



FOREST HILL
COMMUNITY KOLLEL

FOREST HILL COMMUNITY KOLLEL PROGRAM GUIDE 2025-2026/5786



ABOUT THE KOLLEL

The Forest Hill Community Kollel is a vibrant and welcoming Torah learning centre where Jews of all ages and backgrounds can discover, explore, and engage with their Judaism.

Our Kollel is a dynamic institution combining two unique programs:

The core of the Kollel is our advanced Talmudic studies program, preparing and training the next generation of Jewish leaders.

Nine bright, talented, and enthusiastic young men dedicate their mornings and afternoons to intensive, high-level study of Talmud and Jewish Law. They attend weekly lectures on the curriculum, prepare and deliver their own presentations on complex Talmudic topics, and participate in Mussar Vaadim, interactive group sessions focused on personal and religious development. Our Kollel also prioritizes the study of Jewish thought, with a daily session on works of Machashava and Chassidus, and a weekly lecture from Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz, Rosh Yeshiva of Darchei Torah.

Walk into the FHJC anytime of the day and you'll be greeted by the energetic and animated sounds of our Kollel scholars learning, debating, and arguing as they delve into the Talmud together.

In the evenings, the Kollel transforms into a centre for communal learning. Every night, our Kollel scholars are available for one-on-one and small group learning. We have study partners of all ages and backgrounds studying a variety of topics together, from Bible to Talmud, Jewish thought to Mishna, and more.

Since our founding in August 2023, we have seen an explosion of interest in one-on-one chavrusa study. Stop by nearly any night of the week and you'll find a full Beis Midrash!

Alongside our weekly chavrusas, the Kollel runs several classes and programs from men, women, and kids.

Our special Monday Night Learning events have been immensely successful. Over the course of the past 2 years, 30-50 men have joined us twice a month for small group learning with the Kollel scholars. We've addressed fascinating topics in Jewish law and thought, in addition to special pre-Yom Tov programs.

Last year marked the beginning of the Shira Herzog z"l Women's Scholars Program on Wednesday evenings. Over 70 women joined us over the course of three semesters for substantive and high-level Torah study taught by seasoned teachers. Our next semester will start in November 2025 with a brand-new series of intriguing and meaningful classes.

Thursday nights are a special event at the Kollel. The evening begins with Think Tank, a program for High-school students led by Rabbi Bernie Goldberg. An awesome group of intelligent and curious students from CHAT meet weekly to discuss big topics in Jewish thought and expand their Torah knowledge. Graduates of the program have gone on to continue their Jewish studies in Israel before attending university. The Kollel is then open for community learning and Rabbi YY Green's acclaimed Parsha shiur. The night ends with Beer & Cholent, the highlight of our week. We prepare for Shabbos with singing, Divrei Torah, and musical guests.

And finally, after a successful test-run last year, the Kollel is planning another series of Motzei Shabbos parent-child learning in the winter, complete with prizes, games, pizza, and engaging educational material.

With a variety of other weekly classes, seasonal events, and special lectures, the Kollel has transformed Jewish life in Forest Hill.

It has been amazing to see what the Kollel has accomplished over the past two years. The Kollel scholars, most of whom have been with us since the beginning, are developing into Talmidei Chachamim, honing their speaking and teaching skills, and continuing to engage and build meaningful relationships with our community.

And our community, in turn, has taken to the Kollel. More and more people are finding ways to connect to the Kollel and take advantage of the amazing opportunity it provides. No one regrets coming out on a weekday night to experience authentic Torah learning with like-minded Jews who want to engage with their faith and tradition.

As we enter our third year, please help us continue our mission to learn, teach, and spread Jewish knowledge. See you at the Kollel!

