

HaKol

The Voice of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton

VOLUME 7, #1

OCTOBER 2019

Edmonton's UJA Launch is Hip, Heymish, and Hot



UJA Leadership and Sherri Wise at the UJA Kickoff Event

BY SUSAN SCHIFFMAN



The 2019 UJA campaign kicked off at the Citadel Theatre on September 19th with Eleanor Reissa's fabulous Yiddish concert: Hip, Heymish and Hot. Eleanor charmed the audience with an eclectic selection of Yiddish songs, stopping now and then to make a wry comment, or tell a funny story from her Brooklyn youth. The set list ranged from haunting songs of Jewish suffering to the jaunty, iconic jazz tune *Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen*. Yiddish speakers in the audience proudly whispered English translations to their neighbors. In a surprise twist away from Yiddish, but still in the key of Jewish, Eleanor sang Bob Dylan's iconic tribute to

youth, righteousness and joy, *Forever Young*. The crowd laughed, cried and gave Eleanor a standing ovation.

Sherri Wise, Guest Speaker from The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver also brought the crowd to their feet with her stirring story of bravery and resilience as a survivor of a triple suicide bombing in Jerusalem in 1997. Seriously injured in the attack, Sherri is ever grateful for the extensive help that the Federation system provided her throughout her recovery. There were plenty of teary eyes in the crowd as Sherri told how she turned a horrifying experience into something positive, becoming a key advocate for victims of terrorism and trauma, and a vocal ambassador for Jewish Federations and the help they provide to Jewish people everywhere.

Another evening highlight was the award ceremony in which the UJA team recognized Dianne and Irving Kipnes' immeasurable generosity and devotion to our Edmonton Jewish community by naming a new annual award - The Dianne and Irving Kipnes Kavod Award - in their honor, and by making them the inaugural recipients of the award. The crowd gave Dianne and Irv a spontaneous standing ovation as they were called to accept the award.

Before the entertainment and speeches, guests were served wine and a delicious array of appetizers, prepared by Catering by Ed.

UJA Co-Chairs Ron Sorokin and Howie Sniderman announced an annual campaign goal of over \$1 million. Funds raised will support local Federation beneficiaries

and community programs including Hillel, JCORE, BBYO, Camp BB, Talmud Torah School, Jewish Family Services, Holocaust Education Programs, The Israel Pavilion at Heritage Days, and The Edmonton Jewish Film Festival. Support will also go to key national and international beneficiaries: CIJA, JFC-UIA, JDC, JAFI, and Jewish Federation of Edmonton's partner region of the Upper Galilee Panhandle in Northern Israel.

UJA's team of canvassers will be calling on community members in the coming weeks, seeking support for the 2019-20 UJA Campaign. Please give generously and consider an increase over last year's gift to cover greater needs and higher costs.

More Inside!

Message from the President



I want to wish you all a belated Shana Tovah. I would like to take the time in this edition to discuss two matters with you.

The first topic is an update on the Jewish Community Centre. As you are all aware by now, the proposed plan to build a Jewish Community Centre on the Talmud Torah lands has been suspended indefinitely. We have a tight timeline to do something with the funds we do have, and the Jewish Federation of Edmonton has been working diligently to put together a recommendation to be heard, and perhaps voted on, at our Annual General Meeting. We are engaging experts to provide us with the appropriate tax advice and we will report the results to the community as soon as is possible. I look forward to sharing some news on how we can move forward as a community in due course.

The second topic I have chosen to take time to write about is volunteerism. Our community would not function without volunteers. I often hear feedback from members of our community and I often ask those who give me feedback to volunteer their time to make our community function. I am dismayed that I don't get many people taking me up on my offer. Our community is indebted to those people who serve on the boards of our various organizations and those who take time to volunteer throughout the year. Even a couple of hours a year on a committee from those who aren't currently involved will ease the burden of a small group of people who are overburdened by helping with more than 1, 2 or even more organizations.

The Jewish Federation of Edmonton is always looking for volunteers. From Federation committees to UJA canvassing, from Heritage Days, to our casinos, there is always room for more help!

All too often, our volunteers are not thanked for the hard work that they do. Our community's volunteers are attacked for doing what they think is in the community's best interest. This is not fair. This is not how we should treat those

who take time out of their lives for our collective betterment. That is why, I want to publicly thank the following Presidents/Chairs and their boards, for their steadfast support of our community:

Stacey Wright, Aviv Israeli Folk Dance Association; Len Dolgoy, Our Parents' Home; David Vickar, Beth Israel; Lana Black, Beth Shalom; Colleen Paul, Beth Shalom Women's League; Alissia Oshry, Camp BB-Riback; Rhoda Friedman, Chevra Kadisha; Leah Goldford, Emunah Women; Miriam Cooper, Hadasah-Wizo Edmonton; Judy Goldsand, JAHSENA; Lewis Wasel, Jewish Drop in Centre; Judi Card, Jewish Drop-in Centre; Sharon Bookhalter, Jewish National Fund; Spencer Brawner, Temple Beth Ora; Darlene Bushevsky, Na'amat; Jodi Zabludowski, National Council of Jewish Women; Sondra Grosh and Phyllis Nurgitz, ORT; Gary Wolch, Talmud Torah Society; and Stephanie Hedin, Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation.

In the past, the Presidents of Edmonton's Jewish organizations would meet from time to time to discuss issues of mutual importance. I hope that we can start this again over the coming year. I look forward to inviting these individuals to a meeting in December or January to start the process of reconstituting the Presidents' Council.

One of the goals of the Jewish community in this year's election campaign was to raise awareness that volunteer time needs to be given its due by the Canada Revenue Agency by way of a tax credit of some sort. We hope that the Government will, over the course of the next couple of years, look at the volunteers of our community and recognize the hard work that they have done.

With a new year ahead, I hope that you will all join me and the hard working, dedicated individuals listed above in volunteering for our community!

Steven Shafir
President
Jewish Federation of Edmonton



Community leadership meet with MP Randy Boissonnault and Minister Jim Carr

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From the CEO's desk



The word philanthropist has powerful connotations. Generous, supportive, helper of others, well-informed, and deserving of respect and gratitude are all qualities that describe such individuals. At the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, we view each of our donors to UJA, our annual campaign, as philanthropists. I would like to thank each of you who have made a donation to our 2019/20 campaign—your gift makes a difference in the lives of others. As our campaign comes to a close at the end of December, I invite and encourage all those who have not yet made a gift to please act now and make a pledge to UJA.

Jewish Federation takes stewardship of our donors and fiscal responsibility for allocating their contributions seriously. The Budget and Allocations Committee has been meeting and actively reviewing the budgets submitted by each agency as well as our own. Our committee members take their job seriously. They try to understand the story and mission behind the numbers on the spreadsheets. It also gives them perspective as to how our agencies have helped leverage the dollars allocated from Jewish Federation to obtain other grants and sponsorships to grow their programs. This is impactful to the individuals who benefit from their services, and to the community as a whole.

The funds raised through our annual UJA campaign represent the largest component of the dollars we have to allocate to our local agencies and our national and overseas partners. After reviewing and accepting each agency's request for funds, our Budget and Allocations Committee meets to make the difficult allocations decisions for both our major and minor beneficiaries. The need for financial resources is great, and always increasing. Through thoughtful and respectful discussion, the committee must reach a consensus to allocate our available funds. Our lay leadership and professional staff

are very sensitive in balancing the needs of each agency and partner. The final recommendations for allocating our financial resources are then voted on by the full Board. This year, we are launching a new quarterly allocations process for our minor beneficiaries, formerly surplus beneficiaries. Our major beneficiaries have all been moved to the regular allocation lines in the budget, and the others have been budgeted an amount for allocation, rather than relying on unpredictable and slowly disappearing surpluses for their funds. Also new this year is a new security stream for organizations, in addition to our High Holiday grants to Synagogues.

In making the tough allocations decisions, we strive to incorporate Jewish values and also try to recognize the unique Jewish need for our support. Last year, Jewish Federation allocated \$1.2 million. Our local Jewish Federation and agencies received 55% of those funds to support programs and services as well as to fund a UJA reserve fund. Those reserve funds are necessary to maintain a secure future for our community. Our national and overseas partners received 24% of the funds to help Israel and under-served Jewish communities throughout the world.

Although we are always trying to bring in new donors, we also depend on each one of us to consider the aspect of increasing need and cost in making our pledges. In addition, we try to get larger and older donors to make a gift to the Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation to perpetuate their lifetime of generosity after they are gone.

Your gift to Federation powers hope, comfort, and provides basic necessities, including



Irv & Dianne Kipnes, inaugural recipients of the UJA Kavod award

food and clothing to those in need through Jewish Family Services. It sends our children on once-in-a-lifetime Jewish experience trips and funds scholarships to Hebrew day school and to day and overnight Camp. It provides programming and subsidies to Seniors within our community. It ensures quality Jewish programming for our youth. With one single act of kindness you can make a difference in the lives of vulnerable individuals locally, nationally, and overseas.

