

**TEMPORARILY  
CLOSED  
DUE TO CORONAVIRUS**



Volume 7, Issue 10  
April 05, 2021  
Nisan 23, 5781

New Locked-down Issue

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### Did you know?

**Jews Created Easter Eggs** Surprisingly, according to some chocolate mavens, it may have been **Jews** in southwest France in the 17th century, known as expert chocolate makers in Bayonne, who first developed chocolate **Easter eggs**. These, they say, were passed around during Mass to provide morsels of sustenance.



## REMAINING SHABBAT WEEKEND

Led by Religious Educator,  
Sue Potechin

1. May 14-15, 2021

Congregation Iyr Ha-Melech  
206 Concession Street  
Kingston, Ontario  
K7K-2B5 Canada

# Congregation Iyr Ha-Melech



## SERVICE WEEKEND

Led by Rabbi  
William S. Tepper  
**Study Session**



Friday April 16 at 7:30pm  
Topic: TBA

## Shabbat Day Service

Saturday April 17 at 10:00am

To Join the above Zoom Meetings

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8614748169?pwd=REsvZ0lxZC9YVEwvR3UzVFo4elZWQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 474 8169

Passcode: IHM5781

Dial by your location.

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcLLmskOXy>

## Closed Captioning

Our groups and services are now more accessible! I have tapped into ZOOM's built in closed captioning feature. There is no need to register or log into the service. I will ensure it is activated at our next meeting. If you require any help with ZOOM please contact Richard at [lyrhamelech@gmail.com](mailto:lyrhamelech@gmail.com).

## From The President

*Ontario Emergency-Brake  
Lockdown April 2021*

Ontario returns to lockdown less than one week after modifying the rules to allow for patio dining in hot spot regions like Toronto and Ottawa and indoor dining in Kingston.

I don't think it's wrong to say, I don't like it. That doesn't mean I disagree with it, or I won't abide it. But I am looking for ways to cope. Analyzing the terms. Looking for loopholes. I am anxious for social interaction and freedom of movement. I believe we all are. Some of us are afraid to admit it. Afraid we will be shamed. Labeled for not understanding or not caring. Afraid we will be branded as some kind of crackpot virus denier, an anti-masker or anti-vaxxer. I've heard from and read the rhetoric of those people. That's not me. I am just expressing my frustration. You won't catch me engaging in irrational mask or lockdown protests. Of course we are facing a real pandemic. People are sick and dying. More sickness and death is preventable.

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## WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

...and Book Club

### Next Event

Date: Monday, April 12, 2021

Title: A Fortunate Life

Author: Ruth Dukas

Hosted By: Ruth Dukas

**\*\*\* NOTE NEW TIME**

Join Zoom Meeting at 3:30pm

Date: Monday, May 10, 2021

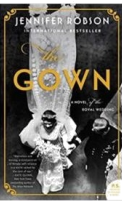
Title: The Gown: A Novel Of The Royal Wedding

Author: Jennifer Robson

ISBN-10: ISBN-10: 0062674951

ISBN-13: ISBN-13: 978-0062674951

Hosted By: Elaine



Date: Monday, June 14, 2021

Event: 2021 – 2022 Book Selection

Hosted By: Farzy Cohanim

## MEN'S GROUP

Thursday April 29, 7:00pm

We'll use ZOOM, as physical distancing is not likely to lift by then. We always have lively discussions. Please join us!

**Join Women's or Men's Zoom Meeting  
With our Personal ID and Link**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8614748169?pwd=REsvZ0lxZC9YVEwvR3UzVFo4elZWQT09>

Meeting ID: 861 474 8169

Passcode: IHM5781

Dial by your location.

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcLLmskOXy>

# Congregation Iyr HaMelech

Monday, April 05, 2021 Newsletter

President's Message continued from page 1

To prevent it from becoming an all-out plague we need to follow the regulations, ordinances, rules and advice we have been handed. It's a bitter pill to swallow but it's the best we've got.

For our part we just spent an entire year, unable to tend to our needy members or meet our new Rabbi and Educator face to face. Unable to unroll our Torah scrolls to the applicable portion for our services. Unable to break bread or bless wine with our friends. Unable to hold a Passover Seder. It's enough to make a person crack. But we don't. Because we know better.

How I wish that were true of everyone in our community. Unfortunately, there are glaring examples before us. As much as we would like to, some of them cannot be ignored.

I am thinking particularly about Randy Hillier, MPP - Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston. Recently, Mr. Hillier, an elected official, whose strong anti-lockdown, anti-mask, and pro-gathering opinions and agenda are already well known and publicized under the hashtags **#WeAreLivingALie** and **#nomorelockdowns**, invoked the unthinkable. He likened the Ontario government's latest lockdown to the holocaust. He used social media to post a picture of Adolf Hitler looking over Nazi followers with the caption, "**THE THIRD WAVE.**".

This made National news. Locally, The Kingston Whig Standard newspaper reporter Meghan Balogh reached out to members of the Kingston Jewish Community for comment. Fortunately, for her, she was able to reach the Chair of the Kingston Jewish Council for some very eloquent comment on the matter. The Whig article, published on Saturday, can be found by clicking this link

[Jewish council president says MPP Hillier's Nazi comparison 'abhorrent' | The Kingston Whig Standard \(thewhig.com\)](#)

She also asked me for comment. To be honest, words failed me. Hillier is as in genuine and coarse as they come. His commentary is more suited to suppression. I'd expect to find it in the flame-war-laden comment gallery of an obscure social media page, more than in an official Tweet or a widely-circulated media publication.

The ugly principle of Godwin's law applies. A lazy tactless doctrine of behavior. Any argument, especially online, if it becomes heated enough will probably invoke a comparison of one side or another to Hitler

and the Nazis. Hillier cannot be made to understand how hurtful his decision to resort to this lower-rung path of least resistance is. He does it so thoughtlessly. Not like a deliberate hatemonger who seeks to hurt a target. Just the same, it's a slap in the face from a lazy, thoughtless bag of wind.

KJC found the words that failed me. "Abhorrent", for example. Naturally appalled, as I am sure we all were, at his invoking the genocide of six million Jews and millions more people in response to Ontario's life-preserving and health-protection measures. We agreed that this was an obvious sign of Hillier's insensitivity and ignorance. A slap in the face to the victims and currently living survivors. That he is in need of education and enlightenment whether he knows it or not. And if he is educated, he should be ashamed. This lockdown does not compare, in any way to the history and events of the Holocaust.

I'd also said it would be nice if we all had the prerogative to not have to take Hillier seriously. But we have no choice. His voice is heard from the platform of public office. It carries weight. It influences the thinking of our fellow people, for good or bad. We have no choice but to acknowledge that it has been said so we can publically respond in a meaningful way. This unfortunately gives rise to repeating his ridiculous claims. What a shame.

He does not represent the values or needs of the community he was elected to serve. We should all now see him for what he is. We can and should look right through him. There is nothing there. I would be very happy to see him go away now.

Again, we should remind ourselves. None of us like what is happening to us. But we are resigned to understand and do the right thing. To make the best of it -- sacrifices and all, and take measures to ensure we preserve life, protect health, and support the common good. We can be smart, aware and true to ourselves at the same time. There is no sense in fighting it and certainly no need to resort to polemic.

I look forward to the end of this and to seeing all of you in good health in good time.

--Richard--