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June 18, 2025

Grade 6 students enjoy Shabbaton at Camp BB-Riback



Edmonton Talmud Torah Society organized a Grade 6 Shabbaton at Camp BB-Riback from June 6-8, bringing together 18 students from Edmonton Talmud Torah and Calgary Jewish Academy. Led by Ari Sniderman, with the support of Camp BB Director Stacy Shaikin and six dedicated parent chaperones, students enjoyed a meaningful and memorable weekend. From shared prayers and songs to deep discussions and joyful activities, the students returned home with new Jewish learning and cherished memories.

Beit Halochem presents 'Beyond the 7th' in Calgary

By Michele Doctoroff

"Can I help in some way?" is one of the most powerful questions we, as diaspora Jews can be asking again and again since October 7th.

I had reached out to the Beit Halochem Calgary Coordinator and National Board Member, David Wallach, and this led to an impactful experience and a deeper personal understanding of what our brothers and sisters in Israel face daily, how their lives change in a moment, and how we can all make a difference.

Beyond the 7th, Stronger Together was a most appropriate theme for the Beit Halochem Canada fundraising evening held in Calgary. Reciprocal caring and sharing during the after-event reception left both the presenters and the attendees feeling very connected. In speaking with attendees, they felt humbled, embraced by Judaism, and felt the need to tell others how critical it is that we all support the veterans in their lifelong challenges.

Calgary has had an ongoing relationship with Beit Halochem Canada for over 15 years. Since 1978, Beit Halochem Canada, Aid to Disabled Veterans of **Israel** has raised funds to support rehabilitating, rebuilding, and enhancing the lives of thousands of Israelis disabled in the line of duty or through acts of terror. At Beit Halochem Centres across Israel, injured veterans, and their families are provided with personalized rehabilitative services, from the time of

Continued on page 14

Israel launches 'pre-emptive' attack on Iran and Iran responds with missiles

military strike on Iran's nuclear facilities and missile program its leaders warned Israelis to prepare for a potential

"Following the State of Israel's pre-emptive strike against Iran, a missile and drone attack against the State of Israel and its civilian population is expected in the immediate future," Defense Minister Israel Katz said in a statement. Sirens blared across the country, telling Israelis to seek shelter.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he had chosen to strike because of intelligence that he said showed Iran was preparing a nuclear bomb imminently. He said the operation could take several days.

"We struck at the heart of Iran's nuclear enrichment program," he said in a videotaped statement. "We struck at the heart of Iran's nuclear weaponization program. We targeted Iran's main enrichment facility in Natanz. We targeted Iran's leading nuclear scientists working on an Iranian

On June 13, Israel announced that it had launched bomb. We also struck at the heart of Iran's ballistic

On June 15, a barrage of missiles arrived during the day for the first time and Israelis were advised to shelter safely in their mamads. The airport was closed and people were advised to work from home.

At least eight people were killed early on June 16 in multiple locations across Israel as Iranian missiles rained down across the country for the third straight

The death toll in an earlier strike in Bat Yam, a city adjacent to Tel Aviv, rose as more bodies were extricated from rubble, meanwhile, and a research center at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot was destroyed in a strike.

The toll comes as Israeli officials say they have accomplished key objectives in their attack on Iran, including controlling the airspace around Tehran, killing top military and intelligence leaders, and neutralizing a portion of the launchers used to propel ballistic missiles toward Israel. But experts in the



A ballistic missile fired from Iran hit Tel Aviv, June 16. (Chaim Goldberg/Flash90)

region say they expect the conflict to go on for some time.

After several days of deadly missile strikes, Israel had a relatively quiet night overnight June 16, with sirens sending Israelis to shelters but relatively few impacts and only light injuries reported in one place. Herzliya, to people who had not sought shelter. But Iran has vowed additional responses and, with its missile infrastructure damaged, it has threatened shipping targets and terror attacks.

New film documents the 1946 murder of Shmuel Danziger

By Maxine Fischbein

The May 29 preview of the film "Six Million. And One." is unlikely to be forgotten by the more than 300 Calgarians who rallied around respected and beloved community members Morris and Ann Dancyger and their Vancouver-based son Howard, whose personal journey through painful family history figures prominently in the film.

The documentary, by German filmmaker Tina Fuchs, is about the shocking murder of Morris Dancyger's father, Shmuel Danziger, in a Stuttgart Displaced Persons camp just one day after reuniting with his family, on March 29, 1946.

Despite the emotionally wrenching subject matter, the atmosphere at the pre-screening reception was one of eager anticipation, even celebration, as community members and friends of the Dancygers gathered at the Central Library.

It was the first time that a significant audience had the privilege of seeing the film which will have its premiere at a later date.

Shmuel Danziger's family, who lived in Radom Poland, survived Auschwitz, only to face further trauma when armed German policemen marched through the Stuttgart Displaced Persons Camp in an alleged mission to curb black market activity. Although the survivors who lived there following liberation were supposed to have had the protection of the US military, shots were fired. Shmuel was the sole casualty. Several of his fellow survivors were injured.

Outrage was expressed around the world that such a shocking attack happened in the shadow of the Shoah, yet the policeman responsible for killing Shmuel Danziger was never brought to justice and government documents were sealed.

Danziger's surviving family members eventually made their way to the nascent state of Israel, later settling in Calgary.

The Danziger tragedy – a source of embarrassment for both Germany and the US – soon became a political footnote and the coldest of cold cases. Fuchs remains shocked that she made it to the age of 50 with no knowledge of the events that took place in her home town and chalks up the silence to the shifting alliances

of the Cold War. Morris Danc

Morris Dancyger and his future wife Ann – a child survivor from Ukraine – settled in Calgary and chose to face forward rather than dwell on the heinous crimes that robbed them of many family members and decimated Jewish life in deeply rooted communities throughout Europe.

With the passage of time, it has become more important to learn more about that painful history, says Ann Dancyger, who welcomed the May 29 audience on behalf of her family.

Fuchs became aware of the Danziger story while working on a television show for a German public broadcaster, said Ann Dancyger during a chat with *AJNews* earlier this month.

Having a deep sense of justice, Fuchs craved a much deeper dive into the fate of Shmuel Danziger and wondered what happened to his family, especially his son. Thus began a search that led her to the Dancygers and their children, Lisa and Howard.

Typically reticent to discuss his Holocaust experiences, Morris declined a prominent role in the film, but Howard – himself a former filmmaker – travelled to Stuttgart and New York City, where he participated in an odyssey that was part bicycle tour, part family-finding, and mainly whodunit as he joined historian Josefine Geib in a search for the individual responsible for his grandfather's murder.

Morris Dancyger appears in the film, mainly in archival photos, at least one of which is frequently seen in books and film. In the image, Dancyger – four-and-a-half years old at the time – is among a group of children standing behind a barbed wire fence as they show their Russian liberators the dehumanizing tattoos that had been painfully etched on their forearms when they were sent to the hell that was Auschwitz. Morris was among very few children to have survived the notorious death camp.

To help the viewers follow little Morris, Fuchs opted to colourize only his image in a series of black and white photos. The technique calls to mind the little girl in the red coat, a recurring motif utilized by Steven Spielberg in his 1993 black and white blockbuster *Schindler's List*. Fuchs also uses the technique to emphasize national flags.

Some of the photographs in "Six Million. And One." were previously unseen, even by the Dancyger family, including an image of Shmuel Danziger's young widow, Regina, sitting on the street at the feet of her dead husband, staring in obvious shock.

"We have these many, many, many pictures of this raid in Stuttgart. It blew my mind to see that there must have been one DP who said, 'I will take the picture of this, I will document this," Fuchs told her Calgary audience during a Q and A following



Ann and Morris Dancyger at the advance screening of "Six Million. And One."

the screening.

