

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 arakolotinsky@jewishcalgary.org.



A MESSAGE FROM ADAM SILVER – FEDERATION'S NEW CEO

Shalom Chaverim. I arrived in Calgary on November 5 and, although my family has yet to join me, I already feel like part of the community. In just two short weeks, I have been welcomed with open arms, and have seen some of the best the community has to offer, as well as some of the challenges we will face together.

When I was chosen to assume the position of Chief Executive Officer at the Calgary Jewish Federation, I was extremely excited. I had done my homework during the recruitment process, researching the community, its leadership, its potential, the challenges it continues to face, and its many potential opportunities for success. I also spoke with friends and colleagues from across Canada who were familiar with both Jewish Calgary and the city as a whole, and I consistently heard words like *warm, friendly, engaged, committed, talented, and generous*. Since arriving in Calgary just two weeks ago, the accuracy of those descriptions is amazing to me.

For those who are unfamiliar with my personal and professional background, I will share that I am a native Torontonian, and the eldest of five siblings. I have a wonderful wife, Deborah, and three amazing children, Hannah, Lilah, and Benjamin. I have worked in Jewish communal and social service organizations for most of my career, have worked with all ages from children to seniors, and have served in frontline service delivery, as well as executive leadership roles. I thrive on collaboration, and I value respect, dignity, partnership, and community.

In taking on this new job, I hope to build on the solid foundation that Drew Staffenberg, current CEO, and the Calgary Jewish Federation staff and lay leadership teams have established to date.

To share some of my first impressions: We are doing many things very well. Across Canada, colleagues in other communities note the generosity and creativity of Calgary's Jewish community, and praise our efforts in supporting local, regional, national, and global initiatives. Compared to all the Canadian Jewish communities, per capita, Calgarians are the second most generous donors to UJA. In addition, I have developed many interesting, creative programs to address community needs.

As I begin my tenure as CEO, I intend to focus on three areas: energy, engagement, and leadership.

Energy. To achieve great things, much energy is required. Not only that, but energy must be sustained for long periods of time in order to build and maintain momentum. It is my hope to inject additional energy into our annual campaign, our campus development efforts, our community initiatives, and our outreach strategies. Bringing additional energy to an already energetic community is sure to yield positive results.

Engagement. All Jewish communities are experiencing challenges in engaging unaffiliated individuals, and in cementing or increasing engagement levels of those who are already involved. It is my hope that the Calgary Jewish Federation, and Calgary's Jewish community at large, will continue to create appropriate and attractive entry points for people, through which they will choose to become part of, and/or enhance their role in, the community as a whole. I am committed to supporting our staff team, volunteer leadership, funded agencies, and community partners in working collaboratively to offer engaging programs, services, and environments that encourage involvement and will strengthen Calgary's Jewish community.

Leadership. Leadership manifests in many forms, all of which are equally important. I am committed to ensuring that Calgary's Jewish community continues to build strong volunteer, staff, and organizational leadership. The Calgary Jewish Federation and its community partners must work hand in hand, and collaborative leadership will go a long way toward securing a bright future.

I am inspired by what I have seen in the community so far, and I have lofty aspirations for us. We must continue to respect the history and successes of past efforts, but I envision us charting some new, bold adventures together, as well. Our Sage, Hillel, teaches "If I am not for me, who will be? If I am only for me, what am I? If not now, when?" We must build for the future, maintain and enhance our Jewish and non-Jewish communal relationships, and maintain a positive urgency in our efforts.

Together, we will make sure that Jewish Calgary is strong, vital, and as vibrant as ever. I thank you for your partnership and support to date, and equally as much for the open arms and warmth with which you have embraced my family and me. Todah Rabah. The future is bright, and together we will accomplish a great deal!

L'Shalom,

Adam Silver
CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation



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Celebrate Chanukah

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Stories, songs and holiday surprises.
This event is suitable for children eight and under.
Registration is required for this free, fun-filled family event.

Sunday December 14
10:30am • Calgary JCC

RSVP Kathie Wainer at
kwainer@jewishcalgary.org
or 403-537-8592

PJ TOT SHABBAT

"This was exactly what we were looking for – fun learning with our grandson. I left humming the blessings."

That comment from a grandparent summed up the festive feeling of Calgary Jewish Federation's first PJ Tot Shabbat. More than 20 tots and their parents and grandparents shared the joy of Shabbat through song and dance led by Karina Szulc.

PJ Tot Shabbat is a free half hour class for children three years and under and is held alternate Friday mornings at 9:45am at the J.

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

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

PJ Library
JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES & SONGS FOR FAMILIES



A CHANUKAH GIFT THAT LASTS A LIFETIME.

One Happy Camper provides grants of up to \$1,000 to children attending Jewish overnight camp for the first time.*

Visit OneHappyCamper.org to find your camp and apply.

For information, contact
Judy Shapiro at 403.444.3153
or jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org

*Some conditions apply



The Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program

Accepting applications until December 19, 2014.
For information, contact Ilana Krygier Lapidés at 403-444-3162 or ikrygierlapides@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 Judy Shapiro at 403-444-3153 or jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org.

Check out our beautiful newly redesigned website at jewishcalgary.org

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