

community calendar

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jewishcalgary.org



A MESSAGE FROM ADAM SILVER

I wrote in my last *Pomegranate* message about the wonderful diversity of Jewish Calgary, and of the fulsomeness and beauty it brings to our community. I compared this diversity to the *lulav* and *etrog*, the four species, and noted that we are comprised of people with different backgrounds who live in diverse households, and who often live and breathe their Judaism differently than one another. Yet, somehow, when we come together as one, and put our differences aside or, even better, when we truly listen to each other and have dialogue, we are an exponentially more authentic and stronger community.

As I write this message, I am preparing to attend our amazing Coast-to-Coast Partnership (CTC-P2G) meetings in *Etzba Hagalil* (the Galilee Panhandle). This is a unique partnership with six cities across Canada and five municipalities in the north of Israel. In total, eleven distinct groups coming together as one to form our Coast-to-Coast Partnership2Gether (CTC-P2G). This is like no other Israel 'twinning' in the world in that each municipality including Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Halifax and Atlantic Canada, Kiryat Shemona, Metulla, Yesod

Hama'ala, Galil Elion, and Mevo'ot Hahermon is key to the partnership, and the relationships are not simply bilateral.

Furthermore, the partnership is constructed and motivated to support the region as a whole. Therefore, redundancies of programs or infrastructure are limited, offerings are maximized and scaled (i.e. mental health initiatives, special curricula, etc.), and through *gesher chai* (living bridge) programming across the ocean between communities, authentic relationships are cultivated and cemented. Of course, there are opportunities to support capital and program projects in specific parts of the region, and many of the partners do so directly. But the focus of the core budget of the partnership and the broader thinking of the CTC-P2G committee, is to bolster the region as a whole. What is good for one is good for all, even though it might look different for how each partner and their citizens and other stakeholders experience it.

The bulk of those involved in the partnership, both Canadian and Israeli, have not only learned much more about one another's way of Jewish life, but also have forged lifelong friendships, even becoming

mishpacha (family). It has been over three years since we last met face to face, but I know it will be like no time has passed at all. We will certainly commit to hard and meaningful work – building up a region with great needs, scarce resources, and significant diversity in its population. We will also definitely hug and smile and laugh, knowing that no challenge of time or distance can alter the care, love, and hope we have for our partners and friends in *Etzba Hagalil*, nor can it distract us from the work to be done.

It seems to me, though, that the true strength of the partnership is that it is a labour of love shared by people who care deeply. They care about one another, about the region, and about Israel. What could be more motivating and more satisfying? Please consider joining us in our efforts – you will be welcomed with open arms.

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.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

1:30PM • PAPERNY FAMILY JCC

The Little Gate Crasher: The Life and Photos of Mace Bugen
Celebrate IDPD 2022 with **Gabrielle Kaplan-Mayer** – mom, inclusion advocate, author, and educator. Join us for an entertaining and profound presentation about Gabrielle's great-uncle **Mace Bugen**, through his journey as a first-generation Jewish-American kid in working-class Phillipsburg, NJ to becoming the first celebrity selfie artist – way ahead of his time!

3:30PM • PAPERNY FAMILY JCC

Disability, Autism, Mental Health, Neurodiversity and Parenting: A Mindfulness Approach

Sharing her experience as a mother, inclusion advocate, author, and educator, **Gabrielle Kaplan-Mayer** will affirm how mindfulness will bring more wellness to you and your loved ones, and enrich your relationships.

Q&A and refreshments to follow each event.

More info: **Karina Szulc** • karinas@jewishcalgary.org • 403-444-3158



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BE REMEMBERED FOREVER IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY WITH A GIFT IN YOUR WILL, TRUST, OR LIFE INSURANCE POLICY



– CREATE YOUR JEWISH LEGACY –

Contact **Diana Kalef**

403-444-3154 • dkalef@jewishcalgary.org



Connecting THE EXPECTING

A PJ Library® Initiative

SAVE THE DATES

January 10 • March 14 • May 16

Get on our email list to find out more about this program for expecting parents!



Contact **Sydney Truax**
struax@jewishcalgary.org



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



UJA

THIS IS MY JEWISH CALGARY



UJA

MY JEWISH CALGARY

SUPPORTS CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Your UJA gift provides a range of programs, services, and supports for children and families in our community. Thanks to you, we have an incredible **PJ Library® Calgary** program with over 500 subscribers, our summer camps and day schools are thriving, and new parents and families are welcomed with open arms and supported at every step of their Jewish journey. **My Jewish Calgary supports children and families – what does Jewish Calgary mean to you?**



UJA

MY JEWISH CALGARY

OPENS ITS DOORS

Your UJA gift funds dozens of individual and family bursaries through the **Integrated Bursary Program (IBP)**. Last year, thanks to you, 50 families were provided with memberships to Paperny Family JCC and sent to summer camp and day school. Your gift removes barriers to participation in Jewish life and makes a difference for many in our community. **My Jewish Calgary opens its doors – what does Jewish Calgary mean to you?**



WAYS TO GIVE

Many programs, services, and community amenities are made possible because of generous donors like YOU!

Make a difference in **YOUR COMMUNITY** by giving in one of the following ways...

Online: jewishcalgary.org

Phone: 403-444-3157

Email: lwolf@jewishcalgary.org

In-person: 1607 90 Avenue SW