

Executive Council of Australian Jewry Inc.

הוועד הכולל של
יהודי אוסטרליה

The Representative Organisation of Australian Jewry

2nd Floor
306 Hawthorn Road
Caulfield South Victoria
Australia 3162
Tel (03) 9272 5579
Fax (03) 9272 5540
E-mail info@ecaj.org.au

PRESIDENT

Grahame J. Leonard
DEPUTY PRESIDENT
Rabbi John Levi AM DD
HON. TREASURER
Sam Salcman
HON. SECRETARY
Josie Lacey OAM
EXEC. DIRECTOR
Geoffrey Zygiar

VICE PRESIDENTS

Anton Block (VIC)
David Knoll (NSW)
Keith Shilkin (WA)
David Paratz (QLD)
Norman Schueler (SA)
Daniel Albert (TAS)
Bill Arnold (ACT)

CONSTITUENTS

Jewish Community Council
of Victoria Inc
New South Wales Jewish
Board of Deputies
Jewish Community Council of
Western Australia Inc
Queensland Jewish Board of
Deputies
Jewish Community Council
of South Australia
Hobart Hebrew Congregation
ACT Jewish Community Inc

AFFILIATES

Australasian Union of Jewish
Students
Australian Federation of WIZO
Union for Progressive
Judaism - Australia
Federation of Australian
JewishCare
Maccabi Australia Inc
National Council of Jewish
Women of Australia

OBSERVERS

B'nai B'rith of Australia/ NZ
Council of Progressive Rabbis
Federation of Australian Jewish
Ex-Service Associations
Jewish National Fund
New Zealand Jewish Council
Zionist Federation of Australia



Mr Shimon Peres
President-elect of the State of Israel
The Knesset
Jerusalem ISRAEL

14 June 2007

Dear Mr Peres

I write on behalf of the Australian Jewish community to congratulate you on your election as Israel's ninth president.

You have long been an icon of Israeli public life and have been honoured for your contribution to Israel and the world community. Over the past six decades you have held every senior government post and were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994. Your Peres Center for Peace undertakes crucial work in seeking answers to the Middle East's problems, thus exemplifying your stated philosophy, "An optimist and a pessimist die the same way; they only live differently. I prefer to live as an optimist". This is, may I say, a much-needed attitude and quintessentially Jewish.

In conclusion I wish you every success in this most important role and express my hope that you have the opportunity to visit Australia, perhaps Israel's staunchest supporter, during the term of your presidency.

Yours sincerely

Grahame J. Leonard
President