



COUNCIL OF ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUES OF VICTORIA LTD

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בס"ד

26 May 2010
13 Sivan 5770

Rabbi Y Glasman
Rabbinical Council of Victoria

Dear Rabbi

As I understand that the Board of the RCV will be meeting tonight to discuss the current issue of Kashrut Supervision and the rights of individual Rabbis in this area, I respectfully submit the following proposals for your consideration:

1. The RCV should issue guidelines and criteria (minimum standards) for determining the qualification for any Communal Rabbi wishing to give Hashgacha to any establishment or person.
2. The RCV should publish a Statement signed by the individual Rabbis which endorses free market competition and the principle that the Community benefits from choice **provided that minimum** Halachic guidelines are observed.
3. The Statement should carefully enumerate these Standards in lay terms and acknowledge that each person should rely on his own Rabbi for determining whether any particular Communal Supervising Authority meets these criteria. Wherever possible, the Statement should be supported by references from renowned overseas Poskim.
4. The Statement should be drafted in general terms and should make no reference to or cast any aspersions on any particular Rabbi.
5. All Congregational Rabbis should devote part of their Sermon this Shabbos to elaborating on the guidelines.

I believe that the general consensus is that multi Hashgochos may be beneficial as competition is potentially a good thing and would lead to a reduction of Prices. It is a fact that different Kashrut standards exist and are frequently based on the perceived piety and the level of stringency of the particular Rabbi. For this reason it seems to me that any adverse comments on any particular Rabbi would in no way be beneficial.

It is impractical for one level of Kashrut to be imposed because a minimum level for one person may be too stringent for another. As is currently the practice, each section of the Kehilla should be free to continue to rely on their own Rabbi's Standards without their choice being influenced by a Central Rabbinic or Governmental Authority.

As the COSV Board has not yet had the opportunity of fully considering the matter, please treat this letter as personal until such time as it has been formally ratified.

Yours faithfully

Paul Korbl
President