



Jewish Community
Council of Montreal

Conseil de la Communauté
Juive de Montréal

ועד העיר דמונטריאל

March 25 2020

COVID-19 ALERT

For your well-being and that of your family, friends and neighbours, we are insisting on social distancing. Lives are at stake.

This means:

- Stay at home, only going out for groceries, medications and other necessities.
- The elderly, cancer patients and people living with chronic illnesses have no choice - they must self-quarantine.
- If you have traveled outside the country or been in contact with someone who has, you must self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Keep a distance of at least two metres from each other. Restrict meetings to **two** people only.
- Do not be in close contact with sick people. Do not visit people in hospitals or long-term care centres if you are sick.
- **Private *Minyanim* are totally forbidden.**

Let us be clear, social distancing is NO longer optional. It is now obligatory both according to law and the Torah.

If you go to the emergency room, or hospital, you must be totally upfront and give full disclosure about being in contact with someone who has travelled and/or has tested positive for COVID-19. This is the only way we can protect our doctors, nurses and technicians and stop the spread of the disease.

Failure to do so is in clear violation of the commandment in Leviticus, Chapter 19, verse 17: “*Lo ta'amod al dam re'echa* - Thou shall not stand idly by the shedding of the blood of thy fellow man.

Rabbi Benjamin Weiss
Chief Rabbi of Montreal

Rabbi Saul Emanuel
Executive Director