



# ALBERTA Jewish NEWS

Publication Mail Agreement Number: 40050628

Volume 32, No. 9

Visit us online at [albertajewishnews.com](http://albertajewishnews.com)

September 13, 2021

## Back to school: CJA sings Shehechyanu

By Lesley Machon

From nursery to grade nine, the Calgary Jewish Academy (CJA) is swinging open its classroom doors. The smallest students file in, proudly sporting backpacks that reach from shoulders to knees. The junior high cohort is adjusting after a summer of sleeping in or doing things on their own time, with a low chorus of yawns. Within minutes, the hallways are a collage of colour — the latest face masks, backpacks, and pencil boxes brimming with each shade of crayon still tucked inside.

The early days are always chaotic—there is a good dose of excitement and anxiety that comes with a new year and new environment. Lockers won't open (left then right then huh?), and students bump into each other searching for their homerooms. Some know the CJA like a second home, and are encouraged to reach out to new students in every grade. Attending a smaller school comes with the benefit of a warm and welcoming environment that we all work together to cultivate. At the CJA we know that students learn best when they feel safe, seen, and cared about. The Shehechyanu blessing is echoed down the halls on the first day, off-key little voices praying enthusiastically. While the world is still a little scary and uncertain, we have our little oasis.

Classrooms are freshly decorated, from construction scenes, to global themed, to Judaica: beautifully framed Hebrew phrases, and Jerusalem's skyline. The students eat apples dipped in honey to usher in the New Year with sticky fingers, and the shofar is blown from the field as a symbol of new beginnings: the Jewish New Year, and the start of a new school term. The sound of the Truah involves nine rapid fire, staccato blows, like an alarm clock you can't hit snooze on. Truah is the wake-up call to the New Year.

The shofar itself also represents the connection between our inner and outer worlds. While the blower must first take a big breath, the shofar only sounds when the air blows out. Rosh Hashanah reminds us that turning inward allows us to burst forth and contribute to the world. This relates to our school's focus on self-regulation—through breathing, body breaks, writing assignments

## TEAM REMAX Wins Edmonton JBL Final



In a thrilling Edmonton JBL championship final RE/MAX Excellence played Good Luck Sock. Going into a nail-biting final inning RE/MAX took the field with a small lead. With 2 quick outs GLS went to the drawing board and came back with a strategy, let's try walking everyone home. It seemed to be working with 5 straight walks loading the bases and now down by just 1 run, it was anyone's game. The final batter comes up to the plate, another walk ties, a hit wins their team the game. A silence fell over the crowd... some say it was the intensity of the situation, others might say the boredom of the constant walking. The crack of the bat cuts through the silence like a hot spoon through a matzo ball. A hard line drive was sure to end the game, but it was a flash of leather that won it. The ball was snatched and in that moment Team RE/MAX Excellence became your 2021 JBL champions.

dedicated to self-inquiry, and classes focused on mindfulness and creativity—so we can be of service to each other in productive and sustainable ways.

Soon, students will enter the Sukkah, and the citrusy smell of the etrog will fill the air. Students will shake the lulav in all four directions while saying traditional prayers and giving thanks for food, shelter, and abundant harvest. This holiday is a calendar highlight every year. Each of our celebrations is an enriching experience that connects us to centuries-old traditions and a system of values that we recognize as the basis for moral decisions. Research shows that participating in culture, community, and traditions anchors individuals in a sense of their own identity, and affirms their belonging in a community. This is important

for both healthy self-esteem and relationships with others, and we are proud to provide our students with this kind of foundation in a school environment.

Our goal at the CJA is to foster students who are connected to themselves and the world around them. Our collective efforts focus on cultivating an imagination, sense of truth, and feeling of responsibility in each student so they can move forward as academically innovative and culturally grounded and compassionate. At a time of much uncertainty and divisiveness, we seek to live and learn in the true spirit of shalom.

*Lesley Machon is a humanities teacher at Calgary Jewish Academy.*

## Fiddler on the Field at Fifty delights audience



On August 29, the Calgary community celebrated the upcoming Rosh Hashanah with an amazing outdoor concert at the JCC field. More than 150 people shared their love for one of the classic and traditional musicals: *Fiddler on the Roof*. In this case it was *Fiddler on the Field at Fifty* - a tribute concert to the 50th anniversary of the release of the film. Professional and semi-professional musicians and singers from the community went on stage and performed the fabulous songs and beautiful story that takes us on a journey through our traditions and renewal. (Supplied by Shula Banchik)

# Your opportunity and responsibility to vote

By B’nai Brith Canada

Canadians head to the polls September 20th. This is an opportunity for members of Canada’s Jewish community to play their role in the democratic process. With a brief campaign, and voting limitations linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, voters should avail themselves of any number of options that will help ensure their voice is heard.

Since the last federal election, B’nai Brith Canada has been engaged in consultations with Elections Canada officials, advocating for the democratic rights of Jewish voters, particularly on the matter of the election date.

Our overriding goal has been a process that takes account of the needs of observant Jewish voters, to avoid the unfortunate circumstances of 2019. Discussions with Elections Canada have been productive, with officials clearly sensitive to concerns arising from the last election. Elections Canada again published its voters’ guide in Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian and numerous other languages.

In 2021, in part because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Elections Canada also introduced innovations to the voting process, which will ensure opportunities for members of the Jewish community to make their views count: voting by mail and special ballot measures will be expedited, and special drop boxes will be part of the electoral landscape. These measures will be beneficial to Jewish candidates and electors, campaign staff and volunteers.

The election date selected this year is September 20, which is Erev Sukkot, meaning that observant Jews will lose a few hours of voting at the end of the day and will be unable to participate in the ballot scrutineering process. However, unlike in 2019, none of the four advanced voting days fall on a Jewish holiday (one is on Shabbat, as it is each year). Moreover, B’nai Brith notes that because this is not a fixed election, the Chief Electoral Officer does not have the option pursuant to s. 56.2(1) of the Canada Elections Act to recommend that the date be switched in order to avoid a Jewish holiday.

B’nai Brith Canada will again be mounting an online Election Centre in 2021; this Election Issues Guide is one

Welcome to Edmonton Zach Hyman



Welcome #18 Zach Hyman to Edmonton with a new jersey that's available at ProAm Sports. ProAm worked with Alberta Jewish News to create this awesome Zach Hyman Hebrew Letters nameplate. To order visit [proamsports.ca](https://proamsports.ca) or call (780) 481-9484.

part of that effort. We will focus on ensuring Jewish community members have the information and tools they need to fully participate in the democratic process. We recommend, for example, that:

Jewish community leaders should know their Returning Officers (ROs) and, in various ridings, Community Relations Officers (CROs), who can provide a wealth of advice and materials on the electoral process and voting options. Jewish community leaders should not hesitate to engage in dialogue with ROs (and CROs) to seek information and convey any concerns.

Voters should know their ridings and their candidates, including candidates from smaller parties and those running as independents. For those with internet access, simply go to the Elections Canada website and enter your postal code. Everyone should consult the Guide to the Federal Election (for Hebrew, Yiddish and Russian, go to the ‘Other Languages’ button).


There are many ways to vote. Special ballots are available so you can vote by mail, if you prefer not to cast your ballot in person. Drop boxes are also being made available in each riding. The processes for alternative voting methods have been simplified. The deadline to apply to vote by special ballot is Tuesday, September 14th at 6 p.m.

University students should be aware of how they can vote if they are on campus and not at their ordinary places of residence.

Be mindful that, in addition to their website, information is posted by Elections Canada on all major social media channels. For now, we encourage the community to follow us on social media for developments (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) and watch for updates on our Election Centre page. In addition, Elections Canada is already making information resources available; for example, the ‘Inspire Democracy’ initiative provides a series of toolkits that can help inform you. And community leaders and voters can access numerous helpful insights on the ‘Spread the Word’ page of the Elections Canada website. (While we do our best to provide accurate guidance, remember that Elections Canada has the final say on the voting process).

And – although it does not apply now, as it did in 2019 – we recommend that Canada’s Jewish voters continue to ask their local candidates an important question: Will you support an amendment to the Canada Elections Act, backed by B’nai Brith Canada, to ensure that future fixed-date federal elections no longer take place on major Jewish holidays?


We say that the most effective step our community can take is to ensure our voices are heard. We urge Canadian Jewish electors to play their full part in the upcoming federal election, by getting to know the candidates and the party platforms, by asking hard questions about policies and positions that impact the Jewish community, and by voting!



### Homework Club at BTZ

Thursdays beginning September 30th  
3:30-5:00pm

**Congregants:** Free of charge  
**Guests:** \$150.00 per year or \$10.00 per session



Homework Club offers students in Grades 3 through 5 a chance to work on schoolwork in a relaxed, supportive space with the help of older students and mentors. Snacks will be provided, as well as fun activities to participate in with friends, once homework is done!

The program is led by engagement director Jonah Potasznik.