On behalf of those individuals who are participants in programs and recipients of services supported by our Jewish Federation, thank you for your generous support. Your gift to UJA is impactful. Each of us should be proud to be called "Philanthropist" in our community.

Debby Shocket
CEO

The Jewish Federation of Edmonton



JFED leadership meet with MP Kelly McCauley



JFED meets with Federal Liberal Candidate Kerrie Johnston

Dear Edmonton Jewish Community



We are excited to serve as Co-chairs of the 2019/20 UJA Campaign for our community. For nearly forty years, The Jewish Federation of Edmonton/UJA has been a vital and driving force in Jewish Edmonton, combining our community's strengths and inspiring us, guided by our Jewish values, to work together to care for the vulnerable, support Jewish education and culture, forge connections with Israel, advocate on behalf of Israel and the Jewish People, and inspire future generations to embrace Jewish life. We are passionate about the work of The Jewish Federation/UJA and dedicated to ensuring its continuity.

Our objective is to raise over \$1 million through the 2019/20 Campaign in order to fund Jewish Federation initiatives at home, in Israel and overseas. This is an ambitious goal and demographics continue to pose challenges, as community members retire, move away and pass away. Yet, we believe that the importance of our

mission, the dedication of our volunteer canvassers, and the generosity of our community, make this goal achievable. The UJA team will host several events for our supporters during the Campaign season. We look forward to meeting you at these events and to learning about your needs and hopes for our collective future.

We are strongly committed to ensuring a vibrant and thriving Jewish future for Edmonton and around the world, through support of Federation/UJA.

Please join us by making a gift to the 2019/20 UJA campaign.

Thank you for your generosity.

Ron Sorokin
Howie Sniderman
2019/20 UJA Co-Chairs
Our Community, Our Responsibility, Our Future



Eleanor Reissa in Hip, Heymish and Hot!

P2G Edmonton Meetings

This June, the Coast-to-Coast steering committee of P2G held their annual Canadian meetings in Edmonton. This happens about every five years, alternating between all the partnership cities in Canada: Ottawa, Halifax, Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg and Edmonton. They also hold annual meetings in Israel every Fall in the Partnership region of the Northern Galilee.

About 50 people attended from across Canada and from our partnership region, as well as from the national office in Toronto. The meetings were held at the Fantasyland Hotel over the weekend of June 15th-17th. Edmonton was fortunately at its best, and everyone enjoyed the warm hospitality shown them by the host city,

as well as the beautiful weather, and all the amenities of the world's greatest mall.

Attendees arrived on Friday, and spent Shabbat at the Fantasyland hotel. On Shabbat morning, some walked to the Beth Israel Synagogue for services, where they were warmly greeted. On Saturday night, they met in the hotel restaurant for an initial reunion dinner. Meetings ensued for the next two days in the hotel conference centre. On Sunday afternoon, the delegates were transported to the Talmud Torah School, where they were toured around by Executive Director Jerry Sorokin, and saw a wonderful performance by the Aviv Dancers in the school gym, followed by an Israeli dance session conducted by Meirav Or of Aviv. On Sunday

night, our guests were treated to a wonderful home hospitality evening event at the Asbell's house, catered by Lauren Baram.

The conference discussed issues of mutual concern to the Partnership community, including the student exchanges, teacher's conference, projects, governance and meeting schedule. Attendees included the Mayors of Galil Elyon and Kiryat Shemona, as well as members of their staff, and volunteers from throughout the region, and delegates from Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Halifax. The meetings were chaired by co-chairs Dr. Howard Conter and Yossi Amado.

Special guest speakers at the meetings included JFC-UJA CEO Nikki Holland, and CIJA CEO Shimon Fogel, who flew in specially for the event.

At the conclusion of the conference, some members stayed on, some went to the mountains, and several remained to attend the Negev Dinner in honour of Freya and Louis Wasel, parents of Edmonton Co-chair Rebecca Asbell. Freya had previously attended a Partnership meeting in Israel, and the project they are supporting through JNF is in Kiryat Shemona. Mayor Avichai Stern of Kiryat Shemona and his fiancée, Svetlana, as well as staff members were in attendance.

The next P2G meeting will take place in Israel at the end of October, and we hope to see many familiar faces there and make new connections and friendships in the region.



