions? Contact Irena Karshenbaum
403-537-8594 • ikarshenbaum@jewishcalgary.org

Cell-a-Thon

Please volunteer your time
Wednesday November 18 • 6:30pm • Calgary JCC

UJA Update

\$1,159,443

438 donors

Help our community reach **\$3,000,000** and **2,000 donors!**

Live Generously Donate Now

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

Online
www.jewishcalgary.org

In person
Aviva Kolotinsky at the Federation Office

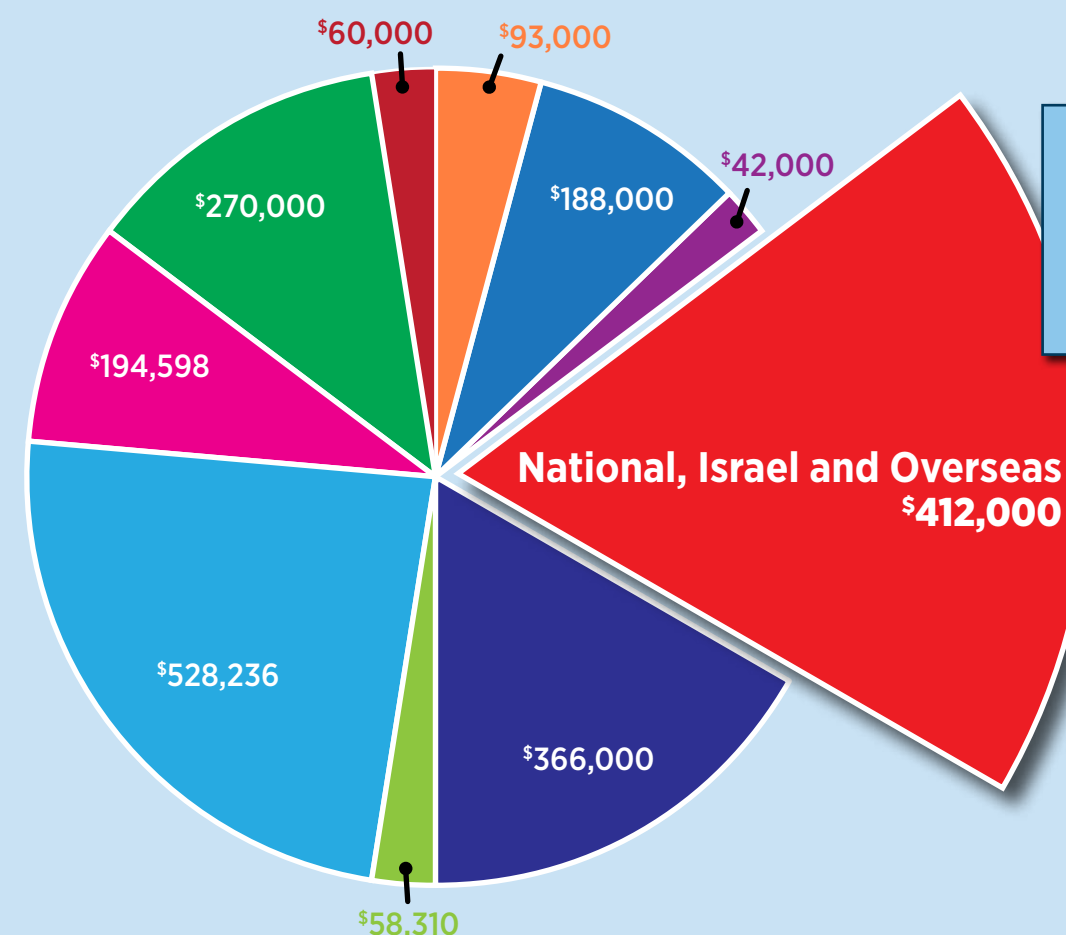
Mail
Calgary Jewish Federation / UJA
1607 90 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2V 4V7

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. 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

Federation's National, Israel and Overseas budget supports Jewish Federations of Canada-UJA, The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, The Jewish Agency for Israel, The Joint Distribution Committee and our Calgary-based Israel projects through Partnership 2Gether.



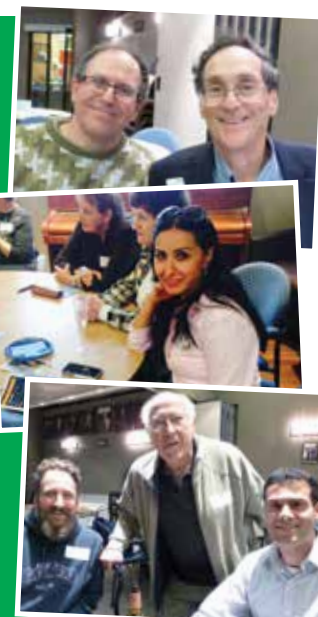
- Mikvah and Kashrut
- Jewish Education
- Youth and Young Adults
- Support for the Vulnerable
- Jewish Culture
- Holocaust Commemoration and Education
- Outreach, Engagement, Community Relations
- Active Seniors
- National, Israel and Overseas
- JCC Community Living Room

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

An Amazing Kick-Off!

What would Federation's annual UJA campaign be without Canvasser Training? And what would Canvasser Training be without a little nosh, some kibitzing and schmoozing and, of course, training? The art of the canvasser (not art on canvas) was demonstrated by Federation staff, who put intrepid volunteers on task, and sent them out into the community, pledgecards in hand. The campaign wouldn't work without the efforts of generous volunteers, so

THANK YOU!



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, and click on "give now".

Calgary Jewish Federation and UJA Partner Agencies