

Security Requirements for Events at Beth Israel Peterborough

Drafted by: Safety and Security Committee
Updated: Sept 2026

Purpose

To keep everyone using Beth Israel Synagogue safe.

Background

The Board of Directors takes seriously their responsibility for the safety and security of our congregation and guests. The events of October 7th, 2023 and in Bellville Yom Kippur, led the Security Committee to outline more stringent guidelines.

Beth Israel Security Requirements

High Level Security Required

Certain Beth Israel Congregation (BIC) religious events (High Holidays, etc) require tailored security which will be overseen by the Security Committee.

ALL Events Require a Host (Most Responsible Person - MRP)

Each event at Beth Israel Synagogue must have a host (MRP) responsible for all activities / what transpires in the building associated with your event.

Each Host is responsible for understanding and agreeing to the Host Guidelines appended. Prior to becoming a Host, you will be required to review this with a designated BIC Security Committee member.*

- The host (MRP) is aware of and uses the “Checklist for Hosting Events” sheet.

- The host (MRP) is responsible for access to the building for people related to your event, and may delegate duties to other individuals as required.
- The host (MRP) knows the opening and closing procedures and ensures the area used is returned to its prior condition.
- MRP/Host is to arrive 30 mins before start time

1. Activities or Events Requiring Paid Security

Activities or events at Beth Israel Synagogue:

- happening on Friday evening or Saturday
 - with 15 people or more
 - with children
 - Regularly Booked Religious Services
 - Any Other High Risk Event

Require:

- A paid security guard and a greeter/screener/door watcher (sponsored by the congregation for events open to the whole congregation). Security privately paid if a private event - Kewley security the vendor of Record) for the entire event (from opening to building closure).

AND

- May be required to provide 1-2 volunteers under the direction to assist, such as door watchers to ensure attendees have been screened and monitors to check the locked door (either on-site in the lobby or using a remote monitoring device).

2. Self Monitoring of Activities or Events Requiring Self-Monitoring

Activities or events at Beth Israel Synagogue:

- That are **not** happening on Friday evening or Saturday

OR

- Have fewer than 15 people

AND

- Do not include children

Can be **self-monitored by the Host** (MRP) or a delegate approved by the Security Committee who is on site and:

- Has a cell phone and access to emergency numbers (911 and those listed in the binder located on the wall outside the large meeting room, also known as the "Jerusalem" room).
- Ensures that:
 - No attendees are permitted to enter the building without prior screening.
 - The main door remains locked once the event or service begins
 - The door is monitored for latecomers, if needed (via the remote monitoring device, and/or a volunteer at the door).
- Is responsible for the contents of the Security Bin located in the cloakroom, including visibility vests if required.
- Ensures the exterior door(s) are locked once the session begins. There is a remote monitor to see and greet anyone who arrives late.

For more information

- Please see SECURITY BINDER located in the lobby (all information is contained here).
- In case of emergency, call 911
- For the police re: **non-emergency issues** (example: suspicious package), call 705-876-1122.

*If you call police, and/or if there is any other incident, please complete an incident report for the Safety and Security committee (found in the binder)

For all **questions about** Beth Israel Synagogue

call **Steve Effer** at 416-821-4123.