



BETH SHALOM

בית שלום

*A strong, vibrant community with a spiritual heart embracing Jewish life and its diversity*

December 20, 2019

Dear Congregants,

Before people scatter for the summer holidays, I wanted to take a minute to give you an update on the proposed move to the Remuera campus of the JCC.

Paul Wilton and I spent a Sunday a few weeks back meeting with members of our community who don't usually lend their voices to shul decisions. They are the youth of our temple and are our future. Knowing what they would like to gain in a potential move as well as what may be of concern to them was very important to us. Additionally, we have continued to get feedback from many of you on both sides of the issue. Paul and I continue to encourage you to contact us with any questions, concerns, insights or thoughts you may want to share.

Paul and I have also been meeting with members of the AHC board as well as with members of their Trust Board. We continue to be impressed by their genuine desire to make this move a positive one for all of us. In that light, Paul and I have sent a letter to the AHC discussing what we see as our two key factors in this move. First, the desirability of the move, taking into consideration our current position and our aspiration for the future and second, the feasibility of the move, which considers the financial aspects of the move both before and after.

We have requested clarification of their offer and stressed that we are currently financially secure and answerable to no one in respect of our religious practices and the running of our affairs. Moving forward, we need to ensure that we do not lose either our financial or religious autonomy.

We hope that the answers we receive will form the basis of our discussions going forward.

We have been advised that there are some rumours circulating about our progress that have no substance in fact. There are no secrets here and we would rather you ask us than speculate as to what is happening.

No decision or recommendation has been made on the move yet and I would like to reiterate that no such decision will or can be made without first obtaining the approval of the congregation and our Trustees. I will be at temple this weekend and next and welcome you to have a chat and ask what is on your mind. I will answer as best as I can, with honesty and sincerity.

Wishing you all a Happy Hannukah and a safe and wonderful summer.

B'shalom,

Debbie