P2G Joint Steering Committee meetings in Edmonton

Security Update

BY TAL TOUBIANA



The safety and security of the Jewish community is of primary importance to the Jewish Federation of Edmonton. We review protocols and make recommendations to enhance everyone's security efforts. The Federation conducts an ongoing series of training programs to advance safety and security knowledge provided to our community with our partners, CIJA, SCN, and law enforcement. Given that many threats impact all faith-based institutions, regardless of affiliation, and as seen in the tragic attack on the Muslim community in New Zealand, we have developed best practices that we share through training sessions and our JCLC meetings. Building from the experience and expertise developed within the Jewish community, we make recommendations to more effectively addressing issues while enhancing safety and security. These issues have led to re-evaluation of Jewish facilities security to ensure that buildings and open spaces are as safe as possible, while remaining welcoming.

This year, I was somewhat hopeful this time around that our request for EPS extra-duty policing for the Yom Tovs would be fulfilled, but I am sorry to tell you that there will not be any extra duty policing available to us this year during the High Holidays. The reasons for the decision were the absence of an immediate threat to our community, low manpower and, of course, budget. I argued that threat levels are irrelevant in this day and age. Furthermore, I explained that we take a proactive approach when it comes to ensuring the safety of our community, and although threat levels are important, we maintain a constant security profile year-round. Having said that, EPS has said that they will increase their patrols around our facilities over the holidays, and will try to do their paperwork or breaks at the synagogue parking lots in order to maintain visibility. What does this mean for us? Maintain the status quo. I encourage everyone to review their security and emergency manuals over and over again, assign members to specific roles (ushers & greeters, medical/first responders, security, communications/liaison), meet with your security detail, and go over the details with them - if you are not satisfied with the way they handle themselves, send them home and get a replacement. Make sure those in charge of communications have the local EPS rep (location based), myself, and of course 911 on speed dial. Practice scenarios and drills, and double check your first aid kits.

Over the past year, we worked hard on increasing our security awareness and information sharing through training, liaising with the EPS, and partnerships with organizations charged with keeping Jewish communities safe. We offer the latest in safety and security training, and certification. All training is free (thanks

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, The Jewish Community Centre of Edmonton, and The Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation

Will be held on Wednesday, December 4th, 2019
Commencing at 7:00 pm, at

Beth Shalom Synagogue
Lower Auditorium
11916 Jasper Ave., Edmonton, Alberta

For the purpose of:

1. Reviewing the financial results for the fiscal year just ended.
2. Receiving an update on past activity.
3. Elections of slates of Directors for the organizations.
4. Amending the Bylaws of the various organizations, if necessary.
5. Vote on investment/expenditure of designated JCC building funds.
6. Vote on placing the funds of the EJCCF within the Edmonton Community Foundation.

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, the Nominating Committee is giving notice that at the upcoming Annual General Meeting, there will be 7 vacancies to the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, of which 6 are for a 3-year term (term expiring 2022), and 1 is for a 1-year term.

Any Member of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton (any individual 18 years of age or older who made a contribution between September 1, 2018 and August 31, 2019 in the sum of at least \$18.00, or any one individual 18 years of age or older who made a joint contribution with another person between September 1, 2018 and August 31, 2019 in the sum of at least \$36.00) who would like to submit their name for consideration by the Nominating Committee to stand for election to the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton may do so in writing to debbys@edfed.org on or before September 21, 2019. Additional nominations must be made by three nominating Members and include the signature of the proposed nominee, who must also be a Member. Additional nominations may be made in writing and delivered to the Chief Executive Officer (in person) up to and including November 19, 2019, and must be made by three nominating Members and include the signature of the proposed nominee, who must also be a member. Please note that the bylaws do not allow for nominations from the floor. All nominations are as set out above.

Any Member who would like to add any additional business to be conducted at the Annual General Meeting may do so in writing to the Chief Executive Officer up to and including November 19, 2019. Any request must be endorsed by signature of 20 Members.

to our UJA donors) and currently includes the following categories: Situational Awareness, First Aid, Active Shooter Lockdown Training, and Emergency Planning and Preparedness.

While we share a responsibility to do our part to ensure safety and security in our community, it is very important to remember that

the Canadian and international security and intelligence community is robust and vigilant to these external threats. Our contacts have indeed indicated that there is no change to the security threat level at this time.

Wishing you a safe and happy new year,
Shanah Tovah U'metukah

Hillel Edmonton Wrapping Up Another Great Year

BY SAPIR FELLUS



When I was younger Yom Kippur only meant one thing for me: checking out a pile of books from the library and resigning myself for a day of reading on an empty stomach. It wasn't exactly the spiritual, enriching, and repentant experience one would expect. However, recently I heard a friend describe Yom Kippur as a way to achieve a "clean slate," or a "new beginning." Another friend referred to it as "the only Jewish holiday that is totally focused on the future." When you think about it, that's really exciting! There is so much potential in a clean slate, in a new gift of 365 days. We are given an empty canvass on which to create something beautiful.