Rabbi Meir Goodman

Rabbi Meir Goodman
ROSH KOLLEL

rabbigoodman@foresthillkollel.ca

Rabbi Eli Kuhnreich

Rabbi Eli Kuhnreich
OUTREACH DIRECTOR

rabbikuhnreich@foresthillkollel.ca

OUR TEAM



Rabbi Meir Goodman / ROSH KOLLEL

Rabbi Goodman grew up in the Forest Hill Jewish Centre, back when it was above the Starbucks. He studied at Yeshivas Bircas HaTorah in the Old City of Jerusalem, received a BA in Jewish History from Yeshiva University, and Rabbinic Ordination from YU's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS). He was also a member of the prestigious Kollel Elyon for Advanced Talmudic Studies. Rabbi Goodman is the author of four volumes of Talmudic insights entitled Shoshanas HaAmakim.



rabbigoodman@foresthillkollel.ca



Rabbi Elie Karfunkel / RABBI OF THE FHJC

Rabbi Karfunkel was born in Staten Island, New York. He learned at Neveh Zion in Israel and received Rabbinic Ordination under the guidance of Rabbi Berel Wein, dean of Yeshivas Shaarei Torah of Monsey, New York. He also completed a Masters degree in Education. Exuberant, infectious, and a people person, Rabbi Elie has served as the Rabbi of the FHJC for over 20 years.



rabbielie@fhjc.ca



Rabbi Eli Kuhnreich / OUTREACH DIRECTOR

Rabbi Kuhnreich was born and raised in Toronto. He pursued his Torah studies at Rabbi Brodsky's Yeshiva, the Mir Yeshiva in Jerusalem, and BMG in Lakewood. Rabbi Kuhnreich most recently lived with his family in Maalot Dafna, Jerusalem, for nearly a decade. While studying at the Mir, he was actively involved in numerous community initiatives, including spearheading charity campaigns and assisting in the building of a new shul. He is also a certified personal trainer.



rabbikuhnreich@foresthillkollel.ca



Rabbi Teddy Lubimzev / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rabbi Lubimzev is currently the Executive Director of Canadian Friends of Ohr Somayach and the Forest Hill Community Kollel. He graduated with a BA in Philosophy from York University, studied in Yeshivas Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem, and received Rabbinic ordination from Yeshivas Pirchei Shoshanim in Lakewood. He works part time as a prison chaplain. Rabbi Lubimzev was previously the Operations Director of Chai Lifeline Canada.



rabbiteddy@foresthillkollel.ca

KOLLEL SCHOLARS



Rabbi Tzvi Cohen

Tzvi grew up in Thornhill, attended Yeshivas Darchei Torah, and spent three years learning at Yeshivas Mercaz HaTorah in Jerusalem. He received a Bachelors of Science in Mathematics from Landers College in Queens, NY. Most recently, Tzvi was a member of Kollel Ohalei Yom Tov.



Rabbi Moshe Fordsham

Moshe is a native Torontonion who spent nine years immersed in learning across several yeshivos in Israel before joining the kollel at its launch in August 2023. He lives at Bathurst and Glencairn with his wife, Henya, and their two daughters, Sari and Yakira. In addition to his studies at the kollel, Moshe is also a Registered Social Worker and practicing psychotherapist.



Rabbi Bernie Goldberg

Bernie grew up in Baltimore, Maryland. He studied in Derech Ohr Somayach in Jerusalem, received a BA in Marketing from Yeshiva University, and continued his Torah studies in the Yeshiva of Greater Washington and Kollel Ohalei Yom Tov. Bernie has worked and volunteered for multiple Jewish youth and outreach organisations, including NCSY.



Rabbi YY Green

YY was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He learned in the Derech Program at Ohr Somayach Jerusalem and studied psychology at Touro University. He has worked for OHEL as a Job Coach for individuals with developmental disabilities. YY recently completed Ohr Somayach's Ohr LaGolah Rabbinic Ordination Program before moving to Toronto.

