

## הסתדרות הרבנים דאמריקה THE RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA

Reuven Tradburks Director, Israel Region

> November 22, 2017 4 Kisley, 5778

It is an honour and a privilege to express my appreciation to Shapell's/Darche Noam on the occasion of its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

My association with the Yeshiva spans 30 years. The flagship initial initiative of Avi Chai was the establishment of an association of top professionals in Jewish outreach (now AJOP) and Rav Karlinsky was and is a pillar figure in that, which I too was a part of.

But more importantly, as a congregational rabbi in Toronto, there were years when my shul was the largest feeder shul of students to Shapell's/Yeshiva Darche Naom and to Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya. My recommendation of the Yeshiva to our young people was due to the enormous respect I have for the sensitivity and balance that the Yeshiva represents. Alumni of the Yeshiva are healthy, mature and passionate Jews, many, many of whom have made aliya and are now citizens of the State of Israel.

My wife Joyce and I were also privileged to host the annual Alumni Shabbaton of Midreshet Rachel v'Chaya in Toronto at our home for many years. I would feel elated, bursting, observing Rav Shurin holding court with the women for hours and hours on the long winter Friday night. The sensitivity, wisdom and profound respect he displayed to the women expressed to me the epitome of a Torah personality.

Shapell's/Darche Noam is close to my heart and I take pride in all of its accomplishments. On behalf of the many, many rabbis of the Rabbinical Council of America who have entrusted our best and brightest to your tutelage, we wish the heartiest of mazel tov's on this milestone.

ויהי נועם ה" אלקינו עלינו ומעשה ידינו כוננה עלינו ומעשה ידינו כוננהו

May the pleasantness of Hashem, our Lord, be upon us and may all our work be solid, may He solidify the work of our hands.

Rabbi Reuven Tradburks Director, Israel Region Rabbinical Council of America