"The Jewish archives keep the evidence of what happened. And you'll see the American document was 300 pages not acknowledging that a German policeman killed Shmuel Danziger," Fuchs said.

Fuchs effectively utilizes many symbols and motifs throughout the film. Locations were meticulously chosen for their significance. Cars figure prominently; after all, German companies including Porsche, Volkswagen and Mercedes, benefited enormously from Jewish slave labour.

In the film, Howard rides by a Porsche dealership. Another scene captures the building where a Jewish department store was aryanised by the Nazis. A building at the University of Frankfurt was the headquarters of I. G. Farben, the chemical giant that used slave labour at Auschwitz, performed drug experiments on Jewish prisoners, and produced Zyklon B gas used in the gas chambers.

Ironically, Allied Command Headquarters were later located in the building, Howard Dancyger told the Calgary audience.

Like film locations, music was chosen for very specific reasons, including *Dance me to the end of Love*, by Leonard Cohen.

"A lot of people might think that it's a love song, but it's a song about the Holocaust," Fuchs said.

Mir Lebn Eybek (We will live Forever), hummed by Berlin vocal trio Gurgulitza, is a beautiful though haunting musical backdrop. The songwriter, Leyb Rozental – who wrote the song while confined in the Vilna Ghetto – perished at the age of 29, just days before the liberation of Lithuania.

"Six Million. And One." was at first titled The Surviving Remnant – the title that American Rabbi and Army Chaplain Abraham Klausner used as the title for lists of the living so that the survivors he ministered to in Dachau could find surviving loved ones.

The title did not translate well to German, said Fuchs, adding, "Nobody really understood what it meant"

The title "Six Million. And One." reinforces what Holocaust educators have long known: Six million is a challenging number to comprehend. Focusing on the personal stories of individual Holocaust victims and survivors is a powerful tool in helping people to grasp the enormity of the Shoah.

The Calgary screening, organized by Calgary Jewish Federation's Holocaust and Human Rights: Remembrance and Education Co-Chairs Marnie Bondar and Dahlia Libin, was embraced and enhanced by partnerships, some of them well established.

Libin expressed gratitude for the work of Calgary Public Library Community Engagement and Strategic

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Momentum: The Jewish Journey begins at home

By Jana Zalmanowitz

Last month, along with 9 other Calgary Jewish women, I had the opportunity to take part in a powerful experience in Israel through **Momentum**, made possible through the investment and support of the Calgary Jewish Federation. Over the course of a week, we joined a group of 300 other Jewish women from around the world, including other parts of Canada, the USA, India, Montenegro, Australia, South Africa and Israel. We had many differences: an array of first languages, varying levels of familiarity with Judaism and Israel, and different backgrounds and education. But we all shared one role: motherhood.

Momentum is a Jewish organization rooted in the belief that the mother holds transformative power within the family and community. By connecting mothers with Jewish values and with Israel, Momentum empowers women to become inspired leaders, rooted in Jewish pride and purpose. Through this connection, women return home not only changed – but motivated to take action within their own communities.

"The ripples begin with you," stated our Momentum learning materials, handed to us on the first day. We read it and feel the responsibility of raising the next generation of strong, proud Jews in a post-October 7 world. No pressure.

While the Israel journey lasts one week, Momentum is a year-long commitment. We've pledged to continue learning, growing, and translating the experience into real impact at home, here in Calgary. It's a small way of making the already profound responsibility of Jewish motherhood even more meaningful.

Our packed schedule included seminars, led by engaging educators. Each day took us through a different Jewish value: Unity & mutual responsibility, courage, human dignity, faithfulness & trust, generosity, peace & wholeness at home, gratitude, learning & growth. We were excited! By the end

of the week, we would all be completely whole, enlightened and inspired mothers, ready to bring these values to the next generation through our children, right? Piece of cake. Just like the rest of parenting.

The trip started in Tel Aviv where we got to experience the metropolis of modern Jewish culture. Amongst the highs of rich Israeli cuisine, a booming tech scene and a vibrant cityscape, we also came face to face with the realities of post-October 7th Israel: Loved ones of the murdered and stolen at Hostage Square sharing their pain and calling for the release of their family members. Sirens and ninety seconds of warning to move to a shelter. The Israelis whose

lives pause and rebound with resilience after each of these reminders.

Our group moved south. We bore witness to the stories of those at the Nova Music Festival Site. We placed stones at the memorials of those who were lost, including the friend of one of the mothers in our group. We volunteered and made mosaics with women on a kibbutz to beautify their garden. We rode the bus past the kibbutzim shattered by October 7th, alongside the Israeli women on our trip who shared how their lives have changed and how they move forward with hope and purpose.

We moved on to Jerusalem. We relearned the history as we walked through the old city. We cried alongside our twenty-something year old trip leader on Har Herzel as she paid respects to a friend recently laid to rest amongst many other young soldiers. We tried to absorb all the knowledge shared by our educators as to how Israel continues to find a way to represent itself on the global stage and how we can arm ourselves with knowledge and tools to combat ever-present but dangerously rising antisemitism. We prayed and danced at the Western wall with our group of mothers,



A delegation of Jewish mothers from Calgary attended a Momentum Program in Israel with support from Calgary Jewish Federation.

as Gen Z Birthright travellers, new soldiers, and leadership program participants joined us. We lit Shabbat candles and felt peace.

One of the most profound parts of the trip was traveling north to The Galilee Panhandle, our partnership region. Seeing the impact of our local community's support in Israel made it all so personal. It reminded us that Calgary's Jewish community isn't just connected to Israel in theory — it's rooted in real relationships, and we have a role to play.

We saw many things. We learned many things. But as one of our educators taught us, people remember only a fraction of the facts they're told. What they remember is the feeling. So what did this Israel experience make us feel? I asked a few of my Momentum sisters and this is what they had to say:

Reconnection with Israel and Pride in Being Jewish

"As an Israeli [Calgarian], I wasn't sure what to expect. What could I possibly see or feel that I hadn't already experienced? But wow – was I wrong. This journey deepened my connection to the land in ways I

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Bridging Generations and Borders: TT students' cards reach IDF soldiers

By Jennie Leonard, Program Coordinator

Back in July 2024, The Talmud Torah Society's Out of School Care program took a truly meaningful field trip to the Edmonton Jewish Seniors Centre. The goal of the visit was simple yet powerful: to bring generations together in a shared act of kindness.

Side by side, our children and the seniors created heartfelt greeting cards filled with messages of hope and love for the brave soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). It was a beautiful scene – young hands and wise hands working together, sharing stories, laughter, and purpose. Our students beamed with





Heartfelt greeting cards made by TT students and Jewish seniors were gratefully received by IDF soldiers in Israel.

pride as they crafted each card, knowing they were doing something special with their new and cherished friends.

But one big question lingered in the air: *How would* these cards reach the soldiers?

We are thrilled to share that - nine months later photos have arrived showing our cards in the hands of the very soldiers they were made for. You can only

imagine the excitement and joy when we saw the smiling faces of IDF soldiers holding the students' creations.

A huge thank you to the Vaisblat and Lee families for their dedication and support in ensuring these cards made the long journey to such important people. This act of kindness has truly come full circle spanning generations, miles, and hearts.