KOLLEL SCHOLARS



Rabbi Aaron Krongold

Rabbi Krongold is a native Torontonion. He received a BA from University of Toronto, attended Yeshivas Aish HaTorah in the Old City of Jerusalem, and was a member of Kollel Ohalei Yom Tov for more than a decade. Rabbi Krongold has taught at many schools in Toronto, and is currently on the staff of Tiferes Bais Yaakov High School. He also serves as Director of NCSY Alumni Canada alongside his wife Racheli.



Rabbi Dovid Leshinsky

Dovid was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He studied for four years at Bais Medrash L'Torah in Jerusalem, and spent a summer engaged in Jewish outreach in Birmingham, Alabama, and Pinsk, Belarus. After getting married, he returned to Israel and lived in Maalot Dafna while learning in the Mir Yeshiva. Dovid and his family are now thrilled to be joining the Forest Hill Community Kollel.



Rabbi Joshy Toledano

Josh grew up in Toronto and attended Yeshivas Darchei Torah. He continued his learning at Yeshiva Toras Chaim in Yerushalayim. Josh earned a BS in Psychology and has taught at Eitz Chaim and Yesodei HaTorah in Toronto. He is excited to be joining the Forest Hill Community Kollel!



Rabbi Gavi Wolberg

Gavi grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa. He learnt in Yeshivat Mercaz HaRav in Jerusalem and the Yeshivah Gedolah of Johannesburg before completing a BA in Economics at Yeshiva University in New York. He recently moved to Toronto and is excited to be a part of the Forest Hill Community Kollel.

A Dayⁱⁿ the Life of a Kollel Scholar

BY: RABBI MOSHE FORDSHAM

6:45 AM



Wake up to the sound of: “Daddyyyyyy! I want breakfast!!!” Breakfast—shoes—diaper change—leave—come back for my tefilin—run out to shul. Pray to the Creator of all worlds that He grants me the merit of another fantastic day in the Forest Hill Community Kollel.



8:00 AM

Home—coffee—lunches—pony tails—schoolbags on. Carpool. Traffic. Head to kollel.

1:00 PM

Break for lunch

2:45 PM

Back for Mincha at the Kollel (shoutout to Stephen and Derek, our most consistent Mincha minyan helpers!). After Mincha: MORE COFFEE.



9:30 AM

Arrive at FHJC for morning seder. Sit down with my study partner (fellow kollel scholar), hopefully with a coffee. Proceed to vehemently argue for two hours over what Rashi (11th-century commentator) meant when he added a single word to his commentary on Tractate Sanhedrin. Engage in lively, rigorous debate with fellow scholars as we plumb the depths of Talmudic analysis—currently on the intricacies and logic of Jewish law regarding how many judges are necessary to convene a Beit Din.

3:00 PM



Afternoon seder: The learning style shifts to a quicker pace, broadening our knowledge of Gemara with new study partners and exciting topics.

5:45 PM

Jewish Thought: The group convenes to study great works of Jewish thought. Currently: Tzidkas HaTzadik, a fundamental Chassidic sefer from Rav Tzadok HaKohen of Lublin. Rabbi Goodman leads the Kollel in discussing fascinating, timeless ideas that elevate us and enhance our service of God.



6:00 PM

8:00 PM

The highlight of the day! Community learning! Every night looks different: sometimes exploring the siddur, sometimes Mishnayot, sometimes the kabbalistic intentions behind Shabbat services and meals, and sometimes Jewish ideas and faith. Always with a wonderful chavrusa (study partner) from our amazing community for thoughtful and stimulating learning. It's loud, it's popping, we're sending Torah shockwaves throughout the cosmos! Thursday nights? Reward time — singing and YY's famous cholent!!

Followed by Maariv prayers.



The “secret cabal” of fitness enthusiasts gather to remind ourselves that to be outstanding scholars, we must also be vigorous and healthy. Led by Rabbi Kuhnreich, HIIT workouts in an undisclosed location push us to our limits, capping off a long and productive day of growth, community engagement, and holy work.

