

Assalam-u-alaikum/Greeting You with Peace Peel Community,

### **What's been happening with MCP...**

#### The Board and E.D.

- The board and executive director have been meeting to plan activities and set administrative priorities. We invite member representatives who are “able and available” and wish to be appointed to the board to contact us.

-Dr. Mohammed Iqbal Alnadvi, President

-Waseem Ahmed, Vice-President

-Muntaz Ali, Treasurer

-Farina Siddiqui, Secretary

-Rabia Khedr, Executive Director

#### Membership Matters

- On Thursday February 18, 2016, MCP held its first AGM at the Brampton Islamic Centre in the presence of official members and guests.
- No nominations were received for the board.
- Interim Board Members were acclaimed with the exception of Dr. Salha Jeizan who decided to step down due to other commitments.
- Membership in MCP has been growing and includes
  - Sayeda Khadija Centre
  - Masjid Farooq
  - Brampton Islamic Centre
  - IPC/Jame Masjid Mississauga
  - DawaNet
  - Muslim Neighbour Nexis
  - West-End Islamic Centre
  - MAC/ICCO
  - Alhuda Institute
  - SeekersHub
  - Lote Tree Foundation
- We encourage charities and non-profit organizations operating in Peel Region with a mandate of serving the Muslim community to apply for membership.

#### Community Engagement

- We have been participating in several community meetings including the Interfaith Council of Peel, Peel Poverty Action Group and the United Way of Peel and Region of Peel Syrian Settlement Planning Group.
- We also continue to take initiative to support the Syrian newcomer settlement process by initiating conference calls to foster greater communication in the community.
- After our awareness raising workshop titled "Serving Syrian Newcomers to Peel: Ensuring Social Inclusion," we have had inquiries from church groups and other private sponsors about donations and further workshops.

- On Monday February 1, we participated in the World Interfaith Harmony Week Breakfast hosted by Interfaith Council of Peel and the Fo Guang Shan Temple. Hafiz Ishaq Faridi recited the Quran in the official program. ICNA Sisters were in attendance showing a strong presence of the Muslim community.
- On February 9, Rabia attended the South Asian Health Forum on End of Life Care and Assisted Dying.
- On Tuesday February 16, Rabia Khedr spoke from the Muslim community perspective on a panel discussing “How the Diversity and Inclusion Charter of Peel Affects Faith Communities’ at the Interfaith Council of Peel quarterly networking meeting.
- Rabia also participated in a planning meeting with the Mississauga Central Library hosting a hijab awareness event.
- An article was submitted by Rabia and published about MCP in Tough Times, Peel’s only social justice newspaper.
- On Tuesday February 23, Rabia spoke on a panel discussing the Syrian Refugee Crisis and Syrian Newcomers hosted by the Social Justice & Action Committee at Sheridan College. Rabia was asked to help identify other panellists. Roger Kaprielian as a private sponsor, Bayan Khatib from UOSSM, and Mustafa Alio from the Refugee Career Jumpstart Project were referred to the organizing team and took part on the panel. The audience of students, private sponsors and interested community members found the interactive discussion very informative.
- On March 16, a statement was released by MCP on the knife attack at the Canadian Forces Recruitment Office.
- Rabia spoke on South Asia Today on Rogers/OMNI about Islamophobia after the Belgium attacks.
- workshops were held with City of Brampton frontline staff on March 31 to raise awareness about Syrian culture and Islam.

#### Important Dates

- In April, Rabia will be reaching out to member organizations to schedule telephone meetings to capture information and ideas for the MCP website.
- MCP will host an Iftar in Ramadan with elected officials. Stay tuned for further details.
- We invite member organizations to provide us events and announcements to be included in this bulletin.

Rabia Khedr, MA  
Executive Director

MCP-Muslim Council of Peel

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