Register at  
<https://cutt.ly/youthprograms>

WWW.BETHTZEDEC.CA • info@bethtzedec.ca • 403-255-8688

ADAM SINGER, M.A., LL.B.  
Divorce & Family Law



(403) 441-2097  
asinger@wilcraft.com  
www.wilcraft.com

650, 211 - 11 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB, T2R 0C6

WILSON LAYCRAFT

Please join our family for the unveiling of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather

Norman Dvorkin z”l

On Sunday,  
October 10, 2021  
at 11:00 am  
Erlton Cemetery

JFSC  
Annual General Meeting

Tuesday October 12,  
7 pm (virtual)

We want to share what we have been doing in the community over the last year!

To register:  
email [Peta.petag@jfsc.org](mailto:Peta.petag@jfsc.org)  
or call 403-692-6389



Enriching Lives,  
Strengthening Communities



Edmonton Talmud Torah students went back to school on September 2, excited to start the school year and see all their friends and teachers. The TT school community welcomes Marlee Soroka and Sofia Novak (pictured above) to the teaching staff as well as the returning teachers and educational assistants. Pictured above: Moreh Ari Sniderman with some students on the first day of school.

# A New Year at Edmonton Talmud Torah School

By Natalie Soroka

The 2021-22 school year at Talmud Torah looks different this year for several reasons. One exciting reason is two recent additions to our teaching staff - Sofie Novak and Marlee Soroka.

Sofie is new to Edmonton, having moved from Vancouver where she went to a private Yiddish school. She has a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta and is currently working on her Masters in Jewish Education with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Sofie is teaching

Grade 4 Hebrew language arts, Judaic Studies, and art at Talmud Torah this year. She is looking forward to establishing roots in Edmonton and making it her home and is very excited to be a part of the Talmud Torah family!

Marlee is a Class of 2010 Grade 9 TT graduate and proud alumna. She has a BSc specialization in Psychology, and an after degree in elementary education, both from the University of Alberta. Marlee spent last year subbing at a variety of schools in Edmonton, including several stints at Talmud Torah. She even substitute taught in her former teacher Ari Sniderman's Grade 3 class! This year Marlee is

teaching all core subjects in Grade 2, taking over the remainder of Jessica Holtzman's maternity leave. She is thrilled to be back at TT, seeing familiar students and former teachers, like Robin Marcus and Principal Sandra Marianicz. A full circle indeed!

Our students are excited to learn with these new teachers, of course, as well as the awesome and familiar faces of Jennifer Kovacs, Robin Marcus, Bianna Kuksin, Ari Sniderman, Ben Ragosin and Lindsey Campbell. Along with Educational Assistants, Elena Troskyi and Flor Aromin, the 2021-22 school year looks very bright!

# Edmonton Beit Midrash hosts dialog on anti-Semitism and racism

By Regan Treewater-Lipes

As Jeremiah Levine watched the horrors of the Pittsburgh synagogue massacre unfold on television, and then widespread racial upheaval in the wake of the George Floyd murder, he began to feel a growing sense of frustration with the state of affairs rampaging through society with devastating repercussions. This prompted Levine to want to learn more. As it often happens, a Google search turned into hours of reading, and the hours of reading into a full-blown research undertaking. Jeremiah became increasingly more aware of the sinister culture of anti-Semitism.

"I also came across some really incredible work being done by Jewish groups in the US and Canada drawing on their communities to find positive ways forward that are steeped in Jewish values," explained Levine.

In his 2007 book *Anisemitism: A Very Short Introduction*, Steven Beller postulates: "The question is, how can the 'eternal' form of antisemitism be kept within minimal and 'harmless' dimensions" (119). Like Beller, Levine knew that the malignancy of anti-Semitism has become so endemic within contemporary society that its influence could not be erased, but he saw an immediate need for more community-based dialog around the issue.

Continued on page 15

"Like" us at  / Alberta Jewish News





**Shana Tova**  
from Sarah Levine  
and everyone at  
Vest Estate Lawyers.

With offices in Edmonton, Calgary, and Vancouver, we are here to help you with all your Estate-related needs:  
from preparing or updating a Will, Power of Attorney, or Personal Directive, to helping you navigate the administration of a loved one's Estate, or the stresses of Estate litigation.

**CALL US AT**  
1-888-382-0033  
**OR VISIT US AT**  
[www.vestestatelawyers.com](http://www.vestestatelawyers.com)



# Retirement Living in Edmonton

Our Parents' Home Retirement Residence offers stylish, high-rise living in downtown Edmonton. This retirement home features modern and spacious suites, premium dining, health and wellness programs and a vibrant community. Our Parents' Home offers the best in retirement living.

**Call us today to learn more.**

**Our Parents' Home**  
10112 119 St NW, Edmonton 780-732-0412  
[reveraliving.com](http://reveraliving.com)

# Has Israel let you down? Its minister of Diaspora Affairs wants you to talk about it.

By Nachman Shai

(JTA) — To the rabbis and religious leaders putting the finishing touches to your High Holiday sermons, I'd like to make a suggestion: Use this Jewish New Year to talk about Israel from the pulpit.

And not just Israel. Talk about the bonds between us, as a Jewish people, about our shared past and imagined future. Talk about the challenges, but also the opportunities.

Share with your congregants that we in Israel are slowly but surely taking responsibility for our side of the relationship in a way that you have never seen, that we realize we have disappointed you and are doing teshuvah, repentance, with a sincere desire to make things right in the future. Share with them that this new government is committed to bringing back a Kotel Compromise — that is, formalizing an egalitarian prayer section at the Western Wall. It is committed to learning and understanding how our actions impact your communities. Tell them that we believe in you, and that we are ready for both your critique and your ideas.

Most importantly, share with your communities that Israel desires to be your partner, to not let our politics or diverse identities serve as barriers to our fundamental belief that we are a people with a common fate and destiny.

I know this message might not be easy to convey. I've lived long enough to see how Israel has turned from a point of pride to tension. And it's understandable. Generations built their Judaism around the ideal of Israel and the promise of peace as the focal point of Jewish

identity and Zionist hope. So when Israel disappoints, organized Jewish frameworks can also disappoint, intensifying political divides within communities, especially among the rising generation. So why would a rabbi waste his or her precious annual moment with a quiet audience on a subject that increasingly causes more controversy than connection?

I believe the answer is simple. Despite the very significant challenges that stand between us, the truth is that we need each other, and I am convinced ultimately want to be in relationship with each other.

The last year highlighted just how intertwined we are as a people, when Israel's summer military operation in Gaza led not only to a frightening rise in antisemitism but significant stress and frustration within communities. It is becoming increasingly imperative for us to work together to ensure ongoing safety, security and communal cohesion.

We also still have the ability to bring out the best in each other. Israel needs your clarity and backbone to empower us to make the bold decisions that will ensure our continuity as both a Jewish and democratic state. We need your justice-minded values to assure Israelis that moving toward two states for two peoples is the only solution, both for our security and our soul. We have room to be inspired by your models of pluralism and diversity, and of organized Jewish communal life within our own religious practice.

On the other end, Israel continues to be the proud manifestation of the Jewish people's 2,000-year-old-dream. Israel — the state, the land and its people — with all of its complexities, deserves to remain a central component of Jewish identity-building and experiences around the world.



Nachman Shai, Israel Minister of Diaspora Affairs

Finally, you and I have a mutual mission to elevate not only our own people but the entire world through the development of shared projects on climate change as well as biomedical and technological innovation.

But before we can make progress toward true peace, revitalized pluralism in Israel and the next great global initiative, we must begin with a basic conversation about peoplehood — who we are, what are our common values and language. You have the opportunity to lead your communities with these questions.

As Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan wrote, “The individual Jew who regards this world as the scene of salvation depends upon the Jewish people to help [them] achieve it. For that reason, [they] must be able to feel that in investing the best part of [themselves] in the Jewish people, [they are] investing in something that has a worthwhile future, and thereby achieving an earthly immortality.”

From the pulpit, let us wrestle with these ideas and imagine this worthwhile future together.

*The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media.*

## Calgary Municipal Election

### How do you get to yes?

By Jeff Davison

When I was a kid, I'd often ask my parents for things — as kids do — and get told no — as parents do. But I'd always ask why. After I understood my parents' concerns, I'd address them. Eventually, they'd say yes. This was the process: listen, collaborate and compromise. That's how, over the years, I got a new bike, a Nintendo and a dog!

It's also how, as a City Councillor, I have found

solutions to some of Calgary's biggest challenges over the last four years.

When people said we couldn't have a new event centre, I figured out how to get one built. When people said we couldn't compete with Vancouver's film industry, I found a way to take the Calgary film centre to 100% occupancy and attract a record number of Hollywood productions. When people said we couldn't afford to lower taxes during a pandemic, I found a way to do it.

Calgary is heading into its most important election in decades. Everything we have worked for is in jeopardy if we don't have the right leadership. Do we want a leader who says no to new ideas, new opportunities, and anyone with a different point of view? Or do we want a leader who can understand what's behind the no, and find a way to get to yes?

If we want to say yes to a robust economy, yes to jobs, yes to new infrastructure, yes to affordability, and yes to a recovery that benefits all Calgarians, we need a leader who can collaborate with Council and the community to get things done. It's time to stop missing opportunities because we can't work together.

