

community calendar

Want to know what's going on in Jewish Calgary?
Check out the Community Calendar at jewishcalgary.org

Have an event?
Click on "Suggest an Event" to add it to the calendar

Pomegranate

NEWS, VIEWS AND SCHMOOZE WITH THE CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY



A MESSAGE FROM ADAM SILVER

Each year, the month of February marks two very significant events: Black History Month (BHM) and Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month (JDAIM). As a community, we are made better and more complete by ensuring we embrace diversity and inclusion. We not only recognize the strength that comes in welcoming people of all abilities and backgrounds to our community, but we also acknowledge the responsibility to live our lives with empathy, partnership, and intentionality.

The Jewish people have a long history with the Black community, with some similarities in overall experience, and with alignment and collaboration in historical achievements. Both communities also intersect, and our Jewish community includes Jews of Colour who might find themselves balancing the strengths and challenges facing both communities in a combined way.

Both communities have known, and still know, discrimination. Both communities have known slavery, persecution, and human atrocities. Both communities have broad and meaningful cultures that they struggle, at times, to pass down to the next generation. Although my intention is not to suggest a tit-for-tat exchange of horrors

and challenges, it is clear that both communities have suffered and continue to be the "other" (or outsider) even in modern times. There have also been significant human and civil rights achievements when these communities have worked together. Each community has stood up for the other, and both communities have come together at times to work toward achievements based on shared values. Please acknowledge BHM with me – seek out resources, participate in online programs, and give pause and thought as to how you, and we, can live and breathe the value of true community and compassion in earnest.

February is also a time during which we embrace differences as strengths. This is not limited to only JDAIM, as our community has a small but robust program department focused on inclusion throughout the year. However, JDAIM is a time to reset and provide a reminder that people of all abilities are welcome in Jewish Calgary.

Those in our community with special needs and abilities are strengths – not weaknesses. They teach us every day about what is possible, about caring and kindness, and about human nature. While we are not perfect and have a long way to go, Jewish Calgary continues to make

strides in accessible programming, education and training, and in deeper, true integration of our programs and services. Again, we have a long way to go, but it is inspiring to see our community's organizations leading the way to provide more opportunities to even more community members. Please be sure to seek out JDAIM programming, and don't be shy to ask organizations with which you are affiliated about the efforts they are making to welcome people of all abilities.

Keeping empathy, warmth, and thoughtfulness at the forefront of what we do as a community will support a vibrant, more engaged, model Jewish Calgary. **Together, WE CAN** include all! **Together, WE CAN** lift up others! **Together, WE CAN** be whole.

Wishing you and yours a safe and meaningful February.
B'shalom,

Adam Silver
CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation

Building an inclusive community is a priority. Contact us and we will make every effort to meet your needs.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE SOON



IBP *opens doors*

Calgary Jewish Federation's **Integrated Bursary Program** can help you, if you find it's a financial struggle to participate fully in Jewish life in our community,

With one application followed by a discreet, personalized session with a Federation volunteer, you can access subsidies for day schools, summer camp, and recreational activities – depending on your need. Applications will be available at jewishcalgary.org or Calgary JCC, Halpern Akiva Academy, JFSC, and The Calgary Jewish Academy.

For information email ibp@jewishcalgary.org or go online: jewishcalgary.org/ibp-making-jewish-life-more-affordable

Join us as
we celebrate
Inclusion, Diversity,
and Community!

JDAIM
FEBRUARY 2021
Jewish Disability Awareness,
Acceptance & Inclusion Month

Calgary Jewish Federation is proud to celebrate another Jewish Disabilities Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month with the community this year!

This unified effort among Jewish organizations worldwide celebrates diversity and fosters acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities and mental health conditions.

FREE

Dancer Jules

A TikTok Jewel

Sunday, February 21
1:30PM | Register for Zoom

Enjoy a dance workout with TikTok personality, **Julia Slater** (@dancerjules) followed by a Q&A moderated by **Julianna Enciu**.

