

2020/2021 **Annual Report**

The past two years have been difficult and has presented challenges that we never could have imagined. But, despite the pandemic and the limited ability to plan ahead, the Soloway JCC has continued to be an important part of community life providing a place to socialize, be active and stay connected, even when it meant doing so virtually.

Although the pandemic has forced us to shut our doors four separate times, totalling approximately nine months, it has not stopped us from doing what we do best and that's providing important and lasting connections within our community.



August 31, 2020 – September 1, 2021

Ganon Preschool

The preschool continued to provide excellence in early childhood education. Classified as Day Care, Ganon operated regardless of whether the JCC was impacted by provincial shutdowns. We were home to 65 children during the 2020-2021 school year, slightly less than a typical school year as many parents were not prepared to send their children during the pandemic.

Ganon children took part in virtual Shabbat programs with the residence at Hillel Lodge, enjoyed hot lunches catered by The Village Café and learned in three languages – English, French and Hebrew. The curriculum shifted to include more outdoor education where teachers took advantage of the entire campus to explore and learn about nature in the world around us.

SJCC Summer Camp 2021

We had a great summer at Day, Specialty and Sports Camps. The provincial mandates that required us to keep group sizes small (10-15 per group) proved to be a positive pivot as it made for a better camp experience for our campers and staff.

Camp ran at full capacity with a total of 422 campers, 828 registrations and over \$400,000 in revenue. Participation doubled from summer 2020 (our first COVID camp experience) but was just shy of half the campers we welcomed pre-COVID.

Some camp highlights include Maccabiah Games for Sports Camp, individualized Shabbat programming for each age group and Tisha B'av celebrations. JFO Mitzvah project boxes were incorporated into senior camp daily programs.

Children's Programs

With schools and the SJCC opening and closing on an ongoing basis and many parents working from home, after school programs saw a drop in registration. And many of our popular after school activities were cancelled.

Junior Karate ran with eight people and went from in-person to virtual without missing a class. LEGO Robotics & Engineering was full and all other after school programs, that are typically popular, were cancelled due to lack of interest.

Shalom Baby an outreach program that introduces families with newborns to our community, gave out 46 gift bags with information on PJ Library, Early Beginnings and Ganon.

Jewish Holiday Celebrations

Though we were unable to hold in-person celebrations, the SJCC invited the community to creative virtual events.

Together with PJ Library we sold more than 100 Chanukah Activity Bags which included a variety of crafts, recipes, song lyrics and blessings. All were invited to take part in a virtual sing-a-long and candle lighting.

Teens celebrated Chanukah with a social media challenge that had the SJCC partnering with BBYO, USY Kadimah, and A Ripple Effect. The teens were presented with eight challenges, one for each night, and the winners received a gift card.

The Vered Israel Cultural & Educational Program held a virtual Tu B'Shvat seder with 25 people, a Purim costume contest that had over 90 participants and more than 300 logged on to be part of the Yom Hazikaron commemoration.

We celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut with a series of small programs such as lectures, tours of Israel, an Israeli music and dance series and more.

Adult Cultural & Educational Programs

Despite closures due to Covid-19, the SJCC's adult programming pivoted seamlessly to an online platform. Our Florence Melton School for Adult Jewish Learning was strong and well-attended providing high level Jewish education for serious learners. The adult education and cultural program department offered classes in a wide range of Jewish topics including 6-week courses in Israeli Literature, Hebrew and Yiddish, an 8-week course on Midrash and lectures on Jewish Music in Canada and Memory from a Jewish perspective. In addition, our general interest and secular programming included an exploration of the 2020 American election, issues in the news, memoir writing workshops, Ottawa history and Astronomy.

Greenberg Families Library

In partnership with the Atlanta Jewish Community Centre the Greenberg Families Library offered Book Festival in Your Living Room, a series of virtual book talks with bestselling authors.

During closures the library continued to offer curbside pick up for its patrons and lent 2,440 books, video etc. between August, 2020 and September 2021.

Vered Israel Cultural & Educational Program

The Vered Israel Cultural & Educational Program delivered many virtual programs including tours of museums and sights in Israel, lectures and more while partnering with a wide range of organizations and engaging community members. Through virtual programming they were able to attract an audience that might not have attended in-person programs.

A monthly Israeli Slang class hosted ten participants each time and the Israeli Film Festival, free and on-line, screened five films and had more than 800 link clicks.

Health, Wellness & Aquatics

The Health & Wellness department quickly adapted to a new way of delivering classes and offered a full complement of Virtual Group Fitness during the times we were shut down. Members joined in online keeping up their favorite classes from home, staying active, engaged and moving and a little social, while cooped up at home. And, as an added bonus, online classes provided an opportunity to get to know our members a little better by starting the class with introduction of household pets, grandchildren and, one member invited her sister in England to join so they could workout together.

