

The Lori Feldman Eco-Tech Fund

Lori Feldman was involved with The Calgary Jewish Academy (CJA) since 1988 always with initiative, knowledge and passion. From the time that his eldest was enrolled in Nursery, until his youngest graduated, Lori actively participated in the school as a parent and as a volunteer. All three of Lori and Carol's children, Perry, Matthew, and Mira, attended the CJA from nursery through grade nine.

Lori chaired the Gentleman's Dinner, which later became the Golden Plate Dinner, for at least six years. Including his time as chairman, Lori worked tirelessly on the CJA's major annual major fund raising event for 11 years, helping raise almost \$400,000 during his involvement. This was truly a labour of love and determination for Lori. During his years on the dinner committees he was involved in selling over 3,000 tickets- with ticket prices for the dinner reaching \$165.00 by the end of his involvement.

In 1996 Lori became an Executive Board member, and served on the Executive for 10 years, becoming a Vice-President, then a 2 year term as President and then continuing on the Executive as Past-President. While Vice President of External Affairs he was instrumental in negotiating the parking lot arrangements between the Beth Tzedec Synagogue and the CJA. This agreement still exists today and benefits the students on a daily basis. During his terms as Vice President and President he had to deal with some extremely sensitive internal issues, which he dealt with in a respectful, fair-minded and sensible manner.

The first environmental program to the CJA was introduced by Lori. This was a program that was well ahead of its time. Lori was able to partner the school with Shell Canada, who covered the cost of re-cycling bins and other related expenses. His commitment to the environment and science was further demonstrated by him being a frequent judge at the annual CJA Science Fair.

Whatever Lori did while involved at the CJA, he always gave of himself in a selfless and tireless fashion, whether it be for the benefit of the students or the school. Administration, teachers, fellow executive members, committee members, parents and students considered it a privilege to work with Lori. While he was a leader, mentor, and advisor Lori was most importantly a friend. Every situation that he dealt with was with kindness, warmth and a sense of humour.

For those of us that had the privilege of working with Lori, we learned some valuable life lessons from him, which included "always take the high road" and "always give someone the benefit of the doubt". Lori Feldman was always the definition of a true mench.

The Lori Feldman Eco-Tech Fund (the Fund) has been established with the CJA and the Friends of The Calgary Jewish Academy Society (the Trust) by friends, fellow

volunteers and colleagues of Lori Feldman to acknowledge and honour his many years of dedicated volunteer work for the Calgary Jewish Academy (CJA) and the community in general.

The underlying basis of the program of the Fund is based on program ideas generated by Lori. The intent of the Fund is to encourage junior high school students of the CJA to study the application of technology to address ecological issues affecting the modern world and to then apply their new-found knowledge for the betterment of the community. We all know that technology and environmental/ecological issues change over time. Because of this, the specific issues that the students study and tackle will change over time as well. The program is designed to accommodate this. By way of example, the possible issues the students will address would currently include:

- Water issues including conservation, desalinization, treatment and preservation of water, the use of technology to enhance irrigation, maximization of food production and water related public health.
- Recycling programs in civic and industrial settings.
- Food security, amelioration of hunger and genetic modification in the food chain.
- Land use, reclamation and cleanup.

Where possible and appropriate, the student's learning should be linked to/integrated with the Judaics and Israel studies programs at the CJA and the CJA's grade 9 Israel trip program and studies. In addition, where possible and appropriate, the student's learning should be linked to/integrated with their science and science fair program and studies. The program also contemplates that the CJA may partner with other agencies locally and abroad to further the aims and reach of the Program. As well, students should be encouraged to apply their learning to public service projects within and outside the Jewish community.

It is intended that the Program will be integrated into the curriculum of the CJA rather than being a stand-alone program or a replacement for portions of the existing curriculum. In doing so, the income of the Fund is intended to augment the curriculum through the program, whether in relation to equipment or materials necessary to implement aspects of the Program, field trips (locally or in conjunction with the CJA's Israel Trip) to study the activities of others in furtherance of the Program or to assist individuals or groups of students in pursuing Program related projects.

The Fund was initially established through donations to the Trust in honour of Lori Feldman. Donations should be directed to the Lori Feldman Eco-Tech Fund. Charitable donation tax receipts will be issued for all charitable donations over \$25.00 made to the Fund. Income generated by the Trust from investment of the Fund will be used by the Trust to fund the CJA Program.

Lori sold so many tickets over the years for the CJA, please consider buying a ticket in Lori's memory. May his memory be for a blessing.

Donations may be sent to the Trust (cheques payable to the Friends of The Calgary Jewish Academy Society and Visa payment is also accepted). They may called in or be dropped off at the school or mailed to the school at:

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