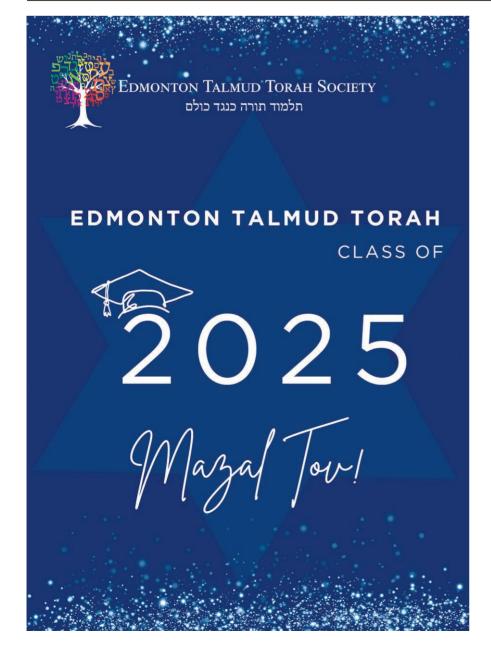








Talmud Torah Society's early learning and out of school care programs have been full of activity, exploration, and growth. Toddlers enjoyed sunshine on the hill and created Shavuot art. The 3s and 4s explored nature, learned about Lag B'Omer, and made Shavuot baskets and art. Kinders created Mother's Day cards and embraced a full "week in nature," along with other engaging experiences.



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For change of address, please send both old and new addresses. We welcome your stories, pictures, artwork

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and opinions. Please send submissions to our office at the address above.

Check out our community calendar at jewishedmonton.org.





A MESSAGE FROM CEO STACEY LEAVITT-WRIGHT

As we enter Jewish Pride Month, I'm filled with gratitude and pride for the incredible diversity that defines our Jewish community. Our history teaches us that resilience and unity are born from embracing difference, and it's our responsibility to ensure each individual feels seen, valued, and empowered. Ashley Kravetzky, our Pride committee chair, is in Israel on a Pride mission representing Edmonton, and I look forward to hearing her experiences at Tales From Tel Aviv: a Queer Mitzvah on Sunday,

Celebration of Pride in Israel is a reminder of the many voices, backgrounds, and identities that strengthen the Jewish people. At the Heritage Festival's Israel Pavilion, we'll showcase Israeli society's amazing diversity through dance, music,

food, and innovative cultural presentations. In doing so, we reaffirm that there is no single way to be Jewish or Israeli—our strength lies in our mosaic. Demonstrate your support of our diverse community by signing up for a volunteer shift at the pavilion. Head to our website at jewishedmonton.org to choose your shift.

We are a diverse community; according to the latest census, the Edmonton Jewish community has a higher proportion of immigrants and a higher intermarriage rate than the national average. In a time of rising antisemitism, it is important to have an easily accessible, inclusive space to engage Jewishly and we are creating this with the Jewish Community Centre (JCC).

I hope to see you at the JCC Show and

Share on Friday, June 20, where we will unveil the floor plans

being developed for our brand new JCC, a welcoming space built with inclusion at its core. This center will serve as a hub for learning, celebration, and connection for Jews of all ages, backgrounds, and identities. Whether you're attending a Tot Shabbat, youth program, networking event, or just stopping by for coffee and conversation, the JCC will be a home for all.

This Pride Month—and every month—we must commit to building a community that includes everyone. Join the Federation as we lead with compassion, celebrate with courage, and continue to shape a future where every Jewish voice is heard and embraced.

Reach out to us on social media or by emailing info@edifed.org.







Sunday, August 3



Monday, August 4

Volunteers will be vetted for securitu purposes. Please note the Federation reserves the right to refuse entru.





JCC Show and Share

First look at the building's layout and concept!

> Friday, June 20 Drop-in 4 - 6 p.m. **Talmud Torah School**

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U of A welcomes Belzberg Scholar Dr. Alexander Marcus

By Regan Lipes

In early March, as part of the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies' Jewish Studies Week, Dr. Alexander Marcus visited a mix of students, faculty, and some community members at the University of Alberta: soon to be his new home institution. His talk, titled "Travels in the Jewish/German Orient: Histories and Historiographies," was enthusiastically received, and served as an exciting prelude for the many years to come as he assumes his role as the incoming Belzberg Family and Jewish Federation of Edmonton Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies.

Marcus will be relocating to Edmonton with his wife, Rachel Colwell, and young daughter, Lilah, during the summer to acclimate before the upcoming Fall 2025 semester. It is not just a win for the U of A's Department of History, Classics, and Religion to have secured this Stanford University PhD graduate, but also for the broader Jewish community. For many years, the U of A's offerings in Jewish Studies have been quite limited. It has been up to a few faculty to support this diverse and nuanced discipline. Now, with Marcus on their team, U of A students will be able to engage in additional varied topics relating to Jewish Studies, from the Babylonian Talmud to present day sociocultural and geopolitical topics to investigations of Jewish identity and representation.

In a phone interview with the *Alberta Jewish News*, when asked what he hopes to offer in terms of academic inquiry for non-Jewish students specifically, Marcus replied: "That's a tough one to think through; nowadays certain issues can present themselves because of what's happening in the world, and as a Jewish person and someone who has a level of observance and connection to Israel, there is a certain perceived image to account for and address directly or indirectly. You end up feeling like you become a spokesperson for who Jews really are, whether that's appropriate or not. There can be a lot of subtext in the conversations you have with people in and out of

Marcus, in his past positions, has been a successful ambassador of Jewish Studies, introducing his pupils to the diversity of Jewish thought, practice, and identity. He has experience facilitating interfaith dialogue and conducting workshops on conflict transformation, and he teaches courses broaching contemporary issues of Jewishness within a global context. In the Winter term he will be teaching a course entitled 'Israel-Palestine in the Religious Imagination.' "I also have experience teaching about gender and sexuality in Judaism, and helping Jewish communities find productive ways to have those kinds of conversations," he elaborated.

Marcus explained that, generally speaking, Jewish

students have only made up approximately one third of his pupils, and with the modest community in Edmonton, that number might be smaller. In the past he has also worked closely Hillel, Chabad, and other Jewish student groups. Having Marcus as a permanent scholar at the U of A will provide a valuable resource for Jewish students who face struggles of feeling marginalized and targeted by the proliferation of antisemitic sentiment. From a primary vantage point, such benefits would manifest as simply having greater access to Jewish religion and culture in a scholarly setting. Perhaps equally as valuable, though, will

be the greater opportunities for non-Jewish students to be meaningfully immersed in Jewish topics from an academic perspective, and through Marcus' broader campus engagement. In that regard, Jewish students at the U of A will hopefully feel less isolated.

Outside of the scholarly sphere, Marcus is also enthusiastic about contributing to the larger Edmonton Jewish community. "We try to be part of the Jewish community wherever we go." The Marcus-Colwell family lived in Tunis for a year, for example, and found ways of enhancing Jewish connectivity and engaging with the local Jewish population there. While living in Pennsylvania for the past two years, Marcus has volunteered to coordinate and lead a weekly Talmud study at his local shul. "It was well attended, although we would have liked to draw out some more younger participants too," he mused.

On previous visits to Edmonton, Marcus enjoyed meeting prominent members of the community at the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, and all the local synagogues. He and his family are eager to start integrating themselves into Edmonton's Jewish life, holiday gatherings, and simchas. In fact, his wife Rachel will also be teaching at the U of A in her area of expertise: ethnomusicology. In the Fall, she will be teaching a course on Jewish Music. The Marcus-Colwell duo will surely be able to enrich both the U of A and broader Jewish community with all they have



University of Alberta Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies Alexander Marcus with his family.

Those studying at the U of A, or who have children matriculating, should definitely investigate the range of courses that Dr. Alexander Marcus has planned. In addition to exploring the Torah and rabbinic texts through a historical and literary lens, he will also be tackling immediate questions of Judaism in contemporary society, including relations with Muslim and Christian communities on the local and international stage.

