

**Brief presented to the Office de Consultation Publique de Montréal (OCPM) by
Montreal Board of Rabbis (MBR)**

03.03.2016

**TU BISHVAT “THE NEW YEAR OF THE TREES” 5776 – JANUARY 2016
CLIMATE CHANGE: A JEWISH RESPONSE**

*“See to it that you do not destroy my world,
for there is no one to repair it after you.”*

Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13

In response to the scientific evidence that human-caused warming of Earth’s atmosphere has begun to cause extreme hardship to millions of people around the world and widespread ecological disruption and species extinction:

1. MBR commends Mayor Denis Coderre for the vertMTL initiative to promote clean and sustainable energy systems in Montreal that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We support municipal efforts to reach of carbon neutrality for the 400th anniversary of Montreal in 2042 and to measure emissions every two years in order to better evaluate reduction efforts.
2. MBR invites Jewish institutions and leaders to raise public awareness of the moral and social justice implications of climate change.
3. MBR invites upon members of the Jewish community, and all other Montrealers, to institute energy efficiency technologies and practices into private homes and communal facilities and to consider the environment and public health effects of economic decisions, including the purchase of vehicles and appliances and the choice of energy companies.
4. MBR invites the various levels of government to help us implement change in our community facilities.
5. MBR invites the business community to provide leadership in efforts to address global warming.