AFTER HOURS

WEEKLY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DAILY	Daf Yomi with R' Yaakov Kaplan	SUN: 7:00 AM MON TO FRI: 6:00 AM
	Shacharis with the Community	SUN: 8:00 AM MON & THURS 6:50 AM TUES, WED, & FRI 7:00 AM
SUNDAY	Community Night Learning	8:00 - 9:30 PM
MONDAY	Community Night Learning	8:00 - 9:30 PM
	Special Monday Night Learning Every Other Week	8:15 - 9:30 PM
TUESDAY	Tomer Devorah with Rabbi Meir Goodman	2:00 - 2:45 PM
	Community Night Learning	8:00 - 9:30 PM
	Holy Schmooze with Rabbi Elie Karfunkel	8:30 - 9:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	Community Night Learning	8:00 - 9:30 PM
	Woman's Scholars Program	8:00 - 9:30 PM
THURSDAY	Think Tank with Rabbi Bernie Goldberg	7:30 - 8:30 PM
	Community Night Learning	8:00 - 9:00 PM
	Weekly Wisdom with Rabbi YY Green	8:00 - 9:00 PM
	Cholent and Beer	9:00 - 9:45 PM

DAVENING WITH THE KOLLEL

Mincha: Sun-Thurs 2:45 PM / **Maariv:** Sun-Wed 9:30 PM Thurs 9:45 PM



Community Learning *With the Kollel*

FOR MEN

COME AND JOIN US IN THE EVENING

**Sunday through
Thursday
8:00–9:30 pm**

1 on 1 learning

Many exciting topics to choose from!

**Whatever your background, come
and learn with one of our Kollel members!**



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

**Rabbi Meir Goodman at rabbigoodman@foresthillkollel.ca or
Rabbi Eli Kuhnreich at rabbikuhnreich@foresthillkollel.ca**



THURSDAY NIGHT WITH THE KOLLEL

MORE EXCITING THAN EVER WITH SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

AMAZING LEARNING OPTIONS / 8 - 9 PM

Weekly Wisdom with YY:
Receive a deeper understanding
of the parsha
WITH RABBI YY GREEN

Open one on one learning:
Come yourself or
join us with a chavrusa

Beer and Cholent - 9:00 - 9:45 pm
Featuring Rabbi YY'S award winning
cholent, Divrei Torah, and musical guests!

***FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A CHAVRUSA, PLEASE CONTACT RABBI ELI KUHNREICH AT
RABBIKUHNREICH@FORESTHILLKOLLEL.CA***



MONDAY NIGHT LEARNING WITH THE KOLLEL

Guided by our Kollel scholars!
Learn with your friends!
No commitments!
Just show up!

EVERY OTHER MONDAY
8:15 - 9:30 PM

A NEW TOPIC
EACH TIME

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Rabbi Eli Kuhnreich at
rabbikuhnreich@foresthillkollel.ca



FOREST HILL
COMMUNITY KOLLEL



FOREST HILL
COMMUNITY KOLLEL

תומר דבורה

The Kabbalistic Guide to
Jewish Character
Development

With Rabbi Goodman
Tuesday Afternoons 2:00-2:45 PM
(in person and over zoom)

Weekly Wisdom **WITH YY**

Get a deep understanding
of the parsha with practical life lessons.



Thursday Nights
IN THE KOLLEL

8:00-9:00 PM



Rabbi YY Geen was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He learned in the Derech Program at Ohr Somayach Jerusalem and studied psychology at Touro University. He has worked for OHEL as a Job Coach for individuals with developmental disabilities. YY recently completed Ohr Somayach's Ohr LaGolah Rabbinic Ordination Program before moving to Toronto.





Women's *Partners in Torah*

Bringing Together Women of Forest Hill
Through Their Heritage



Personalized learning anytime, anywhere, anything!

