



JSOC NEWSLETTER MAY 2021

A Message from the JSOC Board of Directors:

Jai Jinendra!

We are so excited that The Jain Society of Calgary (JSOC) is back to hosting in person activities. Our hope is that our community will grow and flourish as we continue to meet and greet each other. Please share our group with anyone who you think would be interested in meeting other Jains in Calgary.

On February 20th, 2022, we held our JSOC AGM and elected a new Board of Directors for the 2022-2024 term. Our new committee has already rolled up its sleeves, planned, and executed events that have been highly successful. You can read about them all in this newsletter. We are passionate and ready to continue to serve the JSOC community.

This is our first newsletter in over a year, and we are full of gratitude for what our previous Board of Directors were able to accomplish, all with pandemic measures in place. We hope you enjoy reading this update and we look forward to seeing you in person again soon!

With gratitude for your ongoing support for our community,

JSOC Board of Directors 2022-2024:

President - Biren Shah

Vice President - Tarun Jain

Secretary - Nilesh Shah

Treasurer - Hitesh Jain

Director, Pathshala - Tripty Jain

Director, Youth Development - Vishranti Vakharia

Director, Events - Jasmine Shah

Director, Newsletter & Youth Support - Renu Chandarana

Director, Logistics, Operations & Charitable Trust - Subodh Peramanu

Director, Communications and Fundraising - Abhay Jain

Director, Website & Networking Group - Bhupendra Ranawat

Non Elected Posts:

Advisors: Mukesh Shah, Suhas Shah, Sachin Vakharia

“Community is much more than belonging to something; it’s about doing something together that makes belonging matter” ~ Brian Solis

Brainstorming Session:

A total of 20 participants comprising of the incoming and outgoing JSOC Board and other esteemed members and advisors of our community came together to hold a brainstorming session. The session was facilitated by John Breeze and aimed to define short term and long-term goals for JSOC, to engage youth and find out areas of concerns, issues, and opportunities for our Jain Community here in Calgary.

The outcomes concluded that we need to address four major areas in the short term: youth development, social events, religious elements, and connections to our community. Every event we plan will have these four pillars in mind.



Facilitator Info:

John Breeze - John is a trained Life Coach with the Coach Training Institute (CTI), He provides business coaching, developmental workshops and custom training courses to companies and individuals. John also designs, edits, and helps authors self-publish books. Over the past 21 years he has completed some 75 book projects and is working on 3 more at this time.

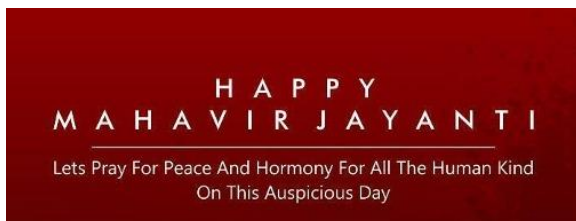
Lord Mahavir Janma Kalyanak Pooja:

On April 10th, 2022, our JSOC community was very excited to meet in person to celebrate Mahavir Jayanti. A full Snatra Pooja began at 9:30am and was followed by a delicious catered Jain luncheon.

The youth group helped to decorate the hall and engage the young children in activities.

To mark the completion of the previous 2021 Pathshala classes, medals were awarded to 7 students in Level 2 and 8 students in Level 1. 10 students in the under 6 class received their participant ribbons.

Our heartfelt thank you to the in-kind financial contributions provided by **Rajen and Shefali Shah & family**, **Minesh and Daksha Modi & family** and **Bhupendra and Hema Ranavat & family**.



JSOC Women's Group

Many members of the JSOC Women's Group took part in the Sport Chek Mother's Day virtual walk/run held the weekend of May 6-8th, 2022, completing anywhere from 5km to 10km. Their team's name, "Fast and Not Furious" was a nod to their quick feet and ahimsic qualities.

On June 20th, 2022—Father's Day—the women rose to the challenge once again bringing along their families to complete another 5km-10km walk/bike/run event.

Thank you to the people who took amazing pictures and uploaded to the WhatsApp group for this event.

Stay tuned for more activities to come from the JSOC Women's Group.



JSOC Annual Summer Family Picnic:

Wow, what a super fun summer picnic we had! Situated on the perfect picnic spot in the city, the Annual JSOC Summer Family Picnic was held on July 17th, 2022.

