



Yeshivah Centre  
תחת נשיאות כ"ק אדמו"ר מליובאוויטש

18 Tammuz, 5775  
July 5, 2015

Dear Parents, Yeshivah Community members, Yeshivah Centre Staff, Friends and Supporters,

Further to our recent correspondence of June 16 2015, we are pleased to advise that we have approached a group of highly credentialed and eminent individuals to review the current rules of the Yeshivah Centre Associations, as well as the corporate governance practices and legal structures of the Centre. The Review Panel will then report on the outcome of their review and recommend changes that should be made to ensure that the Yeshivah Centre is appropriately structured and effectively managed. It is anticipated that the Review Panel's task will be completed within four months.

**The only instruction that has been given to the Review Panel is to ensure that any new structure will maintain the Chabad ethos and adherence to our Rebbeim's teachings.**

The Review Panel is comprised of the following members each of whom has agreed to assist in an honorary capacity.

- Mrs Leah Balter
- Mr Ray Finkelstein QC
- Dr Hugo Gold
- Mr Yosi Loebenstein
- Mr Marcus Solomon QC

Rabbi Mordechai Gutnick has agreed to act as a Rabbinic advisor to this committee.

The Governance Review Panel will be calling in due course for community input from all stakeholders.

At the conclusion of their review process, the Panel will make their independent recommendations to the Members and Interim COM (see further).

It is anticipated that the Members will adopt the recommendations of the Review Panel before the end of 2015. This will enable a new Committee of Management to be appointed with effect from the beginning of 2016.

Yeshivah Centre *Serving the Community*  
Under the Auspices of the Lubavitcher Rebbe

In the meantime, we are pleased to announce that a new Committee of Management has been appointed to govern the affairs of Yeshivah Centre until the end of 2015.

This interim Committee is comprised of a broad group of people with particular skill sets who we believe are well qualified to manage Yeshivah Centre's immediate affairs.

They are:

- Mrs Leah Balter
- Mr Yechiel Belfer
- Mr Yossi Franck
- Mr Joel Gerschman
- Mr Craig Goldberg
- Mr Shmuley Goldberg
- Mr Raphael Goodman
- Mr Meir Moss

#### **Educational advisors**

- Rabbi Faivish Pink
- Mrs Genia Janover

We thank our stakeholders and supporters for your understanding during a difficult, but exciting, transition period.

We also take this opportunity to thank all previous honorary Committee members who have given so much time to our Moisdois and wish the new Committees lots of hatzlocho as well as express our deep appreciation to them for agreeing to assist Yeshivah Centre in these important initiatives.

With Best Wishes,

Mr. Mendel New

Mr. Samuel Gurewicz

Rabbi Sholom Mendel Kluwgant

Mr. Hersh Cooper

Mr. Don Wolf

Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Groner

Rabbi Shimshon Jurkowicz

Mrs. Nechama Bendet

#### **Members of the Yeshivah Centre Associations**

## **Appendix 1 - Governance Review Panel**

### **Mrs Leah Balter**

Leah studied Engineering immediately followed by an MBA before transitioning to a career in management consulting. Leah was an Associate Principal at McKinsey & Company where she worked in various countries and industries for 9 years. Leah then joined ANZ where she held senior executive banking positions including Head of Strategy and Chief of Staff to the Australian CEO. Leah is currently Executive Director Trawalla Group and Member of Trawalla Advisory Board. In her spare time Leah is Co- Vice President of Jewish Care Victoria and on the YBR Parents association committee. Leah is married to Sooly (a Yeshivah alum) and is mother to 4 children, two boys in Yeshivah a daughter in Beth Rivkah and her youngest son is in Creche.

Mrs Leah Balter will act as liaison between the Panel and the Interim Committee of Management, providing regular updates to the Committee on the Governance Review.

### **Mr Ray Finkelstein QC**

Ray Finkelstein graduated in law in 1970 and was admitted to practice in 1971. He was called to the Bar in 1975, specialising in equity, commercial and corporate law. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1986. Thereafter he concentrated on appellate work often acting for State and Federal Governments and their instrumentalities. He was acting Solicitor General for the State of Victoria during 1992. He was appointed a judge of the Federal Court in 1997 and held additional appointments as Deputy President of the Australian Competition Tribunal and the Copyright Tribunal of Australia. In December 2008 he was appointed President of the Australian Competition Tribunal. He retired as a judge of the Federal Court and President of the Competition Tribunal on 30 June 2011 and has returned to private practice at the Victorian Bar. In 2011 he was appointed Adjunct Professor in the Law Faculty at Monash University. During 2011/2012 at the appointment of the Commonwealth Government he was Chair of the Independent Inquiry into Aspects of the Media.