That's why I'm running to be Calgary's next mayor. I have a plan to make yes happen by investing in initiatives that bring a real return, like:

- Accelerating investment in technology (including agri-tech and clean energy), and promoting our experience economy, which includes tourism, culture, and entertainment.
- Keeping taxes low taxes and the city affordable by attracting new business investment that grows the number of taxpayers.
- Fixing the broken property tax assessment system, imposed by the province, which can lead to huge tax fluctuations on people and businesses.
- Building a stronger downtown, anchored by the new Event Centre, BMO Expansion, Green Line construction, and a commercial-to-residential conversion policy. More people living, working and playing downtown will grow private sector investment, attract visitors, and reduce the vacancy rate.
- Improving community consultation to build the things Calgarians want. Communities are unique; let's respect and preserve the qualities that matter to the people who live in them. Change should be collaborative, not forced.

Calgary doesn't recover unless every Calgarian recovers. It's time for Calgary to elect a leader who can say yes to new ideas and new opportunities so that five years from now, our city is the thriving, dynamic, and affordable city we all want it to be. If you agree, find out more at [jeffdavisonnyc.com](http://jeffdavisonnyc.com) and vote for me this October 18.



FOR CALGARY  
MAYOR

JEFF  
DAVISON

We Can. We Will.



ALBERTA  
Jewish News

Next print date is:  
Oct. 4, 2021  
Next Deadline:  
Sept. 30, 2021  
[albertajewishnews@gmail.com](mailto:albertajewishnews@gmail.com)

## Calgary Jewish Academy starts the new school year



# Calgary Municipal Election

## Jeromy Farkas is asking to be Calgary’s next mayor

Submitted by Jeromy Farkas for Mayor

“Calgarians deserve smarter spending, lower taxes, better city services and safer communities,” says Calgary Mayoral Candidate Jeromy Farkas.

He is asking to be Calgary’s next mayor.

“With a proven track record of standing up for Calgarians and always putting the interests of Calgarians and businesses first, I’m Calgary’s best choice to put our great city back on top,” says Jeromy.

“My fresh, new brand of leadership will get Calgarians back to work, get City Hall’s budget under control, give Calgarians better value for their money and usher our city into a new era of opportunity and prosperity.”

Jeromy’s platform is based on economic growth, financial responsibility, better city services and building Calgary for the 21st Century.

We need to get Calgarians back to work, says Jeromy. “We must be unrelenting in our pursuit of economic

recovery and growth. Now is the time to reclaim Calgary’s entrepreneur-friendly environment and show the world that we are open for business. Positive change begins with reining in taxes, simplifying approvals, eliminating unnecessary red tape and allowing entrepreneurs to succeed. We need to ensure that our youth and small businesses are given no reason to seek opportunity elsewhere.”

City Hall must get its budget under control, adds Jeromy. “Council must follow the lead of families and entrepreneurs who have made sacrifices through these challenging times. Wiser spending and giving Calgarians tax breaks must start now. Calgarians deserve a financially responsible municipal government, especially during unprecedented times like this COVID-19 pandemic. We must focus on need-to-haves over nice-to-haves.”

Calgarians deserve good value for their money, explains Jeromy. “Every Calgarian deserves a safe and inclusive city. We need a high-performance government that will deliver City services efficiently. Over the past ten years,

property taxes have nearly doubled, and many new fees have been introduced. Meanwhile, service has only marginally improved in some areas, while others have been significantly reduced. City Hall must focus on core services such as an affordable city-wide transit system, well-maintained infrastructure, efficient snow clearing and emergency services such as police and fire. We must leverage technology and foster innovation to achieve efficiencies in these areas.”

Calgary must be bold, welcome new ideas, and build for the future, concludes Jeromy. “We must embrace new technology in delivering services, building quality infrastructure, and creating a vibrant downtown core that will usher in a new era of opportunity. We need to update existing infrastructure that is in disrepair and has been overlooked for far too long. We must focus on projects that will enhance our city’s safety and competitiveness, such as re-opening a downtown police station and building an LRT extension to the airport. We can improve accountability at

Continued on page 11



JEROMY  
FARKAS  
FOR MAYOR

Change starts now.  
Election Day is October 18, 2021

587 576 TALK (8255)

JEROMY.CA



# Did a real life Nazi salute inspire Netflix's 'The Chair'?

By Chloe Sarbib

(Alma via JTA) - “The Chair,” Netflix’s new six-part dramedy set in the English department of a fictional Ivy League school, is about a lot of things: existing as a woman of color in academia, workplace sexual tension, parenthood, grief, Sandra Oh’s incredible double-breasted jackets.

It’s also about a casual Nazi salute — if there is such a thing — which occurs during the first episode and reverberates throughout the rest of the series.

That moment, replayed and refracted, becomes a way for the show’s writers to explore cancel culture on college campuses. It’s a narrative device, but it’s also very similar to a real event that occurred a few years ago at a prestigious New York City private school — the very one that Jewish co-creator Amanda Peet attended.

In February 2018, Ben Frisch was teaching precalculus at the high school where he’d taught for three decades, Friends Seminary in Manhattan. In demonstrating an obtuse angle, he found himself inadvertently in the posture of a “Heil Hitler” salute. Horrified, Frisch, grasping for a way out, called it out: “Heil Hitler!” he said. The joke fell flat.

Then, Frisch tried to explain: Until recently, making fun of Nazis was common, a Mel Brooks-inspired form of humor. Now, of course, any reference to Nazism was taboo. The class moved on, resuming discussion of math. As in “The Chair,” that seemed to be that. At first. But soon after, Friends’ principal, Bo Lauder, fired Frisch.

This incident and its aftermath were complicated by Frisch’s own Jewish heritage: Though, like Friends Seminary, Frisch is Quaker, his father was Jewish, and two of his great-grandmothers died at Auschwitz. Much of the student body rushed to his defense. They taped petitions to the principal’s door, staged sit-ins, wore “Bring Back Ben” pins and protested. Per the New York Times: “In a commencement address, the senior Benjamin Levine offered a thinly veiled critique of the administration: ‘It’s so much easier and simpler to decide someone is racist or ignorant or naïve — or anti-Semitic — than to engage in the messy work of trying to communicate and understand when conflicts arise.’” One protest sign read: “Firing a Trade Unionist Jewish Son of a Holocaust Survivor For Having a Mel Brooks Sense of Humor is Antisemitic.”

Anyone who’s seen “The Chair” will note where these stories align. Like Bill Dobson (Jay Duplass), the charmingly disheveled and wildly popular professor who makes this gaffe in the show, Frisch was well-liked, as shown by the ensuing wave of support. (Dobson, who is also a successful novelist, has an almost cultish student following.) Where the stories diverge is in the student reaction to the incident: In “The Chair,” after the salute is surreptitiously recorded on several students’ phones during the lecture (of course), the clip goes viral, devoid of all context, and starts a campus-wide protest for “No Nazis at Pembroke.” One Jewish student, a Professor Dobson devotee, even lists off statistics about the recent rise in antisemitic incidents in an attempt to help him understand why reactions are so strong.

In the Times piece about Frisch, Jonathan Mahler wrote:



Sandra Oh in "The Chair." (Eliza Morse/Netflix)

“That no one has accused Frisch of being an anti-Semite was beside the point: His invocation of the Nazi salute in a classroom full of high school students, regardless of his intentions, was enough to end his career.” Without spoiling too much, this very same question — of intent versus action — plays a key part in the fate of the fictional Bill Dobson.

But back to real life: In the end, after a union-supported hearing, Ben Frisch got his job back; he is once again teaching at Friends Seminary. It’s unknown if he’s watched “The Chair.”

Calgary Municipal Election

## Lauren Herschel: Candidate for Ward 11 Councillor

By Lauren Herschel Campaign

Lauren Herschel, City Council candidate for Ward 11, believes in Calgary’s potential and that the City needs the right leadership to make that happen. Lauren’s top priorities include economic health, affordability, investing in Calgary’s future, as well as more accountability at City Hall.

Lauren Herschel believes city council needs to help businesses, the city and economy thrive. To her, this means adapting or eliminating inefficient City practices that deter investment, slow innovation, and limit growth potential. Lauren suggests that Calgary needs to be more competitive and focus on initiatives that encourage new investment in Calgary through job creation, economic

diversification and community improvements.

Lauren Herschel also believes that investing in the city’s future is critical. She explains, “Calgary needs to be adaptable. This means having scalable and sustainable growth plans including appropriate climate resiliency strategies. It also means investing in programs and projects with a forecasted positive return on investment (economic and social) for the City, our communities and Calgarians.” Lauren believes these plans must be balanced in both established areas and new communities. She thinks it is key that the City find cost-effective ways to re-invest in aging neighbourhoods and protect key heritage assets.

Lauren Herschel also believes that Calgarians should love where they live and work. “We need to be a city where

residents feel like they belong. To achieve this, Calgary needs to be accessible, inclusive, affordable, and safe. More diverse housing choices increase the livability of a community – it’s important that all Calgarians can find housing suitable to them throughout the different stages of their lives, regardless of where they live in the city.” Lauren also believes that to keep our communities vibrant, there must be multiple ways for people to safely and efficiently get around the city – whether that means four wheels, two wheels or two feet.

Lauren Herschel’s experience in strategic business planning, leadership and community engagement would be an asset to City Hall and Ward 11. She has an extensive background working for several industries giving her a diverse knowledge and understanding of the city. A senior communications leader for over 20 years, Lauren has worked in commercial real estate, banking, residential homebuilding, food service as well as non-profit organizations like Calgary Public Library. In many of these roles she has directly engaged with city departments. Lauren has experience in leading teams, budgeting and project management. She has a demonstrated track record of building strong relationships, navigating change and delivering results. Lauren is also a proud volunteer in the community, with Heritage Calgary, Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Canadian Transplant Association.

A resident of Oakridge, Lauren is running for Ward 11 Councillor because she believes Calgary needs fresh ideas. Having had many rewarding experiences since moving to Calgary 15 years ago, Lauren wants to serve on council as a meaningful way to pay it forward. She is excited for the opportunity to serve her fellow ward residents, and help move the city forward. Learn more about her platform at [LaurenHerschel.ca](http://LaurenHerschel.ca)

CALGARY HAS  
SO MUCH POTENTIAL

WE NEED THE RIGHT LEADERSHIP  
TO GET US THERE

ON OCTOBER 18, 2021, VOTE FOR  
LAUREN HERSCHEL'S BALANCED APPROACH TO :

\*ECONOMIC HEALTH

\*AFFORDABILITY

\*INVESTING IN CALGARY'S FUTURE

\*ACCOUNTABILITY

LEARN MORE:  
LAURENHERSCHEL.CA | 587-287-6274

LAUREN HERSCHEL FOR WARD 11 CITY COUNCIL

LAUREN  
HERSCHEL  
Ward 11

Mazal Tov to new Bubbe Maxine  
and Zaida Milt Fischbein  
on the birth of their granddaughter  
Josephine Rose in Seattle.

Born Sept. 7, the first day  
of Rosh Hashanah.

BABY

Proud parents are  
Emma and Jeremy Lord

Calgary Election

Mike Jamieson for Ward 11

By Mike Jamieson

I am Mike Jamieson and I want to be your next Ward 11 City Councillor. I am a project manager in the Calgary commercial construction industry, handling multi-million-dollar projects. As a born and raised Calgarian, I have volunteered for numerous community organizations including the Calgary Drop-In Centre, Operation Christmas Child, Community Clean Up, and the Erma Fennel Foundation. My wife and I are also foster parents and have two children. I want change in this city and the same opportunities that I had for my children. With a new focus on creating jobs in every sector, I will champion Calgary as the best city to work, live and play.

I see so much potential in terms of developing, retaining, and attracting talent from all over the world. The key to attracting and retaining talent will be to reinvigorate downtown as the heart of the city. People need more than just employment. They need to know that there is a vibrant place to eat, drink, and enjoy music or the arts. To achieve this, we need to address and lower the tax burden on businesses in and around our downtown.

A rising tide floats all boats. Very few people if any will be left behind if we can pull out all stops to attract businesses here. I've heard from many people that it takes forever for City Hall to approve anything. We need to drastically cut red tape and streamline approvals. Calgary needs a reputation of saying "YES", not "NO". There are too many managers managing managers at City Hall. We need to streamline processes and get to "YES" sooner than the cities we compete with. This will help businesses to start, scale-up, and grow.

More transparency. Politicians are elected to represent their constituents but for far too long, our current council has made many of these decisions behind closed doors. If elected, I will work to reduce in camera meetings and bring back the transparency Calgarians deserve.

I, like many of you, want my children to grow up in a safe community and I recognize the role police play in achieving that. And so, I am strongly against any plan to defund the police. If elected, I promise to make our Ward the safest place in the city, and I will always support the men and women who make that happen. I am also against the blanket densification of single-family communities. They also need to be protected.

Calgary needs term limits for councillors. Complacency is human nature but service should be a privilege not a profession. I propose to limit Council members to 3 terms.

Lastly, we need fiscal responsibility at City Hall. The credit card is maxed out and still our Council spends, spends, and spends. We must bring restraint to Council and run our city the way we run our homes and businesses. Within our means.

I hope to be your next councillor to emulate the great job Jeromy Farkas did in Ward 11.

Shirley Anderson for Calgary Public School Trustee

By Shirley Anderson

I am Shirley Anderson and am running in this Fall Civic election for Public School Trustee in Wards 11 & 13. Many of you may know me as Shirley Ksienski. My family has been a member of the community for several years. I attended the Calgary Hebrew School in the 60's, graduated from Henry Wisewood Sr. High, and earned a degree from the University of Calgary and Ryerson University in Toronto.

I am a firm believer in education and a strong advocate for children of all abilities. Every child deserves the right to an education. The last 16 years have provided me the confidence and determination required to be your Public-School Trustee. Having open lines of communication, working towards the betterment of our community and effective collaboration are essential pillars in my core of business. I promise to listen to my community and develop workable solutions to every concern.

I welcome you to visit my website, shirelyanderson4cbe.ca to learn more about me and my passion in education and advocacy. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or comments. I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Rosh Hashanah!



**VOTE**

**SHIRLEY ANDERSON**


Public School Trustee

**ShirleyAnderson4cbe.ca**

Vote 張光華

**IAN CHIANG**

For Mayor of Calgary



**Better Ideas**

**Better Actions**

**Better News**

**www.ianchiang.com**

**MIKE JAMIESON**

FOR CALGARY CITY COUNCIL – WARD 11

- ✓ **LOWER TAXES (By cutting waste)**
- ✓ **NO DE-FUNDING OF POLICE**
- ✓ **NO HIGH-DENSITY BLANKET ZONING OF SINGLE-FAMILY NEIGHBOURHOODS**
- ✓ **INCREASED ACCOUNTABILITY**
- ✓ **TERM LIMITS FOR COUNCILLORS**

Mike is a project manager in the Calgary commercial construction industry, handling multi-million dollar projects. As a born and raised Calgarian, he has volunteered for numerous community organizations including the Calgary Drop-In Centre, Operation Christmas Child, Community Clean Up, and the Erma Fennel Foundation. Mike and his wife are also foster parents and have two children. Mike wants change in this city and the same opportunities he had for his children. With a new focus on creating jobs in every sector, Mike will champion Calgary as the best city to work, live and play.



**JOIN THE CONVERSATION AT**

**WWW.VOTEMIKEJAMIESON.CA**

community calendar

Want to know what's going on in Jewish Calgary?  
Check out the Community Calendar at [jewishcalgary.org](http://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



CALGARY  
JEWISH FEDERATION  
The strength of a people.  
The power of community.  
[jewishcalgary.org](http://jewishcalgary.org)



A MESSAGE FROM ADAM SILVER

Summer is in our rear-view mirror (don't fight it), the first days of school are behind us, and Rosh HaShana, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah will all be over by the end of September. Typically, we emerge from summer in a paced and measured way. We begin by re-establishing our carpool and lunch-making routines, we prepare for the *chagim* (holidays) over a series of weeks letting the anticipation build, and only weeks later do we realize that we are suddenly closer to winter than we are to summer.

This year continued with the fear and uncertainty that COVID-19 brings with it, and on the heels of false hope, we now see ourselves in the thick of a fourth wave of the pandemic. Yet, we continue to find meaningful ways to remain a community, a Jewish community. Our synagogues, schools, social service, and recreation organizations have adapted and modified their services to ensure that even at a distance we can still be together. Those who need spiritual, educational, social, and recreational supports can still feel connected and be cared for.

In a usual Sukkot message, I would take the opportunity to connect the *lulav* and *etrog*, the four species (myrtle,

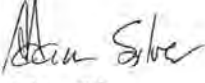
palm, willow, and citron), to the diversity of our community. I would highlight that each is wonderful on its own, but that together the species comprise something greater and holier than their individual parts.

All of this remains true. Our community is broad and diverse, and much stronger and fulsome when its unique parts come together in unity. However, this year is a rare year – a year of *shmita* (release), in which debts are to be forgiven, agricultural lands lie fallow, private land holdings become open, and staples such as food storage and perennial harvests are to be freely redistributed and accessible to all. *Shmita* occurs every seven years – six years of farming activity are followed by a seventh year of rest for the land. This action of rest or release is seen by many as a sacrifice. However, we can also view it as an intentional attempt at rejuvenating the land for greater capacity, of strategically making resources available to those in need, and of being mindful of agricultural and environmental concerns. A focus is placed on ensuring the land is ready and able to support future growth and development, and that those in need receive an extra level of support during the *shmita* year during which they have a degree of certainty that food will be accessible to them.

As we launch our annual United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Campaign, we hope our community will consider the *shmita* year and do its utmost to ensure we can continue to support the agencies that do such excellent work in supporting those in need, in building Jewish identity, educating our children, and ensuring our community is inclusive, caring, and accessible.

