



MCP Community Bulletin January 2018

As salam-u-alaikum Peel Community, **What's been happening with MCP...**

The Board and Executive Director

Please email us your events, announcements and any information you would like to see in our monthly bulletin by the 21st of each month. We want your feedback to better serve your interests. We aim to support our members by facilitating greater communication and collaboration.

Feature

January 29 marked the first anniversary of the horrific attack on the mosque in Ste. Foy, Quebec. MCP collaborated with NCCM (National Council of Canadian-Muslims) and the offices of Mayor Bonnie Crombie and Mayor Linda Jeffrey to hold vigils in Brampton and Mississauga. In spite of the stormy weather on Monday people came out to remember and to stand in solidarity against hate and Islamophobia.

The Mississauga vigil was held in the Great Hall at the Civic Centre attended by faith leaders, dignitaries and diverse members of the community. A few names to highlight include Rowshan Shams from the Baha'i Community of Mississauga, Peel Regional Police Chief Jennifer Evans and Inspector Waheed Butt, as well as representatives from the UTM Students Union, the Canadian-Muslim Vote, Jamia Islamia, Masumeen Islamic Centre and MCP member organization, Alhuda Institute. The vigil was emceed by MCP Executive Director, Rabia Khedr who also serves as Commissioner with the Ontario Human Rights Commission. Reflecting on January 29, 2017, she expressed her gratitude to the police and elected officials for mobilizing within 24 hours last year to show support to the Muslim community assuring the community that they would be extra vigilant in monitoring places of worship in Peel Region in the days that followed. She also reminded everyone that religious freedom and creed are protected by law and it is our duty to combat hate so that never again truly never happens again.

Imam Ibrahim Hindy, Imam of Dar Al-Tawheed Islamic Centre and MCP Board Member, spoke eloquently about the events that unfolded that night one year ago wounding 19 men, named the six men who died and talked about the importance of each one of us taking individual responsibility to speak-out against hate.

NCCM representative, Fatima Sajan highlighted that such vigils were taking place simultaneously at this time across Canada.

Sandra Noe, MCP Board Secretary and Chair of the Federation of Muslim Women, emotionally spoke about the impact on the six women who found themselves widowed and the 17 children who were left

fatherless.

Rabbi Audrey Pollack from Solel Congregation spoke about how faith communities have to stand together against hate. She explained how important it was for the Jewish community this time last year to form rings of peace around mosques to demonstrate solidarity.

Mayor Bonnie Crombie recalled how a vigil was held in the Great Hall right after the attack one year ago and emphasized the City of Mississauga's commitment to fighting hate and Islamophobia.



At the Mississauga city hall, left to right: imam Jamia Islamia, Roshan Shams, Rabai Polak, Mayor Crombie, Rabia Khedr, Sandra Noe, Ibrahim Hindy, Chief Evans, AQ Mufti, Inspector Waheed Butt and Imran Haq

People gathered at the Brampton City Hall atrium including Peel Regional Police Deputy Chiefs, Brampton Fire, North Bramalea United Church members and Members of Brampton Council. The vigil was emceed by Urz Heer, Co-Chair of the Interfaith Council of Peel (ICP) who began by defining the word 'hatred' and shared a few words about the 'Ring of Peace' that were formed last year at Friday prayers all across the GTA in support of the Muslim communities after the attack.

Shaykh Zahir Bacchus, member of the Muslim Council of Peel and Imam at Lote Tree Foundation at Great Lakes Mosque began with a translation of the adhan, the call to prayer and translated what those words meant. He also named each of the 6 individuals who died in that massacre and talked about how their families lives changed that day.

Dr. Fariha Khan, Board member of NCCM also spoke about the incident and related Islamophobic events that took place closer to home since at Peel Schools.

Pastor Jamie Holtom of North Bramalea United Church offered solemn words and highlighted the sad incident which left 17 children without fathers and widows without husbands.

Mayor Linda Jeffrey spoke about how Islamophobia and hatred of all forms cannot and will not be tolerated. She reminded everyone that we must speak out against and stand up wherever there is hatred.



At the Brampton City Hall

A moment of silence was offered at about 7:40 at both vigils marking the time when the terror began. The vigils ended with dignitaries and members of the public expressing condolences to each other and writing messages of hope and courage on cards to families of the deceased.

#RememberJan29 will be remembered annually across the country with the message of no to Islamophobia and no to hatred.

Membership Matters

- A gentle reminder that membership fees for 2018 are overdue now. We cannot operate without your financial contributions.
- If you haven't completed the organizational profiles, we ask that you do so. Email executivedirector@mcpeel.ca if you would like us to resend the document.
- Have you set-up your log-in for the members only section? Please let us know if there is anything you would like to see there.

Important Dates & Announcements

February 5 – Join MCP for the Interfaith Council of Peel World Interfaith Harmony Week Breakfast hosted by Jame Masjid Mississauga from 7:30am to 9am.

February 10 Annual FundRaising Dinner. Hosted by Sayeda Khadijah Centre
<http://www.skcentre.com/events/9th-annual-fundraising-dinner/>

February 17 Tawheed Community Centre Fundraiser
Sat 5:30 PM · ISNA, [2200 South Sheridan Way, Mississauga](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2200+South+Sheridan+Way,+Mississauga,+ON/L4R+1R7)
Join Sh. Alaa Elsayid, Sh. Hosam Helal, Sr. Samiya Ahmed, Sh. Musleh Khan and Sr. Zunera Ishaq for the opportunity to build something our children can be proud of! <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/tawheed->

[community-centre-fundraiser-tickets-41078860979](https://www.facebook.com/MCP-Muslim-Council-of-Peel-1635100146742492/?fref=ts)

February 25 Save this date for the MCP Annual General Meeting to take place at 9:00 a.m. at Dar Al-Tawheed Islamic Centre, [5550 McAdam Road, Mississauga](#).

We invite member organizations to provide us events and announcements to be included in this bulletin.

Please remember us in your dua's.

Don't forget to like our Facebook Page and follow us on Twitter: <https://www.facebook.com/MCP-Muslim-Council-of-Peel-1635100146742492/?fref=ts>
[@mcpeel4u](#)