Students, U of A faculty, and the Edmonton Jewish community eagerly anticipate the arrival of this distinguished scholar. His forthcoming edited volume, The Aramaic Incantation Bowls in their Late Antique Jewish Contexts, will be available this summer, with more significant works to come. He brings with him an impressive dossier of accolades and distinctions, including having been the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Postdoctoral Associate in Jewish History at Yale University and a researcher in Ancient Judaism at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Soon, Marcus and his family will call Edmonton home, and they will no doubt become fixtures both at U of A and within the mosaic of the Jewish Edmonton. Edmontonians look forward to the exciting developments to come, and to getting to know the family better: a hearty welcome to the Marcus-Colwells!

Regan Lipes is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter.

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Pie Day at Calgary Jewish Academy raises money for Magen David Adom









It was Pie Day at the CJA! Our Student Council hosted a hilarious (and messy!) fundraiser in support of Magen David Adom and it was our best one yet!

Students had the chance to buy tickets to pie a student council member... or save their best throw for Mr. Gelman or Ms. Meyers! The more tickets you bought, the closer you were to the front of the line and our students definitely showed up! Thanks to everyone's amazing support and generosity, we raised \$1400 for MDA.

Events like this remind us what community is all about, coming together, having fun, and making a real difference. Thank you to everyone who donated and took part!





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community calendar

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

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





jewishcalgary.org



STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL

ear community members, Calgary Jewish Israel and the Jewish people during this decisive moment in our history.

Last week, Israel acted decisively against a growing, existential threat — not only to its own future, but to the future of Jews everywhere.

Iran's regime has made no secret of its dangerous ambitions. For years, it has openly called for the destruction of Israel and has persistently pursued the ability to carry it out. The Iranian nuclear program has never been peaceful; it is a clear and present danger a violation of international obligations and a direct threat to our people's survival. Repeated reports by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have confirmed that Iran is pursuing military nuclear capabilities in direct violation of its international commitments. Just this week, following a resolution by the IAEA finding Iran in breach of its treaty obligations, the regime announced its intention to further expand and upgrade its uranium enrichment. reverberate here at home — particularly when Calgary Jewish Federation

Israel has made the difficult decision to take action. Federation stands shoulder to shoulder with Like any sovereign nation, Israel has the right — and the obligation — to protect its citizens from existential threats. We stand with Israel in its efforts to safeguard

> In the face of this aggression, Israel has demonstrated its resolve, unity, and ability to conquer seemingly overwhelming odds. The Jewish people have a rich legacy of perseverance — we have faced persecution, wars, and upheavals - yet we have always stood strong, proud, and unyielding in the face of danger. Israel's decisive action underscores its ability to safeguard its future and the future of Jews around the world.

And as we watch this moment unfold, we do so with immense confidence in Israel's ability to navigate With strength and solidarity, whatever lies ahead. The Jewish people are not powerless; we are strong, we are united, and we are here to stay.

We know that what happens globally may Rob Nagus, Chief Executive Officer

dangerous myths, like the blood libel narrative, resurface in an attempt to intimidate and undermine us. That's why we have already been in close contact with our national and local security partners, its future and uphold the security of the Jewish people. including the Calgary Police Service, and we will remain vigilant, protective, and united in the face of any threat. We ask all members of our community to do the same — staying informed, staying strong and looking out for one another.

Together — proud, strong, and unbreakable — we will face whatever comes. We will continue to stand united for Israel, for our community and for the future of the Jewish people.

Am Yisrael Chai.



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





DIVERSITY AS STRENGTH DURING CHALLENGING TIMES

On June 11, over 200 people gathered at Beth Tzedec Congregation for an inspiring evening with Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Lion. He shared powerful insights on how Jerusalem is becoming a more inclusive city through a focus on unity, growth, and connection among its diverse communities. Thank you to The Jerusalem Foundation of Canada and Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem for making this meaningful event possible.







algary Jewish Federation is so proud of our inaugural cohort of moms who participated in **MOMENTUM** a transformative experience designed to deepen Jewish identity, connection to Israel, and meaningful bonds among women.

Momentum, founded in partnership with Israel's Ministry of Diaspora Affairs, is

far more than a trip. It begins with an immersive week in Israel and continues throughout the year with learning, community engagement, and personal growth. At its heart is the belief that Jewish mothers are the primary Jewish educators—and by empowering them, we strengthen families, communities, and the Jewish future.

In Israel, our Calgary participants stood in Hostage Square, visited the site of the Nova Music Festival, and met with mothers from our partnership region of Etzba HaGalil. They heard powerful stories of loss, resilience, and hope—and returned home inspired and energized. The ripple effects are already visible. These women are stepping into leadership roles, organizing initiatives, and finding their voices as Jewish leaders, educators, and advocates.

This journey belongs not only to them—it's a gift to all of Jewish Calgary. To learn more about Momentum or how to join a future cohort, contact Sydney Truax at struax@jewishcalgary.org.

After a few quiet years... JAC IS BACK, and better than ever! This year we relaunched JACFit - meeting monthly to get moving with fun, outof-the-box activities like rock climbing, beach days, and obstacle courses; always followed by great food and even better company. We also introduced The After Work Collective, a new professional development series designed for young Jewish professionals to connect, unwind, and gain real-world insights from inspiring community voices. Whether you're looking to expand your network, explore your city, or just meet great people who get it, JAC is creating the space to do just that. And it's just the beginning—the year ahead promises even more energy, creativity, and connection! For more information about JAC, contact Jamie Keltz at jkeltz@jewishcalgary.org or 403-444-3162.





SUMMER HIKE SERIES

Q Sundays

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July 20 • Watridge Lake Trail

August 17 • Johnston Canyon Trail September 28 • Rawson Trail

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Sunday

Sept. 7

11AM

SAVE THE DATE!









Registration coming soon. Volunteers needed. For more information contact Diana Kalef dkalef@jewishcalgary.org • 403-444-3154

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, September 7
WALK WITH ISRAEL

Monday, September 8*
PJ LIBRARY®
APPLES FUNDRAISER

*Orders due; pick-up at the JCC on September 15

Wednesday, September 10
LION OF JUDAH EVENT

Sunday, September 14
SUPER SUNDAY

Monday, October 20
A DEEP DIVE
WITH JONNY DANIELS

Saturday, November 1

JAC EVENT





Life & Legacy is about honoring a commitment to being Jewish and living out the values passed down by those who came before us.

It's about giving back, making a difference, and being part of something larger than ourselves. It fosters unity and ensures Jewish Calgary thrives for generations to come.

What will your legacy be?

Contact Diana Kalef or Joseph Tappenden to learn about legacy giving dkalef@jewishcalgary.org • 403.444.3154 josephtappenden@jcfc.ca • 403.640.2273

Thank you for assuring our Jewish tomorrows today.







Register today for Cartoon Camp in Edmonton

Summer is just around the corner and there is no better time for kids to try something new. Danny Cohen is returning to Edmonton on July 21 to 25 for an exciting one-week of Cartooning Camp held at Crestwood Community League Hall. Space is filling up fast so be sure to register today.

Parents can sign their kids up for one day or more – Monday through Friday at a cost of \$58 per day (from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm) or \$60 for a long day (8 am to 6 pm). Those that sign up for four long days Monday through Thursday by June 27 at 4:30 pm get Friday thrown in as a free day.

The camps are run in a haimisha atmosphere and kosher food is provided - no previous drawing experience is needed.

Brothers Danny and Martin Cohen, and Danny's son, Joel, are at the head of Cartoon Kingdom -Australia's largest cartooning company specialises in entertainment and children's educational programmes.

Danny and Martin mainly run their camps across Australia and when the kids go back to school for their Winter period it is Summer in the Northern hemisphere and they love to bring their educational summer camps to Canada, this year it is being held in Fort McMurray, Winnipeg and Edmonton.