### **Dr Hugo Gold**

Dr Hugo Gold is a well-known paediatrician. He is a consultant and clinical A/Prof at the royal Children's hospital. He is a former director of the children's bioethics centre and chair of the clinical ethics committee, former chairman of medical staff and was a member of the board of the Children's Hospital foundation. A former parent of Yeshivah Beth Rivkah, Dr Gold served as the first committee chairman in the late 1970s.

### **Mr Yosi Loebenstein**

Mr Loebenstein is a graduate of Yeshivah College and the Rabbinical College of Australia and New Zealand. He received his Rabbinic ordination (*semicha*) from Central Lubavitcher Yeshivah in Brooklyn, New York. He was Chief Editor, Sichos in English, Brooklyn NY from 1979 to 1985. He has a Bachelor of Economics from Monash University and became Partner at Hall Chadwick Chartered Accountants and Green and Sternfeld Corporate Services, Chartered Accountants. Mr Loebenstein is currently Partner at Loebenstein Insolvency, Chartered Accountants. Mr Loebenstein is a founding and continuing Director of the Melbourne Beis Din and was involved in establishing their system of governance.

### **Mr Marcus Solomon QC**

Marcus Solomon is a Graduate of Yeshivah College, Melbourne. He attended Yeshivah Gedolah (Melbourne), Kfar Chabad (Israel) and Central Lubavitch Yeshivos (New York '770') culminating in Rabbinic ordination (*semicha*) in 1985. He was Director of Jewish Studies, Carmel School, Perth from 1988-1990. Marcus completed his LL.B (First Class Honours), at University of Western Australia in 1990 and was admitted to practice in 1991. He was Chairman and Managing Partner of Gadens Lawyers Perth and a Member of the National Board, Gadens Lawyers Australia from 2000- 2006. He was called to the Western Australian Bar (Francis Burt Chambers) in 2006 and appointed silk in 2013. Marcus has been a member of the Carmel School Board since 1993 (including 10 years as senior vice president, presently Governor of School Board). For the last 20 years he has also served as Senior Rabbi (Honorary) of the Beit Midrash of WA Inc. /Dianella Shule, Perth WA.

**The Review Panel will be consulting with the following Rabbinic Advisor:**

**Rabbi M. Gutnick**

Rabbi Gutnick is an Australian born graduate of the Yeshivah/Chabad educational system, Senior Dayan of the Melbourne Beth Din, President of the Rabbinical Council of Victoria and Past President of the Organisation of Rabbis of Australasia. He is the Rabbi of Elwood Shule, Rabbinic Administrator of Kosher Australia, Shliach and 40 year veteran of the Australian Rabbinate.

## **Appendix 2 – Interim Committee of Management**

### **Mrs Leah Balter**

See above.

### **Mr Yechiel Belfer**

Yechiel Belfer is a Yeshivah College alumni ('95) with 3 children in YBR Colleges and has been involved over the past decade in voluntary committee roles at the Yeshivah Centre. He is currently assisting three of the Shules within the Yeshivah Centre to develop suitable Child Protection Policies in conjunction with the RCV and receive accreditation under the ACF. Yechiel has been practising as a lawyer in the regulatory and financial services industry in Victoria and NSW over the past 10 years, and currently works in-house as a Senior Lawyer for ANZ Wealth. He attended various Yeshivas/Rabbinical Colleges both in Australia and abroad and holds a Bachelor of Business Systems and Law from Monash University.

### **Mr Yossi Franck**

Mr Yossi Franck is a Chartered Accountant and CTA member of the Tax Institute. He is the Managing Partner of Lowe Lippmann Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors, practising as a professional accountant and servicing medium sized private companies, large family groups and high net worth individuals. Yossi has previously served for over 7 years as a board member of the overseas operations of the United Mizrahi Bank and as Victorian and Federal Treasurer of Karen Hayesod for a collective 10 years. He is a founding member of North Caulfield Maccabi Soccer Club and actively participated as a competitive player for over 25 years. He is currently on the board of a number of private companies and on the board of Elbit Systems of Australia Pty Ltd a wholly owned subsidiary of a major publicly listed Israeli company in the defence industry. He is married with 3 children who were all educated at Yeshivah Beth Rivkah Colleges and currently has 7 grandchildren being educated at our schools.

