

# JF&CS

## JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILD SERVICE OF GREATER TORONTO

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A message to our community:

This past week Jewish Family and Child Service made the heartbreaking decision to close the Just a Second Shop. The subsequent outpouring of emotion from members of our community was a further reminder to me of the profound connections so many of you have, or have had, with the shop.

In our current reality, the shop's physical layout makes it almost impossible to maintain any physical distancing. Equipping it with all the cleaning and ventilation upgrades that are now essential is simply unfeasible. The basement alone, where clothing is sorted, is now inadequate and unsafe.

Again, I know how much the shop means to the people we serve and surrounding community. I know that for over 35 years it has provided a place where those in need can purchase clothing and essential items with a sense of dignity. I know this will be a big loss.

In the (hopefully not-too-distant) future, when we truly enter the recovery phase of the pandemic, our plan is to work with our community partners and explore whether the shop can be reimaged and revived. This isn't a guarantee it will reopen, but I am hopeful.

In the meantime, we will continue to ensure people in need in our community receive the clothing and other essential items they require.

Thank you for your understanding.

**Brian Prousky**

Executive Director