The Edmonton camp will be held at the Crestwood Community League. "We have done Edmonton twice before," says Danny, and it's been really enjoyable. "We always seem to do well in the smaller Jewish communities as we're able to give the children more attention."

A professional cartoonist with 45 years of experience, Danny's love for the art began as a child: "I enjoyed the fact that I could create whatever I could imagine on paper, I loved all things crea-tive and wanted to be a cartoonist from a very young age. Your child doesn't need to be an expert to join the summer camps though, they are taught step-bystep to draw fun cartoons and just need to be shown how to curve a line and connect one point to another. Before you know it, they've created a picture!"

Danny believes there are many benefits to the camps that are held in Canada: "The children can sample Australian snacks, draw Australian animals, and even learn how to fly a real boomerang! I also believe they need to play so I enjoy taking them to parks for treasure hunts, safe water play fights, to have a picnic, or just to run around – children spend too much time on their devices or sitting at a computer! My policy is to take them out to enjoy nature and have fun outdoors.'

Email bookings@cartoonkingdom.com.au to register for cartooning camp in Edmonton from July 21-25.

Just for fun, Danny has decided to offer Edmontonians an opportunity to win a free week at the Edmonton Summer Cartoon Camp – worth \$300.

Draw a Minecraft scene in colour and send it in to



Hey kids: Draw a Minecraft scene in colour to enter a contest to win a free week at the Edmonton Summer Cartoon Camp.

Alberta Jewish News to get a spot in the draw to win a free week at the Edmonton Summer Cartoon Camp worth \$300!

Enter online at albertajewishnews@gmail.com. Please ensure your entry includes your name, address, daytime telephone number, and email address, with the Subject labelled "Cartoon Contest." The winner will be randomly selected on the closing date: 30th June 2025.

Terms and conditions apply: One entry is allowed per person. Must be available on the 21st to 25th July 2025. When entering the competition online you have the option to not be entered in the Alberta Jewish News and Cartoon Kingdom's databases to be contacted about news, promotions, and special offers. Postal entry data will not be saved.

For information visit illustrating-man.com.au.

HAA Jr. High takes part in Community Speaker Series

By HAA students: Avital S., Abigail B. and Tahel R.

At Halpern Akiva Academy, Junior High students took part in a community speaker series, allowing them to be introduced to many different educational experiences throughout the school year, involving a great variety of topics. Some of these topics include the importance of Jews taking part in politics, the tasks of the Chevra Kadisha, the actions to take during

emergencies, and the experiences of an IDF soldier.

Emile Scheffel, from the Canadian Jewish Political Affairs Committee (CJPAC) program, volunteered to come to Akiva Academy to educate students from Grades 5 to 9 about the importance of Jewish people taking part in politics and making their voices heard. In our opinion, this presentation really opened our minds to all the different positions that can be taken in politics to increase the Jewish voice in government.

Harold Lipton and Susan Dvorkin, volunteers at the Chevra Kadisha, also came to Akiva Academy to teach

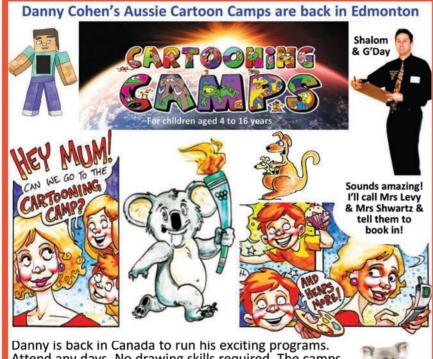
Grades 5 to 9 students about the cleansing and preparation of dead bodies. This helped students realize, without invading anybody's privacy, how important it is to respect and properly treat the deceased.

A retired police dispatcher, Marcy Fialkow, whose daughter graduated from Halpern Akiva Academy, also visited the school. She explained how important it is to know how to act during emergencies.

Akiva Academy alumnus, Adeev Segal, an IDF soldier, spoke to the school through Zoom. He shared his experience in the IDF, and kept the students interested with funny stories along the way. He also showed his army uniform and badges.

Marni Bondar and Dalia Libin shared their grandparents' experiences during the Holocaust. They helped the students find the beauty and inspiration during challenging times.

In conclusion, Akiva Academy has had many speakers with a variety of jobs volunteer to educate students about various different topics. All of them have been very interesting, informative and really enjoyed by all!



Attend any days. No drawing skills required. The camps are run in a fun, haimisha way. Kosher food provided.

- 1. Go to www.illustrating-man.com.au
- 2. Click on the Cartoon Workshop Button

3. Select Edmonton

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Book 4 Long Days Monday to Thursday NOT Friday - don't select Friday by 4.30^{pm} Friday June 27th & we'll give you Friday for **FREE**. Your child will be added to Friday



Crestwood Community League Hall

\$58 9.30am - 3.30pm / \$60 8am - 6pm per day July 21st - July 25th



Gr. 5 to 9 students at Calgary's Halpern Akiva Academy are benefiting from an engaging speakers series.

Sign up for the Alberta Jewish Schmooze e-news today!

Keep up to date on a weekly basis - delivered right to your inbox.

Visit **albertajewishnews.com** to sign up

New film Cont. from page 2

Events Service Delivery Lead Steven Dohlman and his staff who have partnered with Bondar and Libin to deliver Holocaust education at the library over the past four years.

A long list of generous donors joined with the Dancyger family and Calgary Jewish Federation in sponsoring the pre-screening reception beautifully catered by Karen's Café.

Most notable was the generous support of the office of Honorary German Consul Christina Hassan, who brought greetings prior to the screening.

"The Shoah was an unprecedented crime against humanity, planned and carried out from German soil. Millions of Jewish men, women and children were murdered simply for being who they were. This truth is a permanent part of Germany's history and remains at the very core of our national identity," Hassan said, her voice breaking with emotion.

"With it comes a responsibility that does not fade with time, a responsibility to remember, to educate, and to ensure that such horrors can never happen again. The words "Never Again" are not just a phrase. They are a solemn promise, a promise that obliges us to confront antisemitism, racism and hatred in all of its forms," added Hassan.

Marnie Bondar described the film as exploring "... what happens after survival, when liberation does not mean peace, and when the search for answers becomes part of a family's inheritance. It is a powerful reminder that history is not only written in textbooks, it lives in the stories we carry and the questions we dare to ask."

It is Howard Dancyger's "quest that is truly at the heart of this film," said Bondar's co-chair Dahlia Libin, who also expressed gratitude to Morris and Ann Dancyger for their support of the public screening, adding that theirs was "an act of courage."

Additionally, it was a leap of faith. The Dancygers saw the film just one day before the May 29 screening.

Speaking on behalf of her family, Ann Dancyger praised Tina Fuchs's "incredible tenacity, persistence, love, and months and months of research."

A highlight of the evening was a videotaped message by Muhterem Aras, President of the State Parliament of Baden-Wurtemberg.

Aras, who immigrated to Germany with her Kurdish family at the age of 12, addressed most of her comments to Morris Dancyger. Stunning in her sincerity, Aras did not mince words, delivering an apology in which she asked forgiveness even for expressing herself in the German language.

"German is the language of the perpetrators, a means of issuing terse commands, of humiliation, and of violence. It is also the language of the perpetrator who took your father's life," said Aras in her English-subtitled address.

"German is the language of the police who never investigated the murder. German is also the silence of the courts which never convicted the perpetrator

because he was never charged.... As a Holocaust survivor, your father stood up that day for his right to live with dignity. For a life in safety. A life in freedom. A life with his family. A life with your mother, your sister. A life with you."