Our UJA theme this year is *Together, we are...* and it draws on our connectedness and commitment to one another. Please do all that you can to support the campaign, and be as generous as you are able. Afterall, *Together, we are more meaningful; Together, we are stronger; Together, we are a community!*

Shana Tova, G'mar Chatima Tova, and Chag Sameach,

  
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.



# LAUGHTER YOGA

## FOR ALL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 • 1PM • JCC or ZOOM

Join us for an afternoon of fun, wellness, and health with **Lora Pesant**. Laughter Yoga (or Laughter Wellness) is a simple yet powerful form of exercise. It combines yoga-based deep breathing and gentle stretching to stimulate laughter and cultivate an inner spirit of joy. This program is accessible to all!

**REGISTER FOR \$18 AT [JEWISHCALGARY.ORG](http://JEWISHCALGARY.ORG)**

Proceeds will be directed to inclusion efforts and programs

Sponsored by Lenny and Faigel Shapiro and Family

**INCLUSION**  
POWERED BY CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION

For more info email Karina Szulc at [karinas@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:karinas@jewishcalgary.org)

*As soap is to the body, so laughter is to the soul.*  
(Yiddish quote)



# STUDENT FACULTY Mixer

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3  
4-6PM • Paperny Family JCC

Registration required:  
[jewishcalgary.org](http://jewishcalgary.org)

Mix, mingle, and enjoy  
appetizers and refreshments

**Note:** Event may be cancelled on short notice in accordance with AHS measures and COVID-19 infection rates

For info: [dbraitman@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:dbraitman@jewishcalgary.org) or 403.444.3146

IMAGINE IF YOU COULD PROVIDE A GIFT TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY THAT WOULD LAST FOREVER



## LIFE & LEGACY

is designed to help you create permanent legacy gifts, demonstrating your belief in the continuity of Jewish life in Calgary for generations to come.



To learn more about how to create your Jewish legacy contact Diana Kalef at 403-444-3154 or [dkalef@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:dkalef@jewishcalgary.org).

# TOGETHER WE ARE A COMMUNITY

UJA 2021

All activities on this page are made possible by your gifts to Federation's annual UJA Campaign.

GIVE GENEROUSLY

TOGETHER

WE ARE A COMMUNITY

UJA 2021



CALGARY  
JEWISH FEDERATION  
The strength of a people.  
The power of community.

Your support enables our community to receive the tools and resources needed to handle one of the most adverse periods we have ever experienced.

In Jewish Calgary, inclusion isn't just a concept or an ideal - it's a real and tangible action allowing everyone to fully participate in the community regardless of ability, income or identity.



TOGETHER

WE ARE RESILIENT

Our community stepped up at the onset of the pandemic to meet the needs of Jewish Calgary by providing financial support through the **Jewish Together Fund**. From adapted, virtual programming and one-on-one support, to hot Kosher meals and care packages, you can be proud of how far we have come. But we are not done.

Your UJA gift is vital as we continue to recover and adjust to new challenges.

TOGETHER

WE ARE INCLUSIVE

Programs such as **Kesher** increase quality of life for individuals with disabilities and to support those who love them by providing recreation, cultural connections and friendships. Through the **Integrated Bursary Program (IBP)**, income never has to be a barrier to participation in formative Jewish experiences such as camp or dayschool. Participation in events such as Calgary Pride sends a message of acceptance to LGBTQ+ in our community.

Your UJA gift makes a powerful impact.

# Na'amat Calgary packs School Supplies for Kids

By Sandra Lipton and Marni Besser

(Calgary) - Na'amat Canada Calgary volunteers gathered on Sunday, August 29 in order to pack backpacks with essential school supplies for 750 school-aged children living in Calgary and southern Alberta domestic violence and homeless shelters.

The annual *School Supplies for Kids* project aims to equip youth living in domestic violence and homeless shelters with the tools they need to succeed in school, and to help strengthen their self-esteem. Since *School Supplies for Kids* inception in 1998, this Na'amat Canada Calgary's community service project has provided more than 23,000 children with backpacks filled with school supplies.

Jan Reimer of the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters commented, "Since the start of the pandemic, women's experiences of violence have been increasing in severity. The Danger Assessment scores held firm at the all-time high set by emergency shelters last year, and the second stage shelter scores are higher this year than ever before."



A group of dedicated volunteers gathered in Calgary to fill 750 backpacks with essential school supplies as part of the Na'amat School Supplies for Kids program aimed at easing some of the burden for families in the city's domestic violence and homeless shelters ahead of the school year.



"This increase also put the children at even greater risk," explained Stephanie Sacks, *School Supplies for Kids* Chair.

"Our recent *School Supplies for Kids* online art auction proceeds along with the support of donors and many sponsors will be matched by up to 50% by Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink. Our project could not have proceeded without this support."

"It is heartwarming to see how our members and volunteers remain committed to providing the needed

backpacks despite the challenges of working together during the time of COVID-19. This year our packing day continued to involve a smaller number of volunteers, so that we could implement the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of our volunteers," noted Linda Gutman, *School Supplies for Kids* Volunteer Coordinator.

Established in 1925, Na'amat Canada is part of an international Jewish women's non-profit organization that is dedicated to enhancing the lives of women and children in Canada and in Israel.

# The importance of self-care for caregivers

By Samantha Norberg

What was the last thing you did for yourself? If you cannot remember, you might be a caregiver. For many of us, COVID-19 makes for an uncertain future. For caregivers, COVID-19 has heightened an existing feeling of uncertainty.

It is only human to crave certainty and without it, feelings of fear and anxiety may become more frequent. Uncertainty in combination with increased caregiving tasks during the pandemic, can put caregivers at a higher risk for caregiver stress and burnout. Signs of "caregiver stress" can include declining health, a lack of energy (but also sleeplessness), and withdrawal from social interactions. When caregiver stress is unaddressed, it can build into "caregiver burden", a physical, emotional, and mental exhaustion from the caregiving role, which can become dangerous for the caregiver and the people they care for.

The hopeful news? We have the choice to recognize how we feel and address how we cope. And the thing about being human, is that we are built to survive. A great place to start is to look at the difference between coping strategies and self-care, and identify how you can benefit from both approaches to wellbeing. Coping strategies are practices that bring immediate relief whereas self-care is an on-going plan to support yourself. Both serve a meaningful purpose, though differ in when you use them.

When feeling overwhelmed, we might turn off our phones and pick up a book to dig into for an hour. This is an example of a coping strategy, which can help you through a crisis and provide short-term relief. We can transform this into a component of a self-care by designating one hour every night to disconnect and do something for yourself, whether that be reading, having a treat, laughing, or exercising.

Self-care can be explored in the following components of your life: physical, social, emotional, occupational (paid and unpaid – your caregiving fits here!), and spiritual.

This can be mapped visually by tracing your hand on a piece of paper and assigning each finger a component of self-care. Reflect on: What fills me with energy what depletes me of energy?

What do I have control of and what can I release control of?

On each traced finger, write down what each of the above self-care components means to you, your goals in

that component, and activities you can adopt or are already practicing to achieve that goal. Consider: What are the barriers to supporting myself and how can I overcome them? What am I open to trying?

Similar to your caregiving journey, self-care is a continuous process of reflection and change, often requiring a lifestyle change, and it is not meant to be done alone. In your caregiving role and self-care, reflect on: Who in my support system can help me with this? In what areas do I need more support? How can the person I care for help me?

You have heard it before and I will say it again (after all it has been a while since we travelled by plane), put your oxygen mask on first before helping others. And with that, my last question for you is: What will be the next thing you do for yourself?

*Samantha Norberg, MSW, RSW is a JFSC Case Manager. Who is a caregiver and what types of support does JFSC offer? Listen to Samantha in Episode 12 of the Silver Shades Podcast at [silvershades.ca/episode-12/](https://silvershades.ca/episode-12/).*

*JFSC (Jewish Family Service Calgary) offers support to Calgary caregivers of seniors through education, group sessions and individual counselling. For more information contact Samantha at 403-692-6392 or [samanthan@jfsc.org](mailto:samanthan@jfsc.org) Outside of Calgary? You can explore local caregiver support services through 2-1-1.*

6<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin, Staniloff and Thal Charity Classic Golf Tournament

Thank you for your continued support!

A special thank you for your support, making this the best year yet! This **sold out** event was a day of fun and camaraderie while raising critical funds to support JFSC programs and services.