In partnership with: PJ Library®, Calgary JCC, Make Me Famous, and Connect Up with Downs



Shalva

A Butterfly Beyond Borders

Sunday, February 28
11:00AM | Register for Zoom

Join us for a story of successful Inclusion and *Tikkun Olam*, directly from Jerusalem! Keynote speakers include: **Kalman Samuels** (founder of Shalva, the Israel Association for the Care and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities), **Sara Samuels** (guitarist in the Shalva Band and volunteer at Shalva National Center), and **Marilyn Samuels** (Professor emeritus at University of Calgary). Q&A moderated by **Jason Markusof**.

In partnership with: The Azrieli Foundation, B'nai Brith Calgary Lodge 816

Should you have questions about our programming or if you need accommodations, contact Karina Szulc, Inclusion Manager at 403-473-8073 or karinas@jewishcalgary.org. Register and more info at:

jewishcalgary.org/jewish-calgary-inclusion/jdaim-2021



FEBRUARY

- 21 **Purim Puppet Play**
PJ Library® | 10:00AM
- 24 **Hands-On Hamentashen**
PJ Library® | 6:30PM
- 24 **Pandemic Purim Party**
Hillel | 7:00PM
- 25 **Murder Mystery Ball**
JAC x Beth Tzedec | 7:00PM
- 26 **Tot Shabbat Purim**
PJ Library® | 10:00AM

HAPPY
Purim

To register and for more information about our virtual events go to:

jewishcalgary.org

A LETTER TO OUR COMMUNITY

Could you ever have imagined this world in which we find ourselves? And that it would have lasted this long?

The Calgary Jewish community has risen to this occasion by shifting programs, classes, and events online, dreaming up new ways to engage one another and doing what we can to stay connected.

You know how important it is to our community that we continue our work now and in the future. To ensure financial stability, the organizations listed below are currently participating in the LIFE & LEGACY® initiative focused on strengthening our community now and forever.

Please consider making an after-lifetime charitable gift to secure the future of Jewish Calgary.

Your gift costs nothing today – it starts with a promise, your commitment that you will remember one or more of these cherished organizations in your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy. The Letter of Intent is available on our website at jewishcalgary.org or you can contact Diana Kalef at dkalef@jewishcalgary.org or 403-444-3154.

Those who came before us built and seeded Jewish life so that we would have places for connection, education, prayer, and fellowship. Now is your opportunity to do that for the next generation.

We hope you and your loved ones are in good health and remain that way. We look forward to welcoming you to the LIFE & LEGACY family.

Sincerely,

Beth Tzedec Congregation
Calgary JCC
Calgary Jewish Federation
Camp BB Riback
Halpern Akiva Academy

House of Jacob Mikveh Israel
Jewish Family Service Calgary
Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta
Temple B'nai Tikvah
The Calgary Jewish Academy

P.S. If you are able to submit your LOI before March 31, 2021, organizations will receive cash incentive grants in the spring!



JEWISH Together FUND

Our Calgary community has shown incredible strength during 2020, but many organizations still have financial needs that are more than our annual UJA campaign can support. To offer additional assistance this year, we created the **Jewish Together Fund (JTF)**. JTF was funded using 50% of the increased portion of every UJA donation that was over and above the 2019 amount.

In the first round of applications **\$49,000** was distributed to the following six organizations:

- Beth Tzedec Congregation
- Calgary JCC
- Chabad Lubavith of Alberta
- Halpern Akiva Academy
- Temple B'nai Tikvah
- The Calgary Jewish Academy

In the second round of applications **\$39,000** was distributed to the following five organizations:

- Calgary JCC
- Camp BB Riback
- House of Jacob Mikveh Israel
- JFSC
- The Calgary Jewish Academy

For detailed information go to:
jewishcalgary.org/ways-to-give

ROUND 3 APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Together **WE CAN**
UJA 2020

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US REACH OUR UJA 2020 FUNDRAISING GOAL!

Tax receipts are in the mail.