"Dear Morris Dancyger, the lack of disciplinary and criminal prosecution...was and remains an unforgivable injustice," Aras said. "I cannot undo this failure on the part of the authorities. As

a citizen of Stuttgart and on behalf of the Baden-Wurtemberg State Parliament, I can only offer you our sincerest apologies for the injustice inflicted upon your family and upon you. I assure you that the fate of your family has not been forgotten. Your father has not been forgotten!"

"Memory is more than plaques, museums, and archives. It needs people who breathe life into memory," continued Aras, who saluted the efforts of Tina Fuchs and Josefine Geib.

In the film Geib leads Howard Dancyger through archives in Germany and New York City, including those at the United Nations.

Both Geib and Fuchs live in Stuttgart. While they did not know each other, they were researching the Shmuel Danziger story parallel to one another.

While Fuchs was visiting with a friend who had previously lived in Stuttgart, she discovered that he once lived at 220 Reinsburgstrasse, the spot in front of which Shmuel Danziger was shot.

Fuchs accompanied her friend on a visit to his previous landlady. She gave Fuchs an envelope containing a letter Josefine Geib had sent to all residents in the building, asking them if they knew anything about the DP Camp and seeking documents or information they might have.

"It's very telling.... The only person who answered was me," Fuchs said.



Q and A at the advance screening of "One Million. And One.": Dahlia Libin, Tina Fuchs, Howard Dancyger, and Marnie Bondar.

In yet another astonishing coincidence, Howard Dancyger was born on Friday, March 29, the exact date on which his grandfather had been murdered in 1946. A scene in which Dancyger bikes to the site of the tragedy was filmed on his 60th birthday.

Josefine Geib leads Howard Dancyger to archival evidence that German policeman Otto Koch was the individual responsible for Shmuel Danziger's death.

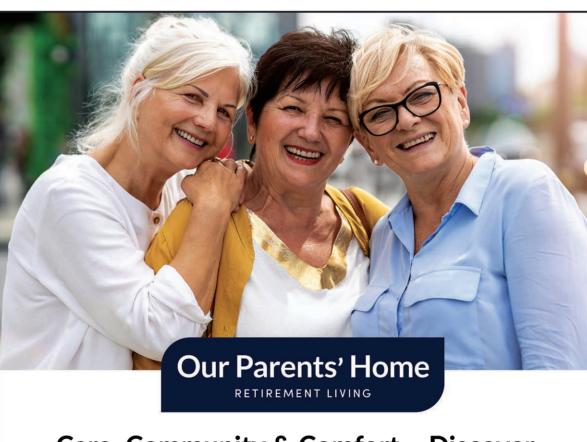
"It is not so important that probably Otto Koch killed Shmuel Danziger," Fuchs told her Calgary audience. "What is important is that nobody wanted to find out, and that is what really upsets me."

"There is one question a lot of people ask Morris," Ann Dancyger later told AJNews. "Do you feel better now that you know the name of the perpetrator? His answer is always no, because [Koch] was never convicted, he never suffered. He didn't die until he was well in his 80s and he had a very happy life. So we know his name. Big deal, but nothing happened. There were no consequences for this tragedy."

At the end of the film, a wordless cameo featuring Morris Dancyger speaks volumes. To successfully describe in words his silent rebuke of Koch and the Nazis is impossible. It must be experienced and, more to the point, processed by each viewer in his or her own way.

Maxine Fischbein is a Local Journalism Initiative Reporter.





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JFSE presents Family Movie Day: June 22

By Regan Lipes, LJI Initiative Reporter

There's nothing like a big warm Jewish family! For many newcomers to Edmonton, whose extended families are far away, creating new close support networks within the Jewish community is an essential, but intimidating undertaking. Jewish Family Services (JFS) of Edmonton remains a pillar of what sustains connections of kindness for Edmonton's Jews when they need a helping hand most, but as Danielle Dolgoy explained in a recent phone interview with *Alberta Jewish News*: "We also want people to seek out our services before issues reach a critical point." As the Executive Director of JFSE, Dolgoy and her collaborative team have identified integration support as a major steppingstone for Jewish newcomers as they build a sense of local belonging.

With gratitude to the Lewar Endowment and local sponsorship, JFSE is pleased to invite the Jewish community of Edmonton, established families, and newcomers, to a free movie gathering at Metro Cinema (8712 109 Street, Edmonton). 'Family Movie Day' will be held on Sunday, June 22, with activities for kids, hosted by JFS staff and volunteers who will also be on-hand to help introduce some of the programs and services they provide. "Even people who have lived in the community for years don't always know the extent

of what we offer," Dolgoy emphasized. "For people who are new to Edmonton, or to Canada entirely, we have resettlement services, and mental health support. Our career counseling is something that anybody might find useful, and we also accommodate subsidized counseling and homecare for those who need them. This is a great way to get to know JFS programs and have some fun."

Doors open at 10 am with lots of crafts to keep little hands busy, and new friends to be made. Popcorn, a true staple of any cinemasitting, along with soft drinks, will be provided as the

screen.

The 2014 feature film based on the classic children's book by Micheal Bond, is warm and fuzzy to the core as Paddington Bear navigates the struggles of being a newcomer in London. The cinematic misadventures of everyone's favorite marm-alade-eating bear stars Ben Wishaw as the voice of the title character, but audiences may not know of the movie's Jewish

first film of the day *Paddington* takes to the JFS silver

PASSIONAL TOPO

Meital Siva-Jain, Program Manager, Liron Shteynpres, Outreach Case Manager, and Nika Silinsh, Outreach Case Worker. (Not pictured: Danielle Shaposhnikov, Case Management Assistant.)

connection. The producer of the film, David Hayman, is the grandson of German-Jews who escaped the Nazi's in World War II. "We made sure to select films with Jewish representation," Dolgoy commented amiably. "For *Paddington* we are inviting families to BYOB: bring your own BEAR," she concluded musing. While kiddos snuggle up with their favorite plush stuffies alongside new friends, the Edmonton Jewish community will grow a little stronger as support networks expand.

Guests are welcome to stick around following

Continued on page 13

Momentum Cont. from page 3

didn't think were possible. It made me even prouder to be Jewish, to be an Israeli." – Polina

"I work in a non-Jewish space where I have been subject to anti-semitic aggression since October 7. Most of my colleagues are not Jewish...I always feel somewhat "othered." But not in Israel. In Israel I could just be. And that was priceless." – Carrie

Hope for a Jewish future built on Israeli Resilience

"It was both heartbreaking and inspiring to hear from many Israelis about their experiences of Oct. 7th and the war. Their resilience showed me we have to go on and live a full life for ourselves, our families, our nation, and the people we have lost." – Andrea

"Israelis have resilience and courage like no other. They endure the weight of so much hatred directed at Israel, Zionists, and Jews in the diaspora, yet they remain persistent in their commitment to their homeland. I realized the strength and importance of those who defend it." – Debra

Community and Connection

"I found a new community, a sisterhood rooted in shared purpose and strength." – Polina

"Connecting with so many women from so many walks of life who share in their passion for being Jewish was what I needed and Momentum provided that, along with so much more." – Carrie

"I want to help other women feel what I felt on this trip: connection, purpose, and strength. I'll invite others into this journey and support them as they find their own voice." – Melanie

The Ability to Take Action at Home

"I now feel emotionally ready to engage in conversations regarding the war with people outside the Jewish community. I feel prepared to effectively advocate for Israel and democracy." – Andrea

"I'm excited to bring the ideas and inspiration from this trip to life, right here in Calgary." — Polina "My conversations with local mothers deepened my understanding and appreciation for the critical role in nurturing our families and our communities, reinforcing the idea that, even amidst chaos, we are truly the glue that holds everything together and we can make a difference. – Debra

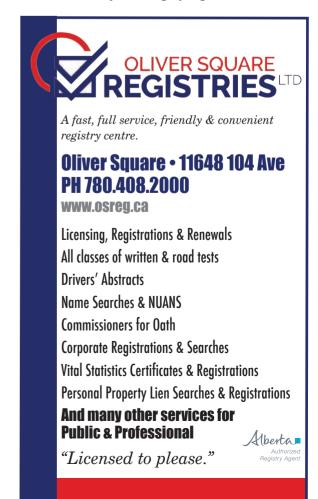
"This experience lit a fire in me. I'm not the same person I was before — and I don't want my community to be the same either. I want it to be stronger, more connected, and more inspired — and I'm ready to help make that happen." — Melanie

We aren't coming back with all the answers to the challenges Jewish people in Israel and the diaspora currently face but what we have returned home with, is a sense of agency. We have been given the gift of our community's faith in our ability to strengthen Jewish life and values locally. As mothers we realize we're well-poised to start that work within our homes so Jewish positivity can grow exponentially from our families. We cannot thank our community enough for believing in the potential of Jewish mothers. We're working hard to make them proud!

