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ROSH HASHANAH
 to the Jewish Community
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TRAVEL TALES

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By **MIKE COHEN**

VANCOUVER - The Greater Vancouver area (<https://vancouver.ca>) is home to Canada's third largest Jewish community, with more than 25,000 members. There are seven mainstream Jewish congregations in Metro Vancouver, one non-denominational congregation in White Rock, five Chabad houses and two Kollels. The Reform synagogues have the most members, closely followed by the Conservative and then Orthodox congregations.

It is estimated that approximately one third of the identified Jewish community on the Lower Mainland are synagogue members.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver conducts the community's central fundraising initiative, the Federation Annual Campaign, which supports 40 partner agencies locally, nationally and in Israel. The Jewish education system includes five pre-schools, five day schools
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 you and your family health and prosperity.

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vited to contact Dena Bensalmon at dena@ezer mizion.ca or at (647)799-1574 ext.231. For updates about the organization and event

information follow Ezer Mizion on Social Media: Facebook @EzerMizionCanada, Instagram - @ezer-mizion_canada

TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 9)

and nine supplementary schools. Youth and student organizations include the Vancouver Hillel Foundation (<http://www.vancouverhillel.ca>), which serves Jewish students - and protects their interests - attending the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria, as well as other colleges in Metro Vancouver. There are several additional Jewish youth organizations active in Metro Vancouver.

WHERE TO STAY:
For this trip we based ourselves at the Landis Hotel & Suites (<https://www.landissuitesvancouver.com>) located downtown at 1200 Hornby Street. This is part of Mayfair Properties, which also owns the neighbouring Courtyard Marriott. The hotel offers deluxe, executive and penthouse suites. They are in the midst of renovations, replacing carpeting with new hardwood floors and out-

(Please turn to following page)

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(Continued from preceding page)

fitting the rooms with new furniture. Our executive suite featured a master bedroom with a luxurious king bed and a second bedroom with a comfortable Queen bed. Both had cozy duvets and triple sheeting, black-out drapes, closet space with mirrored glass doors and a radio alarm clock. The kitchen offers ample cooking and storage space, and includes a full-size fridge with a freezer, a stove, an oven, a dishwasher, microwave, toaster and coffee maker. You can enjoy your meals or snacks in the dining area located on an enclosed balcony with city views. As well, you can sleep extra guests on the pull-out

sofa sleeper in the nice-sized living room, which also features a 37 inch flat screen HDTV. Guests can relax after a busy day in the deep soaker tub in the full bathroom, which also features a shower and double sinks with a granite countertop. This is one of few hotels in Vancouver to feature all-suite accommodations and an indoor pool to play around in.

WHAT TO DO:
The Sea to Sky Gondola (<https://www.seatoskygondola.com>) is located on Highway 99 just south of Squamish, a scenic 45 minute drive (depending upon traffic issues) from downtown Vancouver. A 10 minute gondola ride will take

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you up to a truly magical place with some of the most spectacular views you will ever see and activities for all interests and ages. We really enjoyed the experience, especially the memorable photographs we took where the backdrop was spectacular. As you rise from the water's edge on the valley floor, the view opens up before you: the bright blue water of Howe Sound, dotted with green islands and backed by

the steep mountains of the Coast Range; the majestic Stawamus Chief; and a bird's eye view of the town of Squamish with the rugged, snow-capped mountains to the north. The Sky Pilot Suspension Bridge is approximately 100 metres long and has a backdrop that falls away thousands of feet below, giving you a greater feeling of exposure and height over land. The Sky Pilot Suspension Bridge offers amazing 360 degree views of the area, both up to the high alpine of the mountains above and down to the fjord below.

PLAYLAND: If you like amusement parks, Vancouver's Pacific National Exhibition (www.pne.ca) on East Hastings Street is the place to go. The 15 acre Playland Amusement Park is a popular attraction. Open from late April through the end of September it has hosted millions of thrill seekers of all ages since it opened in 1910. Playland's marquee attraction, the beloved 1958 Wooden Roller Coaster, remains the most popular ride on the site and one of the most highly regarded wooden coasters in the world. The flume ranks as a favorite as well. Other popular rides include wave swinger, west coast wheel, breakdance, the scrambler, the corkscrew, rock climbing, the hellelevator, bumper cars, the pirate ship and music express. Tamer rides include the merry-go-round, cool cruisers, the super slide, raiders, helicopters, tea cups and honeybee express. There are the traditional carnival games, an arcade and plenty of

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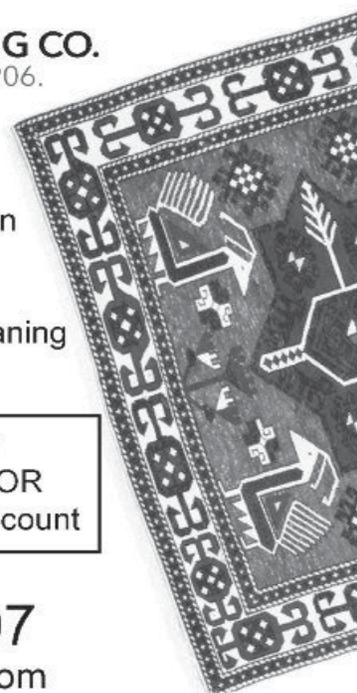
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