



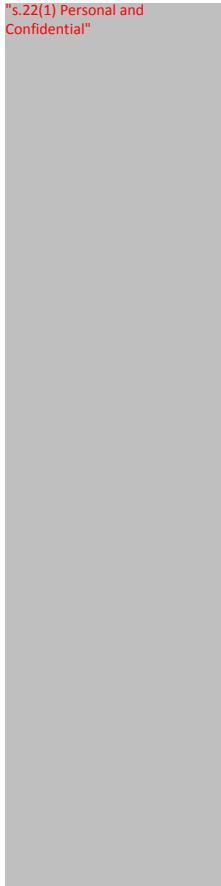
Congregation Schara Tzedek



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Dear City of Vancouver:

Thank you for considering the rezoning application of the Shalhevet School. This school is extremely important to the Orthodox Jewish Community of Vancouver as it affords an educational option to members of our community that would otherwise require them to send their children out of province for their education. Furthermore, the school represents a critical component of diversity in our neighbourhood, supporting women's education and adding to the constellation of Jewish institutions that is vital to this section of Vancouver. I must also add that the young women of this school are already contribute greatly to the neighbourhood in providing after school enrichment to younger children and in visiting some of the more isolated members of our community in that neighbourhood.

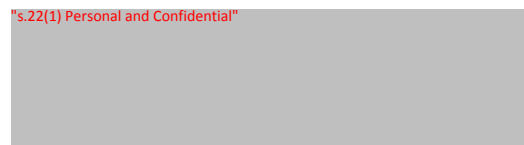
I strongly support the application the school is making that would fully qualify it to run its current operations.

If you should have any questions please feel free to call me

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Sincerely,

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Rabbi Andrew Rosenblatt



June 3, 2015

Mayor Gregor Robertson and City Council
City of Vancouver
453 W. 12th Avenue
Vancouver

Dear Mayor Roberston and Council Members:

The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver is an umbrella organization that represents 21 partner agencies in the Lower Mainland. The Greater Vancouver Jewish community has grown approximately 14% over the past ten years and the fastest growing segment of our population is children between the ages of 0 – 14 years. We are very committed to ensuring that all families in our community have access to educational opportunities consistent with their values and religious practices.

Shalhevet is one of the organizations that we fund. The school is an important educational, cultural and spiritual centre for teen age girls from Orthodox Jewish families. Many of the students' parents also work in our community as Rabbis and teachers. Without Shalhevet, some families would leave our community when their daughters become teens in order to enroll them in educational environments consistent with their beliefs.

Shalhevet offers more than just academic and religious studies. The students are required to engage in meaningful volunteer work throughout the community. The teens volunteer with seniors, distribute food at the food bank and tutor younger children. Their contributions are highly valued and would be missed if this resource was not available.

Shalhevet serves a small but important minority in our community. Their projected enrollment is not expected to exceed 25 students. The curriculum is highly structured and no events are held after school hours or on weekends. Most of the teens use public transit and there is no traffic congestion or parking issues.

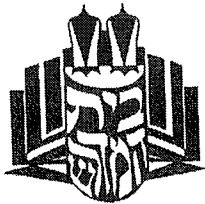
Given the unique circumstances, we ask that you retain their current zoning so that they can continue their important work in our community.

Sincerely

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Ezra S. Shanken
CEO, Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver

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June 9, 2015

Mayor and Council;

My name is Ilan Acoca and my family and I have been living in Vancouver for the last fifteen years.

When we first moved to Vancouver, we intended to stay for three to five years. The reason for that was that there was no Jewish education that was up to our standards and expectations.

The turning point came when Shalhevet School opened. We were pleased with the philosophy and education and decided to stay.

We were fortunate to have the school open while our children were young. We know of many families who moved due to the lack of Jewish Girls School.

The need of Shalhevet is crucial to the Jewish community. What Shalhevet brings to the Jewish community is unique and necessary for us and numerous families.

Besides the education that the school provides the girls, the social services that the school brings to the community are something that is exemplary.

If Shalhevet was to close, we among other families will have to leave the city in order to find a community that will provide us with proper education for our children.

We hope that you will approve the pending CD-1 text amendment so that Shalhevet can remain open and continue to serve the community.

Sincerely yours,

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Rabbi Ilan Acoca