For more information about future Momentum trips or information on other community opportunities for getting involved in local Jewish life, contact Sydney Truax at struax@jewishcalgary.org.







Na'amat celebrates 100 years of accomplishments

Over the Victoria Day weekend, more than 150 Na'amat members from Canada, the United States, Argentina and representatives from Na'amat Israel gathered in Toronto to celebrate the Na'amat Canada and USA centennial – reflecting on 100 years of accomplishments and looking ahead to the future. The Canadian chair of this historic event was the Na'amat Canada National President, Susan Inhaber, who remarked, "Our members gained so much from this weekend and returned home invigorated and inspired to do even more for our organization and its mission." As a lifelong Calgarian, she added, "I was very proud that 6 enthusiastic members from Calgary attended to celebrate with me."

"It was wonderful to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and welcome Na'amat Israel and International President Hagit Pe'er and Shirli Shavit, Director of Na'amat's International Department and Scholarship Fund," said Stephanie Sacks, President of Na'amat Canada Calgary. "Hagit and Shirli provided updates on the current situation in Israel, shared our recent achievements, and outlined what still needs to be done to continue empowering women, children, and families in Israel."

Following the centennial weekend, Na'amat Canada's executive committed to raising \$180,000 to furnish the newly constructed Kanot Middle School — part of the Kanot Youth Village and boarding school. This initiative will ensure that 350 middle school students can begin classes on September 1, 2025.

Most students at Kanot Youth Village have faced challenges in the mainstream school system and come from disadvantaged backgrounds. Many would have fallen through the without cracks individualized care and mentorship $_{
m the}$ school provides. With this expansion, a total of 700 middle and high school students will benefit from a

nurturing environment that fosters academic success and builds self-confidence. Notably, over half of these students live on campus due to unstable or unsafe home environments. The comprehensive care and education they receive offer them a real chance to lead fulfilling lives and become valuable contributors to Israeli society.

Established in 1925, Na'amat Canada is a Jewish women's non-profit organization dedicated to empowering women and children of all faiths in both Canada and Israel. In Calgary, local initiatives include: the School Supplies for Kids program, an annual bursary for a female student at Bow Valley College, and the Providing the Essentials program, which supplies personal hygiene and cleaning products to clients at Jewish Family Services Calgary.



Na'amat members from Calgary and Edmonton enjoyed the wonderful gala.

In Edmonton, local initiatives include: Backpacks and School Supplies for women's and children's shelters, an annual bursary for a female student at Grant MacEwan University, NAIT, Olds and Northwest College, partnering and sponsoring programs at Jewish Family Services and Jewish Senior Centre in Edmonton, as well as other Edmonton Jewish organizations.

In Israel, Na'amat is the country's largest provider of social services for women, children, and families. It operates 135 daycare centres, vocational and agricultural high schools for at-risk youth, legal aid services, women's health centres, mental health counseling, a domestic violence shelter, and more.

For more information, visit: www.naamat.com

JFSE Cont. from page 12

Paddington for the second film screening of the day at 12.30: Night at the Museum! This one isn't just a family favorite, but a cult classic; audiences will probably be able to recite entire scenes along with the actors. This cast needs no introduction: Dick Van Dyke and Owen Wilson alongside a pre-Bohemian Rhapsody star Rami Malek and the legendary Robin Williams.

"Yes, it's about fun for the entire family, but its also about introducing ourselves to Jewish newcomers, and also to engage people who are more established in town too. Whether it's people who need to jump start their English, a helping hand with applying for work, or those who are aging in place, we are here and we have resources to assist," elaborated Dolgoy. "This is about outreach in the most fun and welcoming of ways."

This event is being offered to the Jewish community free of charge, and what could be more appealing than that! Those planning to attend are invited to register at: jfse.org/movie-day. The dedicated organizers would like to thank the United Jewish Appeal of Greater Tornoto's Stephan and Sophie Lewar Endowment, the Jewish Community Charitable Foundation, PJ Library, the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, Metro Cinema and Brook's NoFrills. Don't miss out on this opportunity to share in some good old fashion movie fun, while building a stronger Jewish community for Edmonton.



Beit Halochem Cont. from page 1

injury and for the rest of their lives. Since October 7th, 2023, the number of the injured has vastly increased from 51,000 on October 6, 2023, to over 66,000 wounded veterans.

According to Toby Feldberg, President and Lisa Levy, National Executive Director of Beit Halochem Canada, "Beit Halochem is the only organization legally responsible for the well-being of all Israel's wounded veterans. Leading-edge Beit Halochem Centres in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem, Beer Sheva, Nahariya, and the future Ashdod provide a wide range of individualized therapies, specialized sports rehabilitation, and arts and cultural activities for the disabled veterans and their families.

"Given the unprecedented number of newly injured veterans, the Centres are expanding their skilled staff in numerous therapy disciplines and increasing inventories of specialized rehabilitative equipment. As the founding funder of the Achiad PTSD support groups, Beit Halochem Canada will significantly increase its funding of this vital initiative."

Five October 7th veterans from Israel stood before our community, sharing their personal stories, video footage of actual incidents and their families' responses. The audience was captivated, bringing tears of pain and tears of respect deep into their hearts. The depth of bravery, strength and courage in these mostly young people was beyond inspirational. Everyone in the room was proud of these Israelis and ever so grateful that there are institutions such as Beit Halochem to stand with Israelis in their moment of need, returning their dignity and spark of life.

Eden Ram, standing strong, shared how as a 20-year-old officer serving in the Home Front Command she was hit by 12 bullets when her base was overrun by the terrorists. She had to play dead as she lay among her friends' bodies. With deep pain she shared how she was one of only two who survived at her base. She didn't expect to live and was sending farewell messages to her family.

Evyatar Edri with heroic strength was unimaginably part of the rescue team of his own parents. Evyatar, a police officer in Ofakim is now affected by PTSD. Accompanying Evyatar was

his mother Rachel, a hero in her own right who staved off the terrorists who were holding her at gun point. Coffee and cookies allowed her to engage with the terrorists and unfocus them. Even if you weren't a Hebrew speaker, you could immediately feel her sense of chutzpah and under-stand how without even a weapon she could save lives.

Jonathan Pinto heroically prevented the terrorists from entering Kibbutz Nirim, however his tank was hit by a missile. There are many who can thank Jonathan for saving their lives, however as a result he is now learning to live without his eyesight.

Liam Shpilman was out of the country on October 7 and voluntarily returned and enlisted as a reservist. A Hezbollah drone critically injured Liam while he was defending Israel's border with Lebanon. Liam suffered

severe injuries to limbs, organs, veins and arteries, which has resulted in dozens of surgeries.