Over 125 JSOC members descended upon Bowness Park first thing in the morning. We enjoyed a covered picnic site with lots of tables, electrical hook up for garam chai and coffee, as well as a full stereo system for music and a microphone. Not to mention the river, the pathways, the playground, the greenspace to play games and access to facilities.

The event began with the Pathshala students singing both the Indian and Canadian national anthem. Then breakfast was served followed by games such as tug of war, volleyball, and “Kho” for all ages. Lunch was served in the afternoon and prizes for the games were distributed to all winners. The picnic ended with a full garba and karaoke in the park. It was a beautiful day, for a beautiful event, with lots of beautiful people! Until next year!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who made this amazing event possible!



JSOC Pathshala Update:

Beginning on September 25, 2022, kids Pathshala will resume in a virtual format and will continue to follow the JAINA curriculum.

The session runs from September 2022 to June 2023. There are 7 new enrollments for this year, please know you can join at any time.

Levels for Pathshala include: Kids under 6 years of age, Level 1 and Level 2.

In December 2021 Hitanshi Vakharia and Sohal Shah joined the Pathshala teaching team.

Also in December, for a fun holiday event, mother and daughter duo Shilpa Salgia and Misha Kapadia worked together (with the help of Jasmine Shah and other volunteers) to create and deliver goody bags for all levels of Pathshala students. During a virtual class, kids under 6 participated in making a craft together from items in the bag. A great experience for everyone in sharing and caring for the holiday season.

In April 2022, as mentioned in the above Mahavir Janma Kalyanak update, all Pathshala students received their medals and ribbons for completing the 2021 semester. Well done students!

On Sunday, September 11th 2022, Level 2 students participated in a Jain Quiz for the first time ever. The event was coordinated by Level 2 graduate Misha Kapadia. Anavi Jain created the quiz. A total of 8 kids participated.

Quiz winners were **Devharsh Shah & Dhruvil Mehta**. Congratulations!



JSOC PATHSHALA IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!

If you are interested in teaching or enrolling your child, please contact our current Director of Pathshala, Tripty Jain at: pathshala.jsoc@gmail.com



YOUNG JAINS OF AMERICA

Young Jains of America:

If you know anyone between the ages of 14 and 29, tell them about YJA. They can visit <https://www.yja.org>

YJA offers so much knowledge to any youth practicing the Jain faith in a North American setting.

Anyone can follow YJA on social media:

Instagram: @youngjainsofamerica

Facebook: Young Jains of America (YJA) or Young Jains of America (YJA)-West Region

Swami Vatsalya and JSOC's Got Talent

On Sunday, September 11th, 2022, the JSOC community held an event that combined a Swami Vatsalya and a Talent Show. We had incredible attendance and participation. The JSOC Board received wonderful feedback from attendees of this event. It was a team effort to bring everyone together for this event, cater the lunch, and engage the youth. A very heartfelt and special thank you to all the volunteers, participants, and members who attended this event and made it such a wonderful success. The pictures speak for themselves. We look forward to our future celebrations and social events that bring together all ages of our community!

Thank you to everyone who took pictures and posted to our Calgary Jains Facebook Group.





Upcoming Events:

We look forward to seeing everyone again for the following upcoming events:

- Diwali Puja - Lord Mahavir Puja, Nirvana Day Celebration, Date TBA
- JSOC Online Pathshala for kids and youth continues online until June 2023

Did you Know?

- Pooja material has been uploaded to the JSOC Website under News & Publications > E-Library > e-Books
<https://jainsocietyofcalgary.com/media-and-publications/use-full-Links>
- JSOC has a Facebook group! Please search Calgary Jains - Jain Society of Calgary - JSOC and an admin will let you in.
- JSOC has a few WhatsApp groups you can join: Jain Society of Calgary, Calgary Jains Networking Group, and a JSOC Women's Group. Please email calgaryjains@gmail.com to request that your phone number be added to the groups. Please note, each group has rules to participating and only those who identify as female may join the JSOC Women's Group on WhatsApp.

Send Us Your Announcements:

JSOC is here to support you and all your accomplishments!

Submit announcements by emailing:
calgaryjains@gmail.com

If there is anyone you know who is not receiving JSOC communication please tell them to email us at calgaryjains@gmail.com with a written request for their email address added to our newsletter and email updates.

Thank you for your continued support!

JSOC MEMBERS

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS