

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

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

Pomegranate

NEWS, VIEWS AND SCHMOOZE WITH THE CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY



A MESSAGE FROM ROB NAGUS

Dear Jewish Calgary,
The High Holidays have passed, the municipal elections are behind us, and we congratulate our new Mayor, **Jeromy Farkas**, wishing him every success in his new role. The Blue Jays made our country proud but ultimately left many of us heartbroken. And while life continues here at home, we all remain deeply aware of events unfolding overseas.

These are truly historic times for the people of Israel. The living hostages have finally returned home as we collectively mourn and await closure for those who did not survive. Through it all, Israelis continue to embody the resilience, determination, and spirit that have defined their story since the nation's founding.

Having recently returned from Israel as part of our **Coast-to-Coast Partnership** with Federation leaders from across Canada, I was reminded again of the strength and hope that define our partner communities. Together with local Calgarians **Cathy and Marty Cole**, **Joyce Kerr**, and **Rachel Simantov**, I visited the Galilee Panhandle (Etzba HaGalil) to

witness firsthand both the challenges and the inspiring progress being made.

While the region is calmer than during my last visit in March, it is clear that much remains to be done—not just to rebuild what was lost, but to create a better future by investing in youth, education, and community capacity. We received numerous thoughtful proposals for meaningful initiatives that will strengthen and uplift the people of the north.

It was also an honour to represent **Calgary Jewish Federation** at the **Cornerstone Ceremony for the new Senate Building at Tel Hai College** (soon to be Tel Hai University). This institution will serve as a powerful driver of growth, opportunity, and development for the entire region.

Back home, our **annual UJA Campaign** is off to a strong start, thanks in large part to a highly successful event featuring **Jonny Daniels**, chaired by **Melissa Mendelman and Tamar Zenith**. Under their leadership, we reached a broad audience—including many non-Jewish allies—to share the challenges our community faces and the vital role that Federation

plays in addressing them.

This year, our priorities remain clear:

- Ensuring the **security** of our community,
- **Combating antisemitism** and advocating on behalf of our shared interests, and
- Growing our **Integrated Bursary Program** so that every child has access to Jewish education, camp, and community life.

As I approach my first anniversary in this role, I am filled with pride and gratitude. My wife, Katie, and I have been embraced by this incredible community, and we are deeply thankful for the opportunity to work alongside all of you—to ensure a vibrant, proud, and enduring Jewish future in Calgary, across Canada, and around the world.

B'Shalom,

Rob Nagus
CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation

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

FREE

The Jewish Story of Rome

FROM ANCIENT ROOTS TO TODAY

Sunday, November 23
12:00-1:30PM • Virtual



Discover the history of Europe's oldest Jewish community, from 161 BCE to today. Join us for a virtual tour with licensed tour guide and founder of Roma Kosher Tours, **Sara Pavoncello**.

Featuring, the Jewish Museum, Rome's Great Synagogue, the Ghetto era (1555-1870), unique traditions, WWII survival stories, and modern Jewish life in Rome. A true taste of millennia of history.



Register at QR or go to calgarylibrary.ca



Supported by the Balaban Family and Viewpoint Foundation Fund, the Krell Family, and donors to the Human Rights and Holocaust Education Fund at Calgary Public Library Foundation.



Jewish BOOK FESTIVAL

SUN. NOVEMBER 23 • 3PM • JCC \$18



Nosh with Micah

Featuring Registered Dietitian: **Micah Siva**

In partnership with PJ Library®, join us for a hands-on culinary experience! Learn how to craft a stunning mezze board—perfect for your Chanukah celebration.

Micah Siva (Grobman) is an award winning cookbook author, trained chef, and registered dietitian, specializing in modern Jewish cuisine. **Learn more about Micah and register at QR or go to calgaryjcc.com.**

For: Ages 10 years and up. Each participant will receive a personalized cutting board to use in class and take home!



JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF CALGARY
Your vision is our mission.
Inspiring Philanthropy for more than 30 years.



INTRODUCING MOMentum

AN INCREDIBLE YEAR-LONG JOURNEY OF GROWTH FOR JEWISH MOTHERS



After a highly successful pilot program in 2025, Calgary Jewish Federation is proud to bring the Momentum Program to our community!

Experience deep connection, lifelong friendships, and meaningful Jewish growth that will transform you, your family, and our community. This year-long program includes monthly gatherings and **an eight-day journey to Israel**, offering inspiration, learning, and connection every step of the way.

Scan the QR for more information about eligibility, costs, to stay updated, and **EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST** in this program!



Save the Date for our Momentum Kick Off Event on **January 17, 2026**
Applications will open at the event.

Light Up the Night at NEONUKAH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13 • 6PM • JCC

Get ready to glow at our annual Chanukah party!



Join us for a night filled with neon lights, music, dancing, and festive fun for all ages. Enjoy a live DJ, crafts, treats, and more! **Come dressed in your brightest neon** and let's light up the night together!

Register at QR or go to jewishcalgary.org



GIVE **TODAY.** STRENGTHEN **TOMORROW.**
TOGETHER WE CAN

CELEBRATE

Together we celebrate Jewish life through learning, tradition, and shared moments of joy.

We honour Jewish traditions and milestones through engaging programs—strengthening pride, identity, and intergenerational connection. From holidays to music, food, and stories, we bring our community together to share in the richness of Jewish life at every stage.



A DEEP DIVE WITH JONNY DANIELS

October 20 was a truly inspiring evening as Calgary Jewish Federation hosted a memorable community event in support of our annual UJA Campaign, featuring renowned Jewish activist and speaker Jonny Daniels, and honouring ally W. Brett Wilson.

Kol hakavod to event co-chairs Tamar Zenith and Melissa Mendelman for their outstanding leadership and success in raising vital funds for the annual campaign.

We are also grateful to Marnie Bondar for coordinating a heartfelt afternoon gathering between Jonny Daniels and Calgary's Holocaust survivors.

Scan the QR codes to view more images captured by photographers: Marnie Jazwicki and Eden Schell.



A Deep Dive with Jonny Daniels



Jonny Daniels with Survivors



MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY

Donate to the 2025 UJA Campaign and help strengthen Jewish Calgary for generations to come.



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Calgary
Jewish Federation
The strength of a people.
The power of community.

UJA
2025