



KJC Presidents Chanukkah Message

The Grow Kingston Committee has been hard at work analyzing the information we collected from the survey and we are pleased to make available to the community a snap shot of the demographics of who responded to the survey. You can see the demographic results if you:

1. **follow this link** or
2. manually key http://bit.ly/KJC_2017_Survey_Demographics_171127

If the link does not direct you to the results please copy it into your browser. This presentation will also be posted on the KJC website www.jewishkingston.org We will be presenting the full results of the survey to the KJC, Beth Israel & Iyr HaMelech boards in January 2018 and will then plan a community event in February or March to share and discuss the results with the community.

As we look forward to celebrating Hanukkah this year and wait to hear what our community wants for the future lets reflect on the words of Rabbi Norman Lam in his book "The Megilah: Majesty & Mystery" Perhaps the most significant aspect of the most important feature of Hanukkah — the Hanukkah candles — is the increase in the number of candles from day to day. The lighting of the candles is progressive; that is, we proceed from least to most. What we have is growth and increase and progress. It was the House of Hillel which gave this order its legal form when it said that *mosif ve-holekh*, the number of candles is to be increased each night, because *ma'alin be-kodesh*, because one must rise, increase, or progress in holiness.

In a sense, this idea of increase, of addition, of the progressive candles, is a very deep and incisive commentary on Jewish life and what it should be. The Hanukkah candles represent more than merely the military victory of the Jewish Maccabees over the Greek Antiochus. They symbolize the clash of cultures as well, the war of world-views. There was the Greek world, steeped in its oriental idolatry, pitted against a Jewish minority stubbornly proud of its pure belief in one God.

The light of the progressive candles is, therefore, for us, an enlightening commentary on what Jewish life should be. They inspire us to better behavior,

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... challenge us to greater deeds, and urge us on to new and broader horizons, with that ever-valid commandment, "Rise in holiness."

Let's keep these words in mind as we look to the future of the Kingston Jewish Community and lets all rise up to the challenge we and other communities are facing and lets cherish our past accomplishments but also be progressive in rising up and accepting that in order to grow and flourish we must embrace change instead of just sitting back and accepting the status quo.

Accepting change is very difficult to do but once it is accepted and the benefits are worth it.

So as we enjoy the festival of Hanukkah with family and friends and see the beautiful Hanukkah Candles progress from one to eight lets also see how our community can progress for the next 100 years and become the centre of Jewish activity between Toronto, Montreal & Ottawa.

Chag Hanukkah Sameach



11th Annual
Hanukkah Celebration!

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

5:30pm

Springer Market Square Amphitheatre



Sing-Along with KJC Choir
Candle Lighting

Potato Latkes Hot Chocolate
(by donation)

EVERYONE WELCOME!