That is exactly how I feel about the new Hillel Edmonton Student Executive. This board is composed of student leaders who decided they want to take part in making Hillel even greater this year. They truly care about Jewish life on campus. They are passionate about building a strong community. They are personally invested in the Jewish future of Edmonton. We had our first meeting of the year last month, and there was infectious enthusiasm in the air. I have been so impressed by the student leaders' abilities and willingness to step up to the plate and bring new initiatives to the table. There is a lot of potential this year and it is exciting.

The first event of the year was a Hillel Welcome BBQ on September 12th, and many students, both new and returning, attended. It is



Hillel Executive 2019

clear that students, no matter if they grew up around the West Edmonton Mall or if they just arrived to Edmonton, need a community. Hillel is here to provide them with that community and to make sure that every student has a support network. University life can be tough and overwhelming, but being around people who understand you, and who can provide you with tools to thrive, is the key to success. I encourage all students in Edmonton to join the Hillel community. There are so many exciting events coming up such as Shabbat Dinners, Lunch &

Learns (featuring professionals in the community), Jews and Brews, Israel Parties, and many more. As well, if you are interested in going to Israel FOR FREE, come to Hillel and we will tell you all about getting on that plane.

YOU can be part of filling up Hillel's white canvass this year. All it takes is showing up!

Shana tova umetuka! May we all be blessed with a happy and sweet new year.

For more information on getting involved, please contact Sapir Fellus at sapirf@edfed.org, or like Hillel Edmonton on Facebook and Instagram to keep in touch.



Edmonton Hillel opening BBQ

UJA Canvasser Training and BBQ

BY SUSAN SCHIFFMAN



On September 10th, The Edmonton United Jewish Appeal (UJA) kicked-off the 2019/20 Campaign with a BBQ and training session for the canvassing team at the Jewish Federation offices.

Dirk Bird, a member of The Jewish Federation of North America's Community Consulting Team, led an insightful and highly motivating session that helped canvassers to appreciate the very important role they play in the "Jewish ecosystem". He explained that canvassers are the connectors, helping donors to connect to the things in Jewish life they care about. These donors will, in turn, engage others, who will engage others, across the community and across generations, creating a ripple effect that builds a strong UJA Campaign and a strong community. Dirk gave canvassers really helpful tips on

how to lead meaningful conversations with donors to engage them and create these very important connections. Canvassers were excited and eager to learn more, showering Dirk with questions, and causing the session to go into overtime.

The evening began with a great kosher BBQ catered by Lauren Baram. Yummy burgers and hot dogs were surrounded by towers of trimmings, platters of fruit and mountains of homemade cookies.

The UJA team of 62 canvassers, under the leadership Ron Sorokin and Howie Sniderman are well-prepared, geared up and ready to go, confident that this will be another successful campaign. Edmonton is very fortunate to have this large and highly dedicated team.



UJA Canvasser Training BBQ with Dirk Bird

When you get a call from your canvasser, please take the time for a good Jewish conversation, on the phone or in person, and please give generously. For more information about UJA or to discuss your donation, please contact Susan Schiffman, Director of Development at 780-487-0585 ext. 206 or susans@edjfedor.org

Holocaust Education

BY DANI URETSKY



We begin the year in Holocaust Education by commemorating Kristallnacht on Thursday, November 7th, at Beth Shalom Synagogue at 7:00pm. This year, we welcome guest speaker Ellin Bessner. Ellin is a professor and journalist who has written an interesting book on the history of Canadian Jews who served during World War II: Double Threat: Canadian Jews, the Military, and World War II. In all, over 17,000 Jewish Canadians served, and Bessner provides a good overview as well as personalized stories of those veterans. Please join us for an interesting evening with kosher refreshments to follow.

The Holocaust Education Committee has also been discussing a "Second Voices Project".

As we are all well aware, our Survivors who share their stories are becoming few and far between. It is up to their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren to now learn and share their stories. Last year for Kristallnacht, we were joined by Calgarian Marnie Bondar, who shared with us her grandmother's story of survival. Now more than ever, we need to begin this project in Edmonton. If you are a second or third generation survivor, please contact me at daniu@edjfedor.org

This year our Remembrance Day service will be held at the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery on Monday, November 11th beginning at 10:30am. If you are a community organization and wish to lay a wreath please go to www.poppyfund.ca to order. The wreaths will be delivered to the cemetery for you to lay at the Cenotaph.

This coming year, 2020, is also a March of the Living year. This is a once-in-a-lifetime trip for Jewish students in grade 10-12. The students embark on a two-week journey beginning in Poland, where they will tour concentration camps, synagogues, and old ghetto sites. They will commemorate Yom Hashoah in Poland, with they will actually March from Auschwitz to Birkenau, together with thousands of their peers. After a week in Poland, they will move on to a week in Israel, celebrating life and liberation. Students will attend a local Yom Hazikaron service, and then celebrate Israel's independence along with the entire country on Yom Ha'atzmaut. An information session for potential participants was held on September 23rd. The trip will take place in April of this year. For more information, contact me at daniu@edjfedor.org or (780) 487-0585.

KRISTALLNACHT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH 7:00 PM
BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE
GUEST SPEAKER: ELLIN BESSNER
DOUBLE THREAT: CANADIAN JEWS, THE MILITARY, AND WORLD WAR II



For more information please contact Dani at daniu@edjfedor.org or 780.487.0585x205

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 10:30 AM
THE EDMONTON JEWISH CEMETERY



PJ Library 2019/2020

BY DANI URETSKY



We ended our year in July with PJ Library Goes to Camp at Camp B'nai Brith, together with PJ Library Calgary. It was amazing to meet our PJ friends from Calgary and get to spend the day as a Camp BB Kid! Families enjoyed sports, horseback riding, the ropes course, swimming, and a traditional Camp BB lunch of grilled cheese and tomato soup. Thank you to Camp Director Stacy Shaikin and Kathie Wainer from PJ Calgary for all your help and hard work.

Our first program this year is a "Back to School Chagim Party!" on Sunday, October 20th, at Talmud Torah School in the multi-purpose room from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Come join PJ Library and BBYO for a fun-filled afternoon of activities, snacks, and crafts.

Today, we have jumped to 582 individual children served with PJ Library subscriptions in our community, and we are growing every day! This is a great service for our community, so

Jewish Free Loan Association of Edmonton (JFLA)

Empowering Economic Self-sufficiency with Interest-free Loans

Granting interest-free loans promotes dignity, allows for the opportunity to become financially self-sufficient, and is among the highest forms of tzedakah (charity). By assisting individuals, we can make a meaningful difference and strengthen our Jewish Community.

When the JFLA was first formed, loans were granted to cover small purchases; such as meals for Shabbat or the holidays. Even though needs might change over time, the purpose of interest free loans have always been intended to make life a little easier. Nowadays, micro loans of \$100, up to loans of \$5,000 are granted for a range of purposes such as education, cars repairs, medical bills, life-cycle events, or simply as a financial boost and making ends meet.

For almost 100 years, the JFLA has been serving the Jewish Community in times of need. We are members of the International Association of Hebrew Free Loans, whose mission tasks us to:

"...help people with temporary financial needs to become or remain self-supporting self-respecting members of their community by the aid of interest-free loans."

If you, or someone you know of in our Jewish Community could benefit from a hand up with an interest free loan, please contact us. Strict confidentiality will be maintained.

Further information or ways to contact us:

- Jewish Federation at 780.487.0585
- jewishfederation@edjfedor.org
- <https://www.jewishedmonton.org/>

let's keep the momentum going! We would also like to welcome our newest subscribers to PJ Library Edmonton. If your child is 6 months to 8 years old and you wish to start receiving these wonderful books please go to: <https://pjlibrary.org/enroll-in-a-community?id=209201> to subscribe. However, there is a cost to these subscriptions. Currently they are covered by Edmonton UJA and the Greenspoon Foundation, but we would be happy for individual local sponsorship if you are interested.

We are also happy to welcome our community PJ Partners. If you are one of our partners

and would like to plan to holiday-themed program, please do not hesitate to contact me. We love having programs with partner organizations, and bringing the community together.

Sign your child up for a FREE monthly, Jewish-themed book or CD. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at daniu@edjfedor.org or 780-487-0585 ext. 205. This is an opportunity for engagement not to be missed!

