

Check out our community calendar at [jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org)



## A MESSAGE FROM CEO STACEY LEAVITT-WRIGHT

Visiting Israel this past month was the infusion of Jewish peoplehood that I refer to as "vitamin I". From the formal moments of expert speakers and visits to projects we have funded to the informal encounters on the street, it was poignant to witness the connections we have as a Jewish people.

For example, on a bench on the tayelet, I ran into former hostage Aviva Seigel, married to recently released hostage Keith Segal. We discussed the situation, her continued advocacy, and her Edmonton connection. I jokingly call us the "Shtetl of the North," but I believe our community forms an integral part of Canadian Jewry, possesses an ongoing legacy with the land and people of Israel, and remains connected to the ongoing Jewish story.

As the Jewish Federation CEO, I am committed to leading these efforts and ensuring that our organization stays at the

forefront of fostering these relationships. My role involves not only overseeing our local initiatives but also actively engaging with agencies across Canada and Israel. By doing so, I can bring back valuable insights, forge meaningful partnerships, and advocate for our community's needs on a broader scale.

As Passover approaches, we remember what it means to be Jewish, sharing our past, present, and hopes. No matter how you set your seder table or what foods are part of your seder, reciting the Haggadah connects us to Jews throughout the world, Jewish people throughout time, and to the land of Israel.

The saying, "Once we were slaves in Egypt", serves as a powerful reminder of the Jewish community's historical struggle for freedom. This legacy highlights the importance of actively taking part in federal elections; every vote helps shape policies and ensures

all communities have a voice. I encourage you to volunteer and engage with the candidate of your choice. All parties need to see and hear from our community.

Numerous opportunities for community engagement will arise next month—including screenings of the acclaimed film October 8, participation in Yom Hashoah and Yom Hazikaron observances, Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations, and attendance at the Edmonton Jewish Film Festival. Together, we can build a stronger, more connected Jewish community. I invite each of you to join me in this endeavor, support our projects, and embrace the opportunities that come from collaboration. Let us work hand in hand to create a brighter future for all.

Chag Pesach Sameach.

Reach out to us on social media or by emailing [info@edjfed.org](mailto:info@edjfed.org).



### Yom HaShoah

Save the date  
Community Commemoration  
Thursday, April 24 | 7 p.m.  
Beth Israel Synagogue  
Register at [jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org)



Food for purchase from Eddie's Veggie Delights

## ISRAEL 77

### YOM HA'ATZMAUT

Thursday, May 1 • Doors open at 6 p.m.  
Tickets \$10 a person  
SHUK • DESSERT • PHOTOBOOTH • FACEPAINTING  
PRIZES • DANCING • GAMES • DJ • CRAFTS  
**GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**  
[jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org)



### SAVE THE DATE - OPENING NIGHT: MAY 6, 2025

# EJFF

## Edmonton Jewish Film Festival



The finest Jewish themed films, online and in-person.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities at [jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org)



**DEADLINE APRIL 17, 2025**

## IBP opens doors

Jewish Federation of Edmonton's Integrated Bursary Program can help.

If you are having a financial struggle to have your children participate fully in Jewish life in our community, apply today at [jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org).



## 2025 Yom HaZikaron

Please join us for the annual Yom HaZikaron ceremony, commemorating Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terror.

Tuesday, April 29  
Beth Shalom Synagogue  
The gathering starts at 7 p.m.  
The ceremony starts at 7:30 p.m.  
Register at [jewishedmonton.org](http://jewishedmonton.org)



### Four Questions To Ask Your Local Candidates

After 18 months of rising antisemitism and hatred, many feel this is the most important election of our lifetime. We are asking all candidates who seek to represent us in Parliament to answer four questions that are critical to building a better future.

#### 1. Physical Safety

 If elected, what will you do to support our community and to help keep us safe?

#### 2. Accountability for Hate

 If elected, what will you do to hold accountable those who attack and threaten Canadian Jews?

#### 3. Strengthening Canada-Israel Ties

 If elected, what will you do to strengthen the trade, diplomatic, and security ties with our ally Israel?

#### 4. Safeguarding Canadian Society & Values

 If elected, what will you do to help guarantee our Jewish community has a secure and vibrant future in Canada?



**MORE THAN JUST A VOTE**