Save the Date for next year – **Thursday August 18, 2022**

**Presenting Sponsors**

Larry Martin  
Marc Staniloff  
Harvey Thal

**Dinner Sponsor**

Birchcliff Energy

**Lisa "Longball" Sponsor**

Max Feldman

**Lunch Sponsor**

Steve Kaganov

**Tee Gift Sponsor**

Ron & Myrna Ghitler

**Cart Sponsor**

Wilson M. Beck Insurance Services (Alberta) Inc. (Sam Feldman)

**Hole in One Sponsors**

Media Resources  
Rogers Insurance  
Valentine Volvo

**Hole Sponsors**

Becker & Cheng Wealth Management (RBC Dominion Securities)  
Calgary Jewish Academy  
Peter & Kim Cohos  
Geib & Company  
Hoffman Dorchik  
Jewish Community Foundation of Calgary  
Jewish National Fund  
Katz Management  
Larry & Sandy Martin —SOMAR Foundation

Leonard & Faigel Shapiro  
The Mayer Family  
Nuvero  
Ronmor Holdings  
ServiceMaster Restore of Calgary  
The Schayer Family  
Sterling Property Solutions — Stuart & Elaine Myron  
Waste Connections of Canada

**Sign Sponsor**  
National Neon

**Donations**  
Randi Aaron  
Rob & Shelley Cohen  
Ila Hardin  
Philip & Harriet Libin  
Bev Sklar  
Barry Slawsky  
Stephen Wainer  
Allan Wolinsky

**Gift In Kind Donations**

Canyon Meadows Golf & Country Club  
Carriage House Inn  
Contego Tech Solutions  
Country Hills Golf Club  
Debbie Krygier  
Doug Panchuk  
Jerry Polsky  
Windmill Golf Group (Mickelson National Golf Club)  
Rogers Insurance  
Red Bull  
Silver Creek Lodge  
Spolumbos Sausages  
Stewart Creek Golf & Country Club  
The Glencoe Golf & Country Club

**Tournament Committee**

Max Feldman  
Peta Glezerson  
Debbie Krygier  
Lisa Thomson

**Golf Day Volunteers**

Anna De Geer  
Carol Feldman  
Sam Fishman  
Shelley Hoyer  
Don Marshall  
Sean Milnthorpe  
Rob Pender  
Bev Silverstone  
Tina Stanleigh  
Sarah Thomson  
Borden Tremere  
Michayla Tremere

JFSC

COINS & CURRENCY

I BUY:

Estate coins, paper money, gold & silver Maple Leafs, bills & coins from abroad

Call Israel:  
403-263-7052  
403-850-9137  
[hombre071@gmail.com](mailto:hombre071@gmail.com)

Like us at

/ Alberta Jewish News

# Students share stories around the world - from CJA to GLA

By Lesley Machon

The halls of the Calgary Jewish Academy (CJA) are not the only ones filling with excitement for the new school year — 5083 km away on an island in the Caribbean, Haitian students at God’s Littlest Angels (GLA) orphanage school are also sharpening pencils and preparing for the year of learning ahead. GLA is home, hospital and school for many Haitian children, located in the mountains above Petion-Ville, in the village of Fort Jacques.

“At least 85% of our kids were malnourished and suffered primary trauma at an early age. This has affected their cognitive development and many have challenges when it comes to structured learning.” – Molly Little, Executive Director of GLA. These children’s stories are full of incredible early life challenges, but GLA is also a place of much beauty and healing. Molly continues, “We are very grateful that we have four teachers on staff who break the classes down into groups of 4-8 to help meet the kids at their level and offer just the right amount of challenge to encourage but not frustrate them.”

Along with their learning subjects in both Haitian Creole and French (the majority of their text books are written in French), the school is working to integrate a framework for English education. This includes an English classroom where students diligently expand their vocabulary and comprehension in what is a third language for many. This year, students will hone their linguistic skills by exchanging letters with the Junior High students here at the CJA.

Our Junior High English Language Arts curriculum this year has a global focus. We will begin our studies in Haiti, reading books by Haitian authors, written about Haiti, with protagonists the same age as the students. In addition, our podcasts, poetry, film, and art studies will be about Haiti. We will also be writing to pen pals at GLA. In addition to letters, we will also be raising and sending money for school supplies as well as NICU supplies for the children who live and learn at GLA. (\*The orphanage will provide receipts for all purchases. If you’re interested in making a contribution email Lesley Machon at machonl@cja.ab.ca.)

Haiti rescued and received Jewish people during World War II. During the Holocaust, Haitian diplomats, many of them volunteers in European capitals, undertook a heroic effort to issue passports to as many Jews fleeing Nazism as they could. Having known oppression, the Haitian people were sensitive to the suffering of others. We acknowledge these cross-cultural acts of courage and solidarity with deep gratitude.

Our goal is to connect and relate to students in different cultures and circumstances in a way that is respectful and humble, preserving dignity and demonstrating curiosity. This is the Jewish way: to delve right in, learn from the people, and share our culture as well.

G-d is everywhere, as evidenced by smiling eyes of overseas pen pals, acts of mercy big and small, and efforts to establish connection in the name of our shared humanity. This is about students from both countries, seeking to learn about one another through exchanging stories. And if our grammar and sentence structure improves in the process...well, English teachers in both schools will have much to celebrate.

Lesley Machon is a humanities teacher at Calgary Jewish Academy.

## Jeromy Farkas *Cont. from page 5*

City Hall by genuinely listening to Calgarians and allowing them to have meaningful input in major decisions that impact them, such as neighbourhood development.”

Jeromy was elected to Calgary City Council in 2017 with the promise to bring financial responsibility, integrity, and accountability back to City Hall. He wasted no time in leading by example when he declined his generous council pension and transition allowance. Jeromy’s record demonstrates his commitment to standing up for everyday Calgarians and businesses. A lifelong Calgarian and University of Calgary graduate, Jeromy has worked hard for everything that he has. He was proudly raised in the SE community of Dover by Hungarian immigrants who came to Canada to build a better life for their family.

“Change starts now,” says Jeromy. Visit jeromy.ca to learn more about Jeromy Farkas and to get involved.



The Jr. High language arts curriculum at Calgary Jewish Academy has a global focus this year. CJA students will be writing to their pen pals at the GLA orphanage school in Haiti. The students will learn about one another by exchanging stories and sharing experiences.

# Greg McLean

Conservative  
Calgary Centre

- ✓ **Commitment to Alberta**
  - Invest \$5 B in the *Canada Advanced Research Agency*, based in Calgary, to advance hydrogen, pharma, small modular reactors, vehicles and private investment in space.
  - Create a *Canadian Indigenous Enterprise Corp* to ensure partnerships in prosperity and collaborative development of natural resource projects and related infrastructure.
  - Introduce a tax credit to rapidly accelerate the deployment of *Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage* technology.
- ✓ **Bring Spending Back Under Control**
  - Canada is on track to rack up deficits until 2070 unless we make a course correction.
  - We already face a debt of \$1.4 Trillion for our kids and grandkids to pay back, plus annual interest. We must spend more prudently.
- ✓ **A Responsible Environmental Plan**
  - New technology to repurpose waste carbon.
  - Set goal of protecting 25% of land and water; end raw sewage dumping.
  - Ban export of plastic waste; recover its value.
  - Consider carbon border tariffs on high-emissions imports.
- ✓ **Affordable Quality of Life**
  - Increase child care support for families up to \$150,000 income.
  - Help seniors stay in their own homes, improve Long-Term Care, protect pensions.
  - Support small businesses in their recovery and help them keep people employed.

GregMcLean.ca  
GMcLean@GregMcLean.ca  
403.614.1934

Authorized by the Official Agent for Greg McLean

# Edmonton Municipal Election

## Edmonton Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre Connects

By Leticia Gomez

Many of you have heard about the Edmonton Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre (The Centre) but not many know how much it does for the community. I became involved with the Centre more than five years ago with the assumption that it was just a place for seniors to have lunch and socialize. Very quickly, I discovered an interesting and welcoming world where different generations explore new ideas, exchange knowledge, and have fun together.

I was honoured to participate in the development and delivery of various projects at the Centre. One of the initiatives developed with Svetlana, the Centre's executive director, was to enable the Francophone and Jewish communities of Edmonton to learn about each other and collaborate. Our first project aimed to mentor Francophone women to help them enhance their leadership skills. The second project, called *Where are the women?*, focused on contemporary Francophone artists from all over Canada, and led to a virtual presentation of their Edmonton Art exhibit and vivid discussion about the way contemporary art presents and preserves itself.

The most recent project called *Safer & Stronger Together*, is a partnership between La Coalition des

femmes de l'Alberta and the Centre, which aims to raise awareness about abuse and discrimination towards women and girls. This project became a reality thanks to funding from the Canadian Women's Foundation. Many immigrant women, after arrival to Canada, lose their traditional support system and became more vulnerable. Seniors can play an essential role in the lives of those women by sharing their wisdom, creating support, and providing knowledge about the Canadian way of living.

There will be a Zoom forum *Stronger & Safer Together* with representatives of service organizations and women who will share their experiences, on Wednesday, October 6 at 6 p.m. Please register to be part of this important discussion via the link <https://tinyurl.com/r6zj7tub>.

Many members of my synagogue, Temple Beth Ora, participated in the Centre's recent project from *Survival to Thrival: Shared Historical Experiences*, with both the Jewish and Indigenous communities of Edmonton. It was an amazing learning curve for participants from both communities as we explored personal stories and developed mutual understanding and friendship.