IBP Stats 2019

The total applications received:

Total: 47

TT: 33

Camp BB: 19

Asper/Maccabi/BBYO: Maccabi 5, BBYO 6

MOL: 2

Number of Appeals:

TT: 0

Camp BB: 3

Asper/Maccabi/BBYO: 0

MOL: 0

Number of Appeals of Appeals:

Total: 0

Total Asked:

Total: \$306,180

TT: \$207,250

Camp BB: \$66, 680

Asper/Maccabi/BBYO: \$16,250 (9250 Maccabi, 7000 BBYO)

MOL: \$16,000

Total Asked Minus Families Who Withdraw:

Total: 0

Total Given by all parties after appeals/withdrawals:

Total: \$191,903

TT: \$141,288

Camp BB: \$40,845

Asper/BBYO/Maccabi: \$9,770

MOL: TBD

Total Given by Federation:

Total: \$154,695

TT: \$110,500

Camp BB: \$34,425

Asper/BBYO: \$9,770

MOL: TBD

Total Given by Other Organizations after appeals/withdrawals:

TT: \$30,788

Camp BB: \$6,420

Team Alberta at Maccabi Games and Artsfest

BY BARRY PECHET, JCC MACCABI ALBERTA DELEGATION HEAD, 2018-19

Another successful summer at JCC Maccabi for Team Alberta has come to pass. In early August, ten teens and three chaperones travelled to Detroit, Michigan, for the 2019 JCC Maccabi Games and ArtsFest. The JCC Maccabi Games are an Olympic-style sporting competition held each summer in North America. Thousands of teens, ranging from 12 to 16 years of age, participate in the JCC Maccabi Games each summer. JCC Maccabi ArtsFest is a weeklong summer arts experience, that is run at the same time as the games, for creative Jewish teens ages 12 to 17, featuring workshops in a variety of specialties with some of the leading artists in each field. The first North American JCC Maccabi Games were held in 1982 with 300 athletes. 1997 marked the first time that the JCC Maccabi Games were held simultaneously in six American cities with 4,400 participating athletes.

The combined Games are the largest organized sports program for Jewish teenagers in the world. The ArtsFest program was added a few years ago to include creative teens in this global opportunity as well. Today, over 5000 teens participate in the JCC Maccabi Games and ArtsFest each summer. The Games are co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center Association of North America, Maccabi World Union, Maccabi Canada, and Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel. The JCC Maccabi Games and ArtsFest are a rare opportunity for youth to participate in a weeklong adventure with thousands of other

youth from across North America, Great Britain, and Israel.

This year, our delegation flew to Detroit early to spend a pre-weekend enjoying various sporting activities at the Joe Dumars Fieldhouse, a day at the Red Oaks Waterpark, and a wonderful Shabbat dinner with 300 other participants. On the Sunday, Team Alberta marched in proudly at Opening Ceremonies carrying our banner and cheering at the top of our lungs. We sung Hatikvah with over 4000 people in attendance that night and lit the torch for the Games and ArtsFest to officially begin! Our athletes

played on mixed teams with others from all over the States and had a blast doing so.

As always, the host families were incredible, and took a real shine towards our polite Alberta teens. The host families brought our kids into their homes and treated them like family for a week. Throughout the week, all of the 1300+ teens in attendance participated in JCC Cares, a Tikkun Olam project that everyone involved in JCC Maccabi must participate in. Our teens were involved in different projects, like Mittens for Detroit, where delegations each brought pairs of mittens to give to Detroit's less fortunate. We also participated in initiatives such as the Bottomless Toy Chest and the Kids Coalition Against Hunger. The JCC Maccabi Alberta program is jointly run and supported by the Calgary JCC and Jewish Federation of Edmonton and receives generous funds each year from both the Calgary and Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation, Calgary B'nai Brith Men's lodge, as well as private donors. Without this generous community support, the program would not exist.

To find out more about JCC Maccabi, please contact: Barry Pechet bpechet@cjcc.ca 403-444-3155, or Dani Uretsky at daniu@edjfed.org 780-487-0585.

Or visit:

<http://www.jccmaccabigames.org/>
<http://www.jccmaccabiartsfest.org/>



Maccabi Team Alberta at the Maccabi Games



Magen David Adom event at Beth Israel

Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation

The Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation (EJCCF) helps people support Jewish causes that are important to them. The Foundation provides resources to make the community's vision a reality, working in partnership with donors and striving to ensure the long-term financial security of the Jewish Community.

Contributions to the EJCCF continue to be received from family and friends to the various funds and new family funds have also been established. All enhance the EJCCF's ability to grow and therefore distribute grants in our community today and in the future.

This summer the EJCCF distributed funds to Talmud Torah, Jewish Family Services, Jewish Senior Citizen's Centre, JAHSENA, BBYO, Camp BB - Riback, Temple Beth Ora, OPH, Beth Israel Synagogue and National Council of Jewish Women - beneficiary organizations that had successfully applied for available

funding. In addition, the EJCCF provided funds to the Jewish Federation of Edmonton to help support mounting the Israel Pavilion at Heritage Days - the most visible event put on by our community for the general community.

