



Our thoughts and prayers are with Israel and Israelis at this time.

In consultation with the UJA Security Division, Toronto Police, and Andrew Kirsch, HBT Security Committee Chair, we have taken added security measures. Some of our existing security procedures and additional measures are visible and some not outwardly visible, by design. Your safety is our top priority.

Please note the single access point at the Ava Rd doors will now be locked.

Please leave extra time to enter the building through the Ava Road doors, as you will be greeted and screened by security guards and bags may be checked. If you can leave your bag at home, we encourage you to do so.

Earlier today, arranged through Andrew Kirsch, Holy Blossom Temple hosted a meeting with our 13 Division Police Superintendent, Staff Sergeant, and Division Inspector, along with representatives from nearby synagogues and day schools.

Holy Blossom and all organizations were asked to share our service and school times along with event schedules with the Toronto Police, which we have done. There will be increased visibility and patrols by on-duty officers in our area rotating through the organizations. There are mobile command units in the area for issues related to Antisemitism and Hate Crimes within the Jewish community during this time.

We will re-evaluate and reassess day by day. Along with UJA, we continue to be in regular contact with our local police at 13 Division, as well as with the Toronto Jewish Community Liaison Police Officer. They have been extremely responsive and have been a regular visible presence in the neighbourhood and in Holy Blossom parking lots, with increased presence that we have felt starting this afternoon.

Please read the three timely statements giving instruction and direction to the community below. The latest UJA update from this afternoon (Update 2) includes:

Police currently advise regular activities continue—with vigilance—in the Jewish community, and do not advise the closure of Jewish institutions or facilities at this time.

[Statement from the Toronto Police Chief](#)

[UJA Security Update 1](#)

[UJA Security Update 2](#)

Tomorrow's early edition of "Life@HBT" will include updates on available supports, resources, and opportunities to come together as a community. If you have not been receiving the communications from life@holyblossom.org, please search your junk mail or "promotions" folder. If that search does not uncover any communications, we encourage you to subscribe or re-subscribe here: holyblossom.org/subscriptions/.

We understand that these are challenging times and want to reassure you that Holy Blossom Temple, including our clergy and professional team, are here to support you and your families.

Am Yisrael Chai,

Rachel Malach
Executive Director

Rabbi Yael Splansky
Senior Rabbi

Phyllis Denaburg
President