**Mr Joel Gerschman**

Joel Gerschman is the father of 4 YBR students and is passionate about assisting The Yeshivah Centre to achieve its potential. He is a leading business coach, consultant and educator in the field of leadership and organisational development. He has a background in both law and psychology, and has fifteen years of experience helping thousands of organisational leaders to develop their capacity to drive positive change in their organisations. Joel is also an expert in the field of conflict resolution, having served as Head Lecturer of Negotiation and Dispute Resolution subjects within the Monash University Law Faculty, regularly conducting learning programs on these topics for many of Australia's leading commercial and government organisations, and mediating numerous commercial disputes. Joel also dedicates part of his time to helping communal organisations to develop and thrive.

**Mr Craig Goldberg**

Craig is a father of 4 YBR students and an avid believer in the school and what it stands for. He was a Partner at Deloitte for a number of years where he specialised in working with companies on their risk management, business continuity and disaster recovery plans. He has worked with some of Australia's largest companies and understands how to bridge the gap between all levels of an organisation and other key stakeholders. He has an MBA from Melbourne Business School, a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Information Systems.

**Mr Shmuley Goldberg**

Shmuley is the Director of Corporate Development at the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre. He has held senior finance and strategy roles in corporations both in Australia and overseas, where he led major organisational improvement and capital planning initiatives. Shmuley's areas of expertise include long-term strategic and financial management, business development, and project management. Shmuley holds an MBA in Business Management, and a Graduate Certificate in Informatics from Johns Hopkins University. He has long been involved in organisations dedicated to communal welfare, including several years as a member of the local Hatzalah chapter. Shmuley is a YBR parent and a member of the Young Yeshivah Shule; he is committed to the Yeshivah community and the welfare of its institutions.

**Mr Raphael Goodman**

Rafi is a graduate of Yeshivah College and has 3 children enrolled in YBR Colleges. Rafi is a Senior Engineer working with Broadband Internet technology at Telstra for 10 years. He has experience working on large projects with many diverse stakeholders, and possesses good IT and rigorous engineering know-how. Project management and operational delivery are his key talents. Rafi holds a Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Science, and also has Rabbinical Ordination. He is looking to make a tangible contribution to the Yeshivah Community Centre and is passionate about positive growth in the Centre's institutions.

**Mr Meir Moss**

Meir Moss founded AsheMorgan, a property Finance and Investment Group, in 1981. His strength and continuity of leadership is reflected in the company's focus on long-standing client relationships and ethical standards. Meir began his career as an accountant and moved into the property industry in 1980. Meir holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from the University of NSW and is President of the Board of Kesser Torah College, a private school in Sydney's eastern suburbs. He has been involved with Kesser Torah College and its community for over 25 years. As well as serving as President, he is on the Finance/Admin and Remuneration Committees. Meir dedicates much of his time to the wider Jewish community, he is a founder of BINA, sits on the Board of Shabbos Project as well as the JCA Presidents of Jewish Day Schools Working Committee. Meir is a grandparent at YBR.

## **Interim Committee of Management Educational Advisors**

### **Rabbi Faivish Pink**

Rabbi Pink was born and educated in Liverpool Gateshead Yeshiva and Kfar Chabad. He graduated with honours in Economics from University College London, and gained an Advanced Diploma in Education from the Institute of Education London University. Rabbi Pink was Headmaster at the Manchester Jewish Grammar School from 1976 - 2011. In 1985 he founded with Rabbi Lippa Rabbinowitz, the Torah Teachers Training Scheme, which expanded to run a range of government sponsored programs for teachers to gain qualified teacher status. Rabbi Pink is currently Director at Torah Teachers Training Scheme, Manchester, United Kingdom. He is a consultant and part time lecturer in the education department at Anglia Ruskin University. In 2000 he established a base in NW London to consult and train in a consortium of schools and provide educational training for avreichim of Edgware Kollel. In 2011 he jointly established Lilmod Llamed with Rabbi David Meyer. He has lectured and inspected schools in Australia, Belgium, Gibraltar, Holland, Israel South Africa and USA. He has served as a senior examiner for AQA in Advanced level Economics, Chief Examiner for RSA Economics and acts as a judge on the North Regional Panel for Teacher of the Year Awards.

### **Mrs Genia Janover**

Genia Janover, who served as principal of Bialik College for 20 years, and prior to that as Vice-Principal of Leibler-Yavneh College, has enjoyed a stellar career in Jewish education over more than four decades. After retiring from Bialik College towards the end of 2008, Genia was appointed to a number of Boards, at the same time serving as an educational consultant, and as an Ambassador of Independent Schools of Victoria. Genia has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, among them the Commonwealth award for Best National Achievement for a Principal and the Max Fisher Prize – an international accolade - for her contribution to Jewish education world-wide. She has been named by the Bulletin as one of Australia's top ten educators and listed among of the country's 100 most influential women. She is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators and also a Fellow of the Australian College of Educational Leaders.