New and continued support for the EJCCF can make a difference today and help to shape the future. Your gift can be made with:

- An outright gift of cash or appreciated assets like stocks, bonds or life insurance policies.
- A bequest in your will - the easiest way to make a gift. You simply state in your will a dollar amount or a percentage of your estate to be used for an endowment.
- A gift of a new or existing life insurance policy. By naming the Foundation owner and beneficiary, you may be able to deduct the premiums from your taxes.

- Pension Plans are subject to significant tax liability, making them ideal instruments to use, in whole or in part, to create a fund naming the Foundation as the beneficiary.

For the plan best suited to your personal situation and charitable objectives we recommend that you consult with your legal and financial counsel and with the Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation. For further information, email: Stephanie.Hendin@gmail.com to discuss.

A planned gift to the Jewish community ensures the perpetuation of your family name - no matter where or when in the future, you can be there to help.

As is says in the Talmud, "As my father planted before I was born, so do I plant for those who will come after me."

REGISTRATION FOR OUR WINTER TRIPS IS NOW OPEN!



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ISRAEL UPDATE: THE HOTTEST AND LATEST



GUEST SPEAKER:
YONAH JEREMY BOB

IS AN INSIDER IN ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE, LEGAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
A LEADING COMMENTATOR FOR THE JERUSALEM POST, HE HAS WORKED FOR THE IDF, JUSTICE AND FOREIGN MINISTRIES.

TUE, OCT 29, 2019 | BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE | KOSHER REFRESHMENTS
7:00 PM | 11916 JASPER AVE | WILL BE SERVED

YOUR UJA  The Jewish Federation
OF EDMONTON

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://WWW.JEWISHEDMONTON.ORG/ISRAEL-UPDATE-THE-HOTTEST-AND-LATEST](https://www.jewishedmonton.org/israel-update-the-hottest-and-latest)



P2G members enjoy Israeli dancing with Aviv at Talmud Torah

Upcoming Events:

October 20 - PJ Library Back to School Event
Talmud Torah School

October 21 - Shemini Atzeret, Federal Election

October 22 - Simchat Torah

October 29 - UJA Event: Yonah Bob Israel Update
Beth Shalom Synagogue

November 5 - Anne Frank Exhibit
McKay Avenue School

November 7 - Kristallnacht Commemoration
Beth Shalom Synagogue 7 pm

November 11 - Remembrance Day
Jewish Cemetery 10:30 am

November 13 - Federation Board Meeting
Federation Offices

November 21 - Young Leadership Event
Sniderman home 7:30 pm

November 25 - Community Wine & Cheese with
Politicians - Matrix Hotel 5:30 pm

November 27 - UJA Telethon
Federation Offices

December 4 - Federation AGM
Beth Shalom Synagogue 7 pm

December 22 - First Night of Channukah



Israel Pavilion wins three top awards

BY EDMONTON JEWISH NEWS

The Israel Pavilion, hosted by the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, was one of the shining stars of this year's Edmonton Heritage Festival which took place from August 3 to 5 at Hawrelak Park. The Aviv Israeli Folk Dancers and the Shiru ha Shir dancers were the stars of the Pavilion providing consecutive performances throughout the weekend that ensured the pavilion was a vibrant and interactive gathering place for festival goers of all ethnicities. The dancers were beautifully costumed and choreographed and included performers of all ages, ranging from the adorable Aviv mini dancers to veteran Israeli dancer Maya Goldberg, showcasing an amazing facet of Israeli culture.

The Israel Pavilion, joined one hundred other pavilions at the festival, representing and celebrating different countries and cultures. It was among the 73 colourful and vibrant tents dotted throughout park for the 44th edition of the three-day multicultural festival.

The Israel Pavilion was awarded three top cultural awards at this year's festival. In addition to the delightful dancers, other elements of the pavilion included a selection of authentic foods to sample, an oasis in the Negev Desert and making bracelets with your name in Hebrew.

Yasher Koach to the Jewish Federation of Edmonton staff and close to one hundred volunteers from the community who helped make this year's pavilion a success. The team work and camaraderie demonstrated by the volunteers each year makes Heritage Days one of the flagship events for the Jewish community.



Shiru ha Shir dances at Heritage Days



Israel Pavilion won three awards at Heritage Days, the most ever



Aviv Dancers at Heritage Days



Clyde Hurtig, Shane Asbell and Karen Farkas at the Israel Pavilion