When our doors were open Vitality Plus, Mindful Meditation, Aquawaves and Spinfit continued to be our most popular programs with the highest attendance.

The Health & Wellness team kept up with regular members through email check-ins and phone calls.

The Aquatics Department ran in-person swim lessons when permitted and had approximately 80 participants. Advanced Aquatics classes were also offered to smaller groups.

Many members took advantage of the SJCC's online booking system and enjoyed having a lap lane to themselves. We had around 3000 online bookings and there was rarely an unused lap lane during this period.

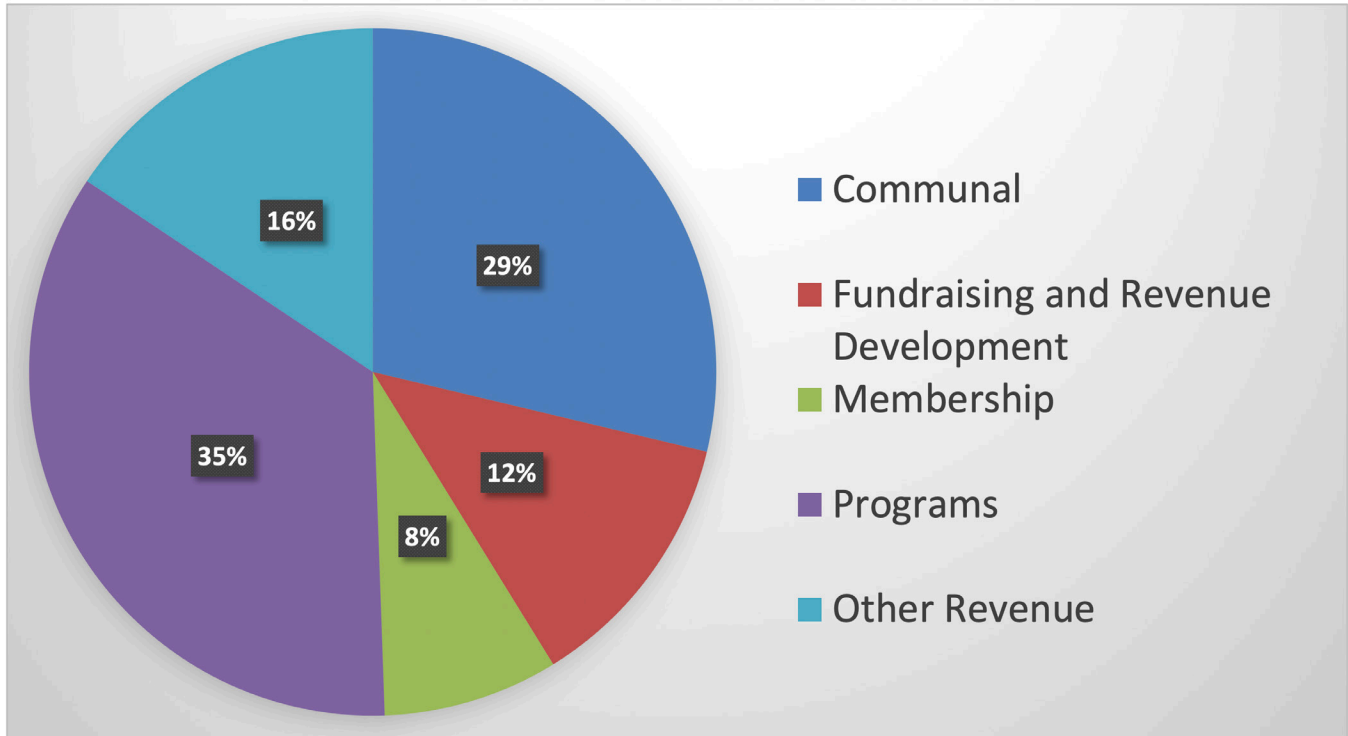
Membership

During shutdowns, many extended their membership expiry dates and kept paying while we were closed. In the times we were open we did attract new members and saw past members return throughout the pandemic. Our membership email communication list grew to more than 4000 people. With the constant changes in mandates and policies, community members were more interested in being in the loop of what was happening here plus, we made it easy for people to add themselves to the list by including a link on the home page of the website.

Financial Summary FY21

Total Revenue	\$3,736,959
Total Expenses	\$3,537,132
Add back: Amortization	\$415,761
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$615,588

Revenue FY21



Expenses FY21