To sign up please contact Chaya Sara Goodman at
chayagoodman@foresthillkollel.ca



FOREST HILL
COMMUNITY KOLLEL

Shira Herzog z"l

Women's Scholars Program

5786 / 2025-26

Expand Your Jewish Horizons

A serious Torah learning program for the inquisitive and intelligent mind, exploring deep and relevant Jewish ideas.

Philosophy • Law • Mysticism • History • Bible • Mussar

1ST SEMESTER / November 12 to December 17

2ND SEMESTER / February 4 to March 11

3RD SEMESTER / May 6 to June 10

EDUCATORS

Rabbi Meir Goodman, Rabbi Elie Karfunkel,
Rebbetzin Rifky Karfunkel, Mrs. Chayala Bistricher

TUITION FOR ALL 3 SEMESTERS

NON-MEMBERS \$180 / MEMBERS \$90

TO REGISTER

fhjc.ca/herzogscholars



**DEDICATED BY KOBI BESSIN, SHELBY GREENBERG AND THEIR CHILDREN, OLIVIA AND ETHAN,
IN EVERLASTING REMEMBRANCE AND HONOUR OF KOBI'S BELOVED MOTHER, SHIRA HERZOG Z"l.
HER LEGACY CONTINUES TO SHINE THROUGH THE ENDURING LOVE SHE INSTILLED
FOR ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE.**



MEGA

Monday Night Learning

Bringing together the FHJC community for a powerful evening of Torah learning

February 2nd

March 16th

May 18th



FOREST HILL
JEWISH CENTRE





HOLY SHMOOZE! WITH RABBI ELIE

Unpacking life
- TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 8:30PM -



FOREST HILL
JEWISH CENTRE



FOREST HILL
COMMUNITY KOLLEL

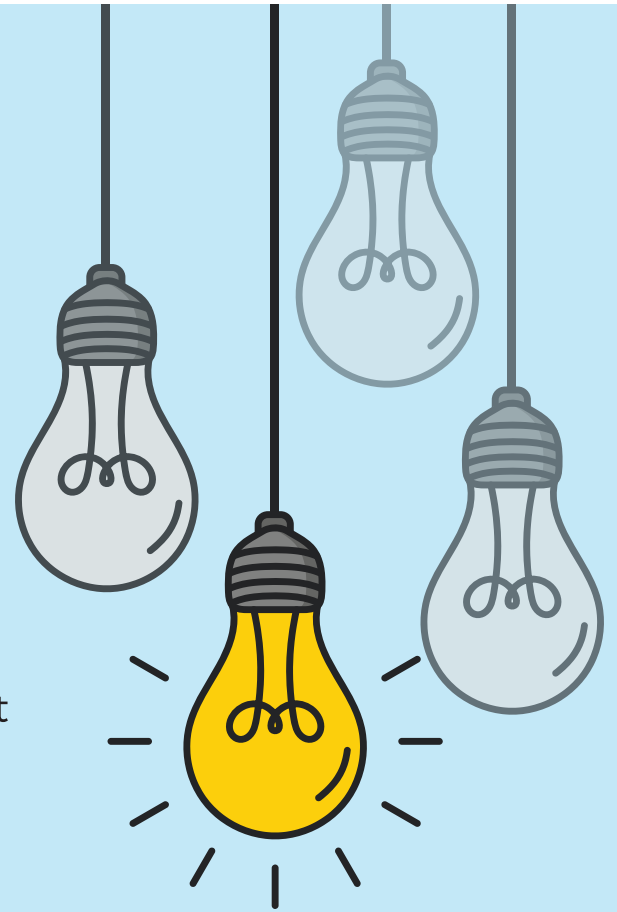
BACK FOR ITS 3RD YEAR!



THINK TANK

A Program For Teens To Discuss And Think About
Essential Jewish Topics

A Place To Ask Your Important Questions
And Find Answers That Speak To You



Thursday Nights

@7:30pm-8:30pm

BOYS GRADES 9-12 / DINNER SERVED AT EACH SESSION!



