

Michael Brown got it right in his guest column “The assisted suicide of CJC: does it matter? (CJN, June 7). Brown argues against the new proposed system under which the Canadian Jewish Congress’ president and senior officers would be appointed by a board consisting of nominees from the Canadian Council for Israel and Jewish Advocacy (CIJA), which will appoint one-quarter of the board, and from federations in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, and appointees from Congress’ regional offices. One must ask: what is the principled argument against converting a democratic organization into an undemocratic, elected one? Whose interests does this serve? CIJA has done some wonderful work. But far be it from CIJA to take on the added (and undemocratic) role of appointing (read, controlling) CJC, as well. CJC has a distinguished history and is too important an organization to become a puppet of any other organization.

Leigh A. Lampert
Toronto