

Dear Friends of Jewish Renewal,

The economic situation has begun taking its toll on ALEPH and Jewish Renewal. As our executive director Deb Kolodny has written in emails to all of ALEPH's members, registrations for the upcoming Kallah are below the break even point. This means that ALEPH will not have the revenue from the Kallah on which it relies to get through the following two years. And, because other giving is also down, we need about \$150,000 in new donations just to keep going.

There is also good news. In the four days following the initial emails, people have responded by pledging over \$30,000!

**This situation brings with it a special opportunity for Canadians.**

**A significant part of ALEPH now resides and works in and from Canada.** Three members of the international board and the Director of Spiritual Resources are Canadian. It is from Canada that ALEPH's two new educational programs are manifested, the High Holyday Machzor is being created, aspects of the ordination programs are co-ordinated, and a retreat takes place on Hornby Island. It is from Canada that all of our rabbinic students receive their final course work and personal assignments.

***As of now, ALEPH donors in the US pay most of the costs associated with these programs. I am asking you to commit to increasing our share of these expenses and the benefits we derive from them.***

If you have been thinking of going to Kallah, please go to the ALEPH website (<https://www.aleph.org/kallah.htm>) and download the brochure for this wonderful program. The Kallah's smaller size may even be an inducement to go this year.

***If you can make a one-time contribution to help ALEPH*** meet its costs, the easiest way is to go to the website of Canada Helps (<http://www.canadahelps.org>) where you can give by credit card. Canada Helps will then issue your tax receipt for us. Or, you can send a cheque made out to ALEPH Canada and mail it to: Grassy Point 1-2, Hornby Island, BC V0R 1Z0.

***Please consider becoming a chai/month donor.*** By credit card, you can authorize a monthly contribution of \$18 (or more or less), again through our friends at Canada Helps (<http://www.canadahelps.org>), who will issue your tax receipt. Right now, we have only eight people in Canada giving this way. Imagine if we had 50 or more who were helping ALEPH to have a regular and predictable income!

Please help us to meet and overcome this challenge. ALEPH has always relied on the hundreds of hours its professional staff donate over and above their paid hours, on conservative spending and constant efforts to reduce expenses. However, ***because we have operated on such limited funding for so long, there is little left to cut other than core services and there is no way we want that to happen.***

Once again, we need your support in order to continue to provide and expand our programming in these difficult times. Please give what you can.

Many blessings to you and thanks in advance

The Board of ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal Canada

Jan Fishman, Sherril Gilbert, Marcia Gilbert, Shalom Schachter, Susan Shamash, Louis Sutker  
Rabbi Daniel Siegel, Rabbinic Director

PS: You can find Deb Kolodny's mailings on the ALEPH Canada website (<http://www.alephcanada.ca/>) where we will continue to post updates as we receive them. And remember that all donations to ALEPH Canada are tax deductible.