Chess Opportunities



Guest Speakers



**Fundamentals
In Judaism**



Special Events

Think Tank is run by R' Bernie Goldberg. R' Bernie has many years of experience teaching teens in Jewish summer camps and youth programs. He has a BS in Marketing and is a proud member of the Forest Hill Community Kollel.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
R' BERNIE GOLDBERG / 443-825-0681**





PARENT-CHILD LEARNING AND EXTRAVAGANZA!

Motzei Shabbat

November 15
November 29
December 13

CONTINUING BI-WEEKLY

For more information
please contact Rabbi Eli Kuhnreich at
rabbikuhnreich@foresthillkolel.ca

- INCREDIBLE LEARNING
- AMAZING STORYTELLER
- AWESOME PRIZES

ALL KIDS
**AGES
5 - 11**

- DELICIOUS PIZZA WILL BE SERVED
- PARSHA PAMPHLETS WILL BE PROVIDED

TESTIMONIALS



I had not engaged in any consistent Jewish learning since my Bar Mitzvah, but following October 7 I felt a desire to improve various aspects of my Jewish life, including Torah Study. The opportunity to meet regularly with one of the Kollel rabbis as well as attend community learning events has been a positive change in my life.

Doing something good occasionally is nice but doesn't lead to real changes. For example, If you go for a run every six months --nothing will happen! But if you run regularly, eventually your body will change. You will become healthier and you will feel different.

Attending regular classes at the kollel has changed me. Judaism and G-d are more front and centre in my life, and my priorities and how I spend my free time have shifted. We are incredibly fortunate to have Forest Hill Community Kollel in our shul. I would encourage everyone to take advantage of this great opportunity!

- Nathan Zilbert



The Forest Hill Jewish Centre Kollel is a unique learning experience in a congregation like no other in Toronto. There is something for everyone. Whether you are looking for one-on-one learning or a group study environment, both men and women can engage at any level and any amount of commitment. This is truly a place to grow your knowledge and connect to Jewish texts and other members of the community!

I have personally benefited from the FHJC Kollel through my one-on-one learning with Rebetzen Kuhnreich. Our weekly sessions are inspiring, thought provoking and allows the two of us to gain a deep understanding of Jewish laws and traditions all while respecting each other's outlooks.

- Ora Somogyi



I am incredibly grateful to the FHJC community kollel and all its avreichim for helping me grow in my yiddishkeit and learning skills. Beyond that, however, the kollel has provided me with a sense of community and belonging. Some of the highlights for me include learning gemarah with my incredible chavrutah YY, the Monday night chaburot, and singing sweet niggunim at the weekly Thursday night beer and Cholent!

Thank you to the entire Kollel for everything you do, and Hashem should me machazek you as you continue your holy work!

- Mitch Perlmutter



DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Please consider helping the Forest Hill Community Kollel learn and teach Torah in our community. Your donation gives us the opportunity to provide our programming and classes, and support our Kollel scholars' Torah studies.

Sponsoring Torah learning can be a great merit for a loved one on the occasion of a Yartzheit, or in honour of a special event.

SPONSOR A SHIUR
\$100

THURSDAY NIGHT
BEER AND CHOLENT
\$180

MONDAY NIGHT LEARNING
\$360

SPONSOR A
DAY OF LEARNING
\$180

SPONSOR A
WEEK OF LEARNING
\$720

SPONSOR A
MONTH OF LEARNING
\$2,500

To make a contribution, or to sponsor one of our programs, please contact **Rabbi Eli Kuhnreich** at rabbikuhnreich@foresthillkollel.ca or visit our website: foresthillkollel.ca/donate

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE.









A PROJECT OF THE CANADIAN FRIENDS OF OHR SOMAYACH

360 Spadina Road, Toronto, Ontario M5P 2V4 / 416-840-4743 / info@foresthillkollel.ca

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.FORESTHILLKOLLEL.CA