For many years the Centre, has worked to strengthen the benefits of intergenerational communication through cooking, storytelling and volunteering. We have also facilitated transfer of knowledge from young to not quite as young, so that our Seniors have learned how to use communication tools such as Zoom and Facebook and had assistance to learn how to use gadgets effectively. These activities were funded by the New Horizons for Seniors, Government of Canada and supported by our wonderful team of young volunteers from the Kyrgyz Association in Canada and practicum students from the University of Alberta. The Centre will soon offer special



Bert Malo performing at the Edmonton Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre.

one-on-one training for members who have never used I-Pads before and want to become I-Pad literate. I-Pads can be provided, on loan, and volunteers will help you explore this communication technology tool. Please register for this program asap.

No matter how young or old you are, you can bring something to the Centre and be part of a community that values friendship, knowledge, and tradition. Don't wait to be retired to join the Centre; be like me, get your membership and start to explore the various opportunities the Centre provides. Please call 780-488-4241, email [programmer@jdicsejors.ca](mailto:programmer@jdicsejors.ca), visit [www.jdicsejors.ca](http://www.jdicsejors.ca) to start your journey!

Leticia Gomez is a Centre Supporter and Volunteer. She is a candidate for Edmonton Public School Board Trustee in Ward C in the upcoming Edmonton Municipal Elections.

## Safe transportation is something all Edmontonians deserve

By Giselle General

Traveling along 87 Avenue on the west end is a frequent activity for me, from Empanada Convenience Store on 149 Street to the Meadowlark Professional Building, where the Jewish Family Services Centre is located on 159 Street. I navigate these areas mostly by walking and sometimes by bus. Another regular route is along 156 Street or 159 Street to head home to my neighbourhood of Rio Terrace. Observing the activity along this road is a perfect opportunity to observe how people get around using different modes of transportation.

The narrative of "war on cars," "war on cyclists" and "war on pedestrians" I hear from different people is very

concerning to me, because at the end of the day, we are all people who simply want to get from our origin to our destination in a way that is safe, efficient, and convenient. Three important components that help make transportation safe, efficient, and convenient for everyone are snow clearing, public transit, and infrastructure. For infrastructure this includes main roads, side streets, sidewalks, ramps, crosswalks, lights and sings and back alleys.

These aspects of transportation are under the responsibility of the municipal government. Since I am passionate about these issues, I felt inspired to run for Edmonton City Councillor for this upcoming election. I am what the city describes as a "captive transit user," someone



who needs to take transit, or walk if feasible, to get around because of not being able to drive.

While the city government is responsible for maintaining and expanding these services, there are a few things that everyday residents can do in the meantime:

Using the Edmonton 311 app. There are many issues you can report using the 311 app related to transportation, from late buses, potholes and cracked paths, even snow buildup in the middle of the road that is dangerous for drivers and pedestrians. The best part is you can take a photo. If the issue is not resolved, take the reference number, and send a message to your current elected representative.

Diligent snow clearing in our private properties. Pedestrians like me are in a precarious situation during winter when sidewalks from buildings and houses are not properly cleared of snow.

Try other modes of transportation you typically would not use. The on-demand bus system that is implemented in some neighbourhoods is a two-year pilot project, and feedback from as many users will help determine whether the service should be kept, adjusted, or eliminated. Since I cannot drive, I needed to learn how to use it, and it works well most of the time. It is free to use, and you only need to pay for bus fare (or show your bus pass) once you transfer to a regular ETS bus or LRT

Ensuring that everyone gets around safely through walking, rolling with their wheelchair or bike, driving or taking the bus is something we ought to pay attention to on a regular basis.

Giselle General is a Candidate for Edmonton City Councillor, ward sipiwiniwak

Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation  
and Edmonton Community Foundation

Working together to create permanent ongoing support  
for the causes important to you.

Talk to us about what you would like to accomplish for your community.  
We can show you how easy it is to create a legacy of caring.

As my father planted before I was born, so do I plant for those who will come after me.  
The Talmud

ejccfoundation@gmail.com

780.487.0585 Ext. 203

donorservices@ecfoundation.org

780.426.0015

ELECT

GOMEZ

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEE  
WARD C CANDIDATE

OCTOBER 18th, 2021

Inclusive schools for a strong community

B"H

WITS YESHIVA OF CANADA

Childcare available in West End Edmonton for children 18 months and up.

One on one judaica tutoring available for all ages.

Special events and volunteer opportunities in South Edmonton location.

For more information and to register call (780) 483-1028 or

Visit us at [ShalomEdmonton.com](http://ShalomEdmonton.com)

WITS Yeshiva of Canada presents Torah Pearls

B"H

Learn inside with us. See what the text says. See its sources,

*"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."* – Maimonides

*"Education must not simply teach work – it must teach Life."* – Author unknown

WITS Yeshiva of Canada is now offering via zoom or in person 1:1 learning, Including Tanach and History, Chumash and Prayer.

Contact Rebbetzin Rifka to learn more at [Shalomedmonton.com](http://Shalomedmonton.com)

# High Holidays recipe: This sweet treat is like baklava

By Ronnie Fein

(JTA) - During the High Holidays, I always make my family's recipe for a dessert called turte, which is similar to Greek baklava. Rather than walnuts, however, it's made with almonds and drenched with a thick sugar syrup instead of honey.

Turte is a specialty from the eastern part of Romania called Moldavia, where my grandparents were born, and is sometimes made with thin pancakes. My grandma made it with strudel dough.

I recall watching her make her own dough for this dish, as well as her fabulous potato strudel, laying the paper-thin dough across the entire kitchen table. I did that once -- then switched to store-bought.

There was a time when I could find authentic strudel dough, but these days I use phyllo, which is not exactly the same (it's thinner and more papery), but still absolutely fine. And it's a whole lot easier.

This is such a wonderful treat, whatever your background. It's sweet, crumbly and tender, and the fragrance of cinnamon is enchanting. The original recipe did not include orange peel, but I think it gives the cake a refreshing quality.

**Ingredients: For the cake:**

1/2 pound phyllo dough

1/2 pound melted butter  
cookie or cake crumbs or ground nuts  
1 1/2 cups finely chopped almonds  
2 tablespoons sugar  
2-3 teaspoons freshly grated orange peel  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg

**For the syrup:**

3/4 cup sugar  
3/4 cup water  
1 teaspoon orange flower water or 2 tablespoons orange-flavored brandy or 1/2 teaspoon orange extract

**Directions:**

Make the cake: Preheat the oven to 350 F. Layer half the phyllo dough in a 9-inch square baking pan (or use a 9-by-13-inch pan), brushing with half the melted butter and scattering crumbs between layers.

In a bowl, combine the chopped almonds, 2 tablespoons sugar, orange peel, cinnamon and nutmeg. Place the nut mixture over the layers of dough.

Cover the nut mixture with the remaining phyllo leaves, separating them as above with melted butter and crumbs.

Brush the top layer with the last of the melted butter. Score the dough with the tip of a sharp knife into squares or rectangles.



Bake for 30 minutes. Raise heat to 400 F. and bake for another 15-20 minutes, or until the top is golden brown. Remove from the oven and set aside.

Make the syrup: Combine the 3/4 cup sugar and the water in a saucepan. Bring the mixture to a boil, stirring only until sugar dissolves. Cook at a boil for a few minutes until the liquid has thickened, but do not let it become caramel colored.

Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the orange flavoring. Pour the syrup over the warm cake.

Let the cake cool and cut it into pieces where you have scored the top. Makes 8-12 servings.

local artists | exclusive collection | original pieces

WG | Wakina Gallery

original indigenous art  
paintings • illustrations • carvings  
call 780-237-1556 for viewings  
[www.wakinagallery.com](http://www.wakinagallery.com)

Election 2021

You have the power to  
make an impact: Volunteer.

CJPAC The political engagement people can help!

GET STARTED AT: [CJPAC.CA/VFE21](http://CJPAC.CA/VFE21)



This month's update from Edmonton Talmud Torah School



Just like last school year, due to Edmonton Public School Board Covid restrictions, schools are restricted from serving food to students at the start of this school year. Talmud Torah Society has stepped up again to run the popular challah bun program, free of charge to its families. Thanks to Bliss Baked Goods baking over 400 kosher, nut free challah buns at a time, the program can continue. Families pick up their challah packages from Natalie Soroka’s house every six weeks or so. The students often comment to Natalie at school that they can’t wait to come back again to get more challah buns! The parents love that their children can continue to participate in Shabbat at school every Friday with their classmates, by bringing a challah bun from home.

Beit Midrash *Cont. from page 3*

“We see this project ‘Edmonton Beit Midrash: A Shared Local Learning Space to Contend with Anti-Semitism and Racism’ as only a first step.”

One of Levine’s fellow community organizers, Meital Siva-Jain, added that “we are working to find a way to address a very urgent contemporary situation through dialog and Jewish teaching.”

Ignited by what began as casual research, Levine began to approach others from the Jewish community. “I knew right away who I needed to approach,” he mused. “As a child I attended Talmud Torah,” Levine began.

“I grew up hearing stories about changes that began with just one or two people getting together, guided by G-d, or spirituality, or the teaching of Jewish thought. Something that I have always been taught, is that when we want change to happen, it starts small and grows,” he continued. “It can be a matter of growth in courage, or maybe growth in empathy, and it continues from there.”

Levine’s disillusionment with the state of widespread social xenophobia blossomed into something positive and constructive when he began collaborating with fellow Jewish community members. For over a year a group of like-minded individuals met every other week to brainstorm and collaborate.

“We knew that in order to begin to contend with issues as huge as anti-Semitism and racism, we would have to start together,” said Levine. “Then we can move forward together.”

Modeled after a *beit midrash* pedagogical format, the group has planned a three-part workshop series targeting community engagement from across Edmonton’s broad

spectrum of Jewish identities.

“Anti-Semitism is painful and historical. Our work with ‘Edmonton Beit Midrash: A Shared Local Learning Space to Contend with Anti-Semitism and Racism’ is just an attempt to address it in a safe and culturally considerate atmosphere,” Sive-Jain elaborated. “In our daily lives we try to process our experiences, and this space for discussion will be an important part of that.”

The conversation kicks off during Sukkot with a Zoom information session hosted from Temple Beth Ora’s Sukkah. The group sees this as the inauguration of a new “peace-seeking” space for Edmonton’s Jewish community. “At some point we may see how best to engage other groups in Edmonton,” said Siva-Jain. “But for now, we are reaching out to all of the branches of Judaism in Edmonton specifically.”

Levine added with enthusiasm: “Yes, we have such a diverse Jewish community in Edmonton with representation from so many different spheres of Jewish thought and identity, and we would like to celebrate this through the discussions we initiate.”

Following the information session, the planned three-part workshop series begins on October 6 from 7 to 8 pm. “We are not here to convince anyone of anything,” offered Levine. “This is a matter of discussion and our shared heritage. We probably will not always agree with each other, but we will definitely learn from one another through this process.”

The second and third workshops will be held on October 20 and November 3, also from 7 to 8 pm. “So many of us feel this social tension caused by anti-Semitism and systemic racism and we need to find a way forward as a community while paying attention to our own Jewish values,” Levine concluded.

“This series is just the beginning of a larger project,” Meital explained. Although the program will conclude on November 17 with a Menorat Shalom panel discussion from 7 to 8 pm, this initial project is intended to create a forum for productive dialog and debate.

“We are just starting the discussion, and hopefully it will evolve into much more,” stated Levine. The group anticipates that the second phase of their undertaking will focus on broadening their circle of engagement, with the third stage culminating in social action.

Anti-Semitism has been a terrifying reality for Jews as long as history has recorded. Parents of Jewish children not only worry about the everyday trials and tribulations of child rearing, but the potential prejudice rotting in the dark corners of society. Through projects like ‘Edmonton Beit Midrash: A Shared Local Learning Space to Contend with Anti-Semitism and Racism,’ community members will be able to contribute their voices to a growing chorus for change.

*Regan Treewater-Lipes is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter for Alberta Jewish News.*

BBB

SAVE ON ROOFING.CA

VISA

EDMONTON'S  
PREMIER ROOFERS

Re-Roofing  
Licensed - 5M Liability  
WCB - Free Estimates - Seniors Discounts

780-257-6526

# Wishing you a healthy and sweet New Year 2021

Beneficiary of  
The Jewish Federation  
of Edmonton  
YOUR LIFE

## Your Edmonton Talmud Torah Society Board of Directors

Leeor Eliyahu, Doug Kondor, Arielle  
Whitham, Randy Soifer, Jennifer Coppens,  
Melissa Benjamin, Michelle Huberman,  
Sharon Marcus, Megan Mandel, Christina  
Reboh, Noga Vaisblat, Ben Yovel

# Shana Tova

# CJPAC is urging the Jewish community to get involved in the election

By Jeffrey Feldman and Mark Waldman

Oct. 21, 2019, seems like a lifetime ago, doesn't it? That was the date of the last Canadian federal election. Since then, it's been a world of endless uncertainties and instability. The Jewish community has witnessed levels of antisemitism that haven't been seen for decades. Hate crime numbers are way up. The aura of anti-Israel sentiment, especially following the conflict in Gaza, has created an environment that has many feeling unsafe and anxious. The silence of many within the political sector has been cause for concern. On top of all of this, the havoc of the COVID pandemic is still felt daily.

Let's be real: People are upset and worried. The past 22 months since the last election have presented incredible challenges to our wellbeing and shown that nothing is guaranteed. The Canadian Jewish community has demonstrated its resilience and fortitude but there is a lot more to do, especially when it comes to elections. We've seen firsthand what an important role the government plays in our lives, especially regarding the pandemic, so it's vital that we extend our efforts more effectively in the political realm.

The Jewish community makes up less than 1.1 percent of the population and is concentrated in just a handful of ridings—10 out of 338. That's only three percent. Our numbers are continuing to decline. In politics, relationships matter. If we limit ourselves to involvement in only three percent of ridings and three percent of candidates, we are at a major disadvantage when it comes to our community and the things we care about.

To ensure our voices are heard, members of the Jewish community must continue to build relationships and educate MPs in ridings from coast to coast. This starts with political engagement, and it starts with each of us. As Rabbi Tarfon said, "It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you at liberty to neglect it."

The good news is that we have the tools to get engaged so we can work beyond the local ridings where we vote. CJPAC, the Canadian Jewish Political Affairs Committee,

Ushering in the New Year



Alberta Jewish Schmoozers celebrate the New Year. The Alberta Jewish Schmooze is a weekly email newsletter. To subscribe, visit [albertajewishnews.com/e-news](http://albertajewishnews.com/e-news).

is here to help. While we do not engage in or facilitate lobbying and advocacy, we do act as a concierge, helping members of our community to get engaged politically. Another important factor is that change is inevitable with elections. In 2019, 98 first-time MPs (27 percent) were elected, 60 of whom were in ridings that flipped seats. A third of those 60 MPs won with less than five percent of the vote. As for this election, as of the time we write this, 26 incumbents have decided not to run for re-election. Many more ridings will change hands. This means that no matter which way the election goes, our community will need to build new relationships with new parliamentarians. We can jumpstart that process. Community members like you can volunteer and acquaint yourselves with candidates from beyond your own riding and across the country. Every campaign is in dire need of volunteers, and even just a few hours can be a huge help. Often just a few more volunteers can make the difference between winning and losing a race. Plus, the appreciation for a volunteer's work—no matter how big or small—is something that's not easily forgotten. There is, of course, one element that's changed the game with this election: COVID. While it's still possible to engage in traditional methods of volunteering—door-knocking, handing out literature in the community, putting up lawn signs or working in a polling station—understandably, some are hesitant to participate under pandemic circumstances.

But fear not: there are many physically distanced ways to volunteer, including even from the comfort of your own home. And you don't have to be politically experienced to do it. All you have to do is raise your hand and show up. We will connect you to the campaign of your choice. For those who feel more comfortable with a bit of instruction, CJPAC's team makes it simple by training you on the basics of campaign volunteering. You can volunteer in your local riding or in one of the other many ridings where a strong Jewish presence is absent. Perhaps that means travelling 20-30 minutes away from your home or simply making phone calls from your couch for a candidate in a more remote part of the country. The first step is to sign up at [cjpac.ca/volunteer](http://cjpac.ca/volunteer), and CJPAC will connect you with the campaign or candidate of your choice. As Jews, we are committed to community service and contributing to the greater society. While it's been a rough few months, we don't have to stand alone. It doesn't matter what party you align with: it's vital to the health and safety of the Canadian Jewish community to build relationships with all parties. We can accomplish that together by getting engaged. CJPAC is here to help, and we can't wait to hear from you.

*Jeffrey Feldman is CJPAC's chair and Mark Waldman is the executive director of CJPAC.*  
*This article was originally published in the CJNI.*

## Birthright trips to resume in October

(JTA) — Birthright Israel is resuming its trips after a month of cancellations over Israeli COVID-19 quarantine rules, the organization announced Thursday. Participants who have been fully vaccinated in the past six months will not have to quarantine on arrival for the trips, which will likely resume Oct. 3. However, they will

still be subject to PCR and serological tests upon arrival and wait for the PCR results before beginning the trip. That contrasts with the current policy for U.S. travelers to Israel, who must enter quarantine upon arrival. Birthright had previously resumed its trips in May — the first since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Over 750,000 people have gone on the free trips to Israel since Birthright launched in 2000.

SHANA TOVA


FROM EVERYONE AT CIJA

As we look ahead and plan for the New Year, we want to hear from you. Which issues are most important to you?

▶ For more information visit [cija.ca/you](http://cija.ca/you)

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs is the advocacy agent for the Jewish Federation of Canada







OLIVER SQUARE  
REGISTRIES LTD

A fast, full service, friendly & convenient registry centre.

Oliver Square • 11648 104 Ave  
PH 780.408.2000  
[www.osreg.ca](http://www.osreg.ca)

Licensing, Registrations & Renewals  
All classes of written & road tests  
Drivers' Abstracts  
Name Searches & NUANS  
Commissioners for Oath  
Corporate Registrations & Searches  
Vital Statistics Certificates & Registrations  
Personal Property Lien Searches & Registrations  
And many other services for Public & Professional  
"Licensed to please."





PLEASE RECYCLE  
THIS NEWSPAPER