Yonti Bahat, a psychologist, developed Extreme Simulation training so that medics and soldiers would be prepared to quickly act in any and all extreme situations. Yonti experienced serious injury in Gaza. He was evacuated to medical aid by his brother also serving as a combat officer in his brigade. A young paramedic who Yonti had personally trained, delivered a life-saving procedure to him in the helicopter en route to the hospital, thus saving his life.

With calmness and grace each veteran shared their story to help us better understand the extreme dangers and risks they faced, and how Beit Halochem was and is always there for the emotional and physical needs for themselves and their families.

With mottos such as 'we do not leave anyone behind,' 'a new world of hope' and 'there is nothing in the world you can't do,' this brief video brings a smile to one's heart conveying how donations directly impact lives youtu.be/-JtfGYpAzW0?si=KSgKje2hJn8ScIil.

With standing ovations after each veteran spoke,



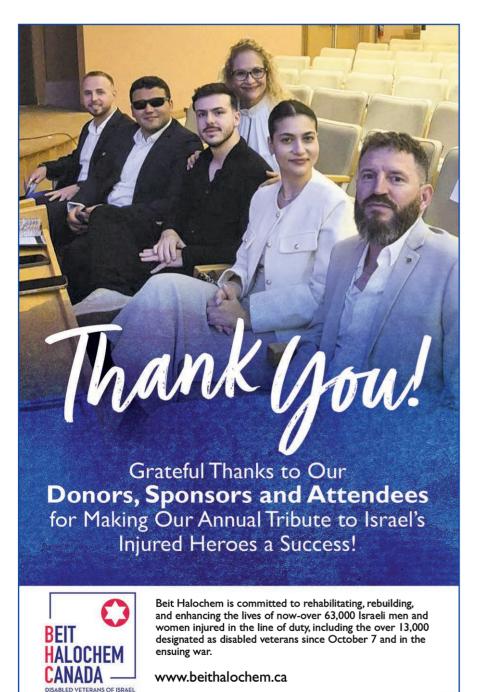
Calgary clearly conveyed deep respect and support for the 16-member delegation and all those back in Israel.

Heartfelt and masterfully curated musical interludes allowed the audience time to reflect and absorb the horrific accounts of what happened to the men and women standing before them, while at the same time the meaningful music in both English and Hebrew soothed the experienced rawness.

Lisa Levy and David Wallach and the entire delegation on behalf of Beith Halochem extend appreciation and thanks to all the volunteers, attendees and donors who made the event the largest Calgary fundraiser to date for Beit Halochem.

The 15th Annual Courage in Motion bike ride takes place October 19 to 23, 2025, offering a lifetime experience for cyclists to ride alongside Israel's disabled veterans, exploring Southern Israel. For details visit courageinmotion.ca/.

For further information, to donate, volunteer for the May 2026 concert, or to arrange a personal tour of Beit Halochem in Israel, contact David Wallach at davidw@beithalochem.ca or visit beithalochem.ca.











The above photos are from previous Bagel Loops.

Family Friendly Fun with the Jewish Seniors Centre at Victoria Park, Edmonton

We welcome all ages!

Participate in our famous Bagel Loop: Walk/Run/Roll 2025 Sunday, July 20 at Victoria Park (12030 River Valley Rd NW)

Last year many guests and volunteers met in the Park to enjoy the Bagel Loop: Walk/Run/Roll event in support of the Edmonton Jewish Senior Citizens Centre's programs and services. It was such a fun day!

This year registration will start at 10 a.m. at the Site #2 with coffee, tea and a variety of delicious pareve muffins, baked by our chef Daniella Drisdell. We will have Magic Marty with us to entertain all with his magic talent!

Then our amazing fitness instructor Bonnie Austen, who has been keeping our members fit and healthy for more than 25 years on Tuesdays at 10:45 a.m., will lead a warm-up and our new yoga instructor Sandy Mah, who has been sharing yoga secrets at the Centre on Mondays at 10 a.m., will help everyone to stretch and prepare for the walk.

At 11:30 a.m. all guests will start to walk via three special stations where they will be asked fun questions about Bagels and Jewish culture.

Last year our youngest participant was 1 year old and our oldest one - 100! So, now you know why we have rollers and runners! Let's break the record! Our oldest participant and the youngest one will be determined at the race and acknowledged with a special prize.

A Ball Fun Raffle will take place. You can buy your table tennis ball just for \$30 and at the Finish line an incredible prize will be waiting for you. Every ball is a winner!

The Edmonton and Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre breaks stereotypes and unites different generations through educational, entertaining, and fun programs and events. Don't wait until you are 120 years old because you think you are too young now – join our vibrant and warm Centre and you will add so much enjoyment into your life!

This event is a unique friendraiser - fundraiser put on BY Seniors FOR Seniors and their Families in support of our Centre. Bring your family, friends and new members!

Please support us by participating in a fun pledge challenge!

Gather pledges for your participation: ask your family members for \$25 (Day 1), ask your neighbours for \$25 (Day 2), ask your doctors, pharmacists, hairdressers, nail specialists, mechanics, favourite shop owners (Day 3). You will reach your goal of \$100!

The registration and the pledge form are available at the office and on https://www.jdicseniors.ca/event/bagelloop-walk-run-roll-2025/

The Registration Fees will be as follows:

Family (any 4 members): \$50

Adult: \$20

Kids over 10: \$15

Kids under 10: Free

We are expecting around 200 participants!

Schedule: (all activities will take place at Site #2 & #3)

10:00 a.m. Registration and morning snacks. Entertainment for kids & adults

11:00 a.m. Warm-up workshop facilitated by the Centre's Fitness Instructors

11:30 a.m. The Walk/Run/Roll starts

12:00 p.m. Family-friendly international cuisine. Picnic time. Raffle prizes.

Mark your Calendars!

Please call 780-488-4241, follow us on Facebook @JSeniorsCentre or email programmer@jdicseniors.ca





WALK / RUN / ROLL

Sunday, July 20 2025 — Victoria Park
Registration @ 10:00am

"On Your Feet or On Your Seat"

SUPPORT YOUR SENIORS

A fund-raising walk/run/roll for ALL ages
PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS Post Race Munchies & Picnic Included

Registration: Family \$50 | Adults \$20 | Kids over 10 \$15 | Kids under 10 FREE



780-488-4241 jdicseniors.ca

It's time for the annual BAGEL LOOP Walk/Run/Roll 2025 Walk-A-Thon!
Support Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre (aka JDIC Seniors' Centre)

Sunday, July 20, 2025 at VICTORIA PARK, Check-in time 10a.m.

Name: _____

Dear Friend,

Please sponsor my participation in the **Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre (aka JDIC Seniors' Centre)** Walk-A-Thon. All proceeds will help fund the Centre's **programming for ALL seniors at the Centre**. This is a family friendly event created **by seniors to support seniors**.

Make checks payable to Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre write in memo: Bagel Loop 2025 or do E-transfer to idic@shaw.ca with memo, please.

All contributions of \$25 and higher are tax-deductible.

Thank you!

	Name of Sponsor	Pledge amount	Tax Receipt	Address of sponsor for tax receipt purpose ONLY
1				
2				
3				
4				
5		100		
6		1 (1)		
7				
8				(6)
9		SILA	. /	
10		70/	7/1	/ ^
11		1-11-11-12	4	
12			/	
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				_

Participants:

To reach our goal, we hope that each participant finds 10 sponsors. Please bring this form to the Centre or to the Victoria Park on the walk-a-thon day, **Sunday**, **July 20**, **2025 at 10a.m**

Inquiries about this event

780-488-4241 ed@jdicseniors.ca

www.jdicseniors.ca





local artists I exclusive collection I original pieces



Wakina Gallery





carvings • paintings • illustrations • cards 780-237-1556 www.wakinagallery.com

