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Dear Student Leader,

Congratulations! We are so excited to invite you to a once-in-a-lifetime, unique opportunity for a select group of student leaders at McGill University this upcoming winter break. This document acts as an official invitation for you as one of the student leaders for this trip. We've identified you as an invaluable student to have for this trip due to your student leadership experience and connections on campus.

Hillel McGill is bringing a cohort of top student leaders, both Jewish and non-Jewish, to Israel and Palestine from December 29th, 2019 to January 8th, 2020, for an intensive experiential seminar that will explore the region's deep history and grapple with nuanced political and religious realities from various angles and perspectives. You will also have the opportunity to connect with other student leaders and engage in meaningful conversation while learning from each other.

The group will learn about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and examine its complexities and nuances while travelling throughout the region. Students will meet with politicians, activists, civic leaders, academics, artists, Israelis, Palestinians, Arabs, Jews, Muslims, Christians, clerics and humanitarian leaders who offer diverse perspectives on the societal and political underpinnings of the region. Opportunities will be provided to reflect upon issues relating to the region and to gain an appreciation of the political, religious, cultural and historical factors that form the politics and complexity of the Middle East today. The group will also have the unique opportunity to interact with a group of local Israelis who will join us for a portion of the trip, further providing a diverse set of perspectives on the region today.

This trip is all-expenses paid and will include: roundtrip airfare from Montreal-Trudeau International Airport, 10 nights at hotels in Israel, 2 meals per day, and other programming costs. This is a very special opportunity for a select group of leaders – a total of 20 students from McGill will be participating on the trip.

Our bus will be staffed by professionals from Hillel Montreal and Federation CJA. In addition to the Canadian team, the trip will also be overseen by an Israeli team on the ground, composed of a tour guide, two Israeli travel coordinators, a medic, and a security guard. Security is a priority for our participants and our Israeli team is in constant contact with the official security authorities in Israel throughout the trip; therefore, the itinerary is subject to change.

As always, please feel free to be in touch with us with any questions you may have.

Best,

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