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**Dear Friend,**

Earlier today, the Government of Ontario announced a forthcoming change to provincial regulations with regard to unmonitored social gatherings or organized public events. You can click [here](#) to read the details.

In short:

- New regulations will apply to Toronto, Peel and Ottawa regions and will come into effect September 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:01am.
- Outdoor gatherings will be limited to 25 people and indoor gatherings will be limited to 10 people.
- Indoor and outdoor events and gatherings cannot be merged together. These are not accumulative and gatherings of 35 (25 outdoors and 10 indoors) are not permitted.
- The new limits will not apply to events or gatherings held in staffed businesses and facilities.
- Fines for violations will increase to \$10,000 for organizers and \$750 for participants.

**[These changes](#) apply only to social gatherings. There is no change to the regulations governing religious rites, services or ceremonies.**

*Indoor religious service, rite or ceremony:*

- The number of persons occupying any room in the building or structure while attending the gathering must not exceed 30 per cent of the capacity of the particular room.
- All persons attending the gathering must comply with public health guidance on physical distancing.

*Outdoor religious service, rite or ceremony:*

- No more than 100 people may be in attendance.
- All persons attending the gathering must comply with public health guidance on physical distancing.

**Any social gathering associated with a religious service, rite or ceremony will be subject to the new rules.**

It is important that all holiday gatherings are conducted in compliance with government regulations. We know that you have been working diligently to ensure that activities during the High Holidays are organized in a manner to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. To assist those efforts, I would like to draw your attention to the specific [High Holiday Guidelines](#) provided by the doctors at Kol HaCovid this week.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to keeping our community safe and healthy as we enter the New Year.

Shana tova and כתיבה וחתימה טובה,

Noah